



Church of St. John the Evangelist

*Elora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara*

*March 10, 2024
11:00 am*

*Fourth Sunday of Lent
Laetare Sunday*

11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

Welcome to St. John's Elora.

*Hearing Assist devices, hymn books and prayer books and children's activity packs
are available from the Greeters at the back of the church.*

St. John's church sits on the traditional unceded territories of the Attawandaron, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee First Nations. These lands are covered by the Between the Lakes Treaty and the Haldimand land grant. These lands are also part of The Dish With One Spoon Treaty; all subsequent newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. Today this land is home to many diverse Inuit, Metis and First Nations peoples.

Processional Hymn 617 Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

St. Botolph

*1. Jesus, the very thought of thee,
with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.*

*3. O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek;
to those who ask, how kind thou art,
how good to those who seek!*

*2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
nor can the mind recall
a sweeter sound than Jesus' name,
the Saviour of us all.*

*4. But what to those who find?
Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is none
but his lovers know.*

*5. Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
in thee be all our glory now,
and through eternity.*

"Let us give thanks to the Lord for his steadfast love, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy."

- Psalm 103:21,22

Minister:

Dearly beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace.

(you may kneel or sit for prayer)

Minister: ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,

All: **We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto humankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

Minister:

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness, and live, hath given power and commandment to his ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins.

God pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Introit O nata lux

O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness deign to receive
suppliant praise and prayer.

Thomas Tallis

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members
of thy blessed body.

Responses are sung.

Minister: O LORD, open thou our lips;

All: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Minister: O God, make speed to save us;

All: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(please stand)

Minister: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

All: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Minister: Praise ye the Lord;

All: **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Canticle Venite

(remain standing)

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth; and the strength of the hills is his also.

*The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.
O come, let us worship, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Lesson 1 Numbers 21.4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 107.1-3, 17-22

(Congregation remain seated)

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious, and his mercy endureth for ever.
Let them give thanks whom the Lord hath redeemed, and delivered from adversity;
And gathered them out of the lands, from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
They that are foolish are afflicted for their offence, and because of their wickedness.
Their soul abhorred all manner of meat, and they were even hard at death's door.
So they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.
He sent his word and healed them, and saved them from their destruction.
O that we would therefore praise the Lord for his goodness,
and declare the wonders that he doeth for all his children!
That they would offer unto him the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell out his works with gladness!

Lesson II John 3.14-21

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Canticle Benedictus

Orlando Gibbons

*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel;
for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us,
in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of holy prophets,
which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies,
and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers,
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham,
that he would grant us
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him,
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest:
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people
for the remission of their sins;
Through the tender mercy of our God;
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
as it was at the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

(Please stand)

Minister: I believe in God
All: **the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Responses are sung.

Minister: The Lord be with you;

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister: Let us pray.

(please kneel or sit for prayer)

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: **OUR Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Minister: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

All: **And grant us thy salvation.**

Minister: O Lord, save the King;

All: **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

All: **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Minister: O Lord, save thy people;

All: **And bless thine inheritance.**

Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

All: **And evermore mightily defend us.**

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

All: **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Collect for Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worship deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and does forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Collect, for Peace.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Third Collect, for Grace.

O LORD our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem God So Loved the World

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth, believeth in Him should not perish, should not perish
but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world.

God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;

But that the world through Him might be saved.

Homily Rev'd John Lockyer

Offertory Hymn 606 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Gott Will's Machen

An offering plate will be passed during this hymn. Your donation to support St. John's is most welcome.

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy

like the wideness of the sea;

there's a kindness in God's justice

which is more than liberty.

3. There is plentiful redemption

in the blood that has been shed;

there is joy for all the members

in the sorrows of the Head.

2. There is no place where earth's sorrows

are more felt than up in heaven;

there is no place where earth's failings

have such kindly judgement given.

4. Foolish hearts, why will you scatter

like a crowd of frightened sheep?

Fainting souls, why will you wander

from a love so true and deep?

5. For the love of God is broader

than the measure of our mind,

and the heart of the Eternal

is most wonderful by kind.

Closing Prayers for the church, the community, and the world, and those in need.

(you may kneel or sit)

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Hymn 386 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Rockingham

1. When I survey the wondrous cross

on which the Prince of glory died,

my richest gain I count but loss,

and pour contempt on all my pride.

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,

sorrow and love flow mingled down;

did e'er such love and sorrow meet,

or thorns compose so rich a crown?

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,

save in the cross of Christ, my God;

all the vain things that charm me most,

I sacrifice them to his blood.

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,

that were an offering far too small;

love so amazing, so divine,

demands my soul, my life, my all.

The flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Barbro Thompson and all our mothers on 'Mothering Sunday'.

Coffee, tea, and sweets are served in Thompson Hall.

Choir Lesley Bouza, Jennifer Krabbe, Rebecca McKay, Janelle Santi, Rachel Barreca,
Emily Burnett, Audrey Coates, Autumn Debassige, Kate Helsen, Jerome Chang,
Lanny Fleming, Quade Nielsen, Sharang Sharma, Michael Cressman, Paul
Genyk-Berezowsky, Alan Macdonald, Luke MacLean
Readers Emily Burnett, Jerome Chang
Technician Rod Murray

St. John's Four Areas of Ministry

Proclaim the Love of Christ - Engage and Involve - Musical Outreach - Open Doors

Rector:	The Rev'd Canon Paul J. Walker	rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Director of Music:	Dr. Patrick Murray	music.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Organist:	Jurgen Petrenko	
Sexton and Caretaker:	Garry Cantlon	sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Administration:	Thomas Littlewood	parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Honorary Assistants:	Rev'd John Lockyer, Rev'd Judy Steers	

Church of St. John the Evangelist
36 Henderson Street, Elora, ON N0B 1S0
519-846-5911

Follow St. John's Elora on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

stjohns@sentex.net
www.stjohnselora.ca

Welcome to St. John's Elora

Learn More

To learn more about St. John's through the Pastoral Letter sent from the Rector every Saturday, send an email to rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Thinking about Baptism

If you know of someone who is thinking about baptism please let the Rector know. There will be baptism scheduled for Saturday March 30, 7:30 p.m. at the Easter Vigil service and on Pentecost Sunday, May 19.

Holy Week at St. John's

Palm Sunday - March 24, 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 (Choral Matins)

Holy Wednesday - March 27, 10:00 - Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday - March 28, 7:30 - Choral Communion

Good Friday - March 29, 11:00 - Solemn Liturgy

Easter Vigil - Saturday March 30, 7:30 - Lighting of the Paschal Candle; Celebration of Baptism and Renewal of Baptism Vows, Choral Communion

Easter Sunday - March 31, 8:00, 9:00, 11:00 (Choral Communion)

Bible Study - Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

Join Rev'd John Lockyer and others who are exploring themes in the gospel of Mark.

Compline Service - Tuesday April 9

The choir rehearses at 6:30 on the day of the service. Please let Patrick know if you would like to participate as a member of the Compline Choir. The service begins at 8:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend this reflective and short liturgy to end the day. Compline is offered on Tuesday April 9, May 7 and June 4.

Congregation of Church Mice

Thank you to Doreen Wilson of the Knitters and Quilters who created a congregation of church mice representing people at St. John's. See who you can recognize in this assembly as they are all appropriately gathered at the baptismal font - the place where our journey of faith begins.

Song Circle - Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Join Stan Litch as he leads an informal time of singing some old tunes on Fridays at 10:30. It's a fun and informal time together of singing and stories. All are welcome.

Lent Book Study - Friday at 3:00 p.m.

"Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life" by Rowan Williams. This week we look at chapter 4, "Holiness" There are limited copies of the book available at the church to purchase while supplies last. We meet this **Friday at 3:00** in the Parish Centre.

Concert - Sunday March 17, 3:00 p.m.

J.S. Bach: Sonatas for Violin and Harpsichord

Noemy Gagnon-Lafrenais, violin and Christopher Bagan, harpsichord.

Come to hear Bach's 1st, 4th, and 6th sonatas for violin and harpsichord, masterfully performed by the concertmaster of Montreal's Arion Baroque Orchestra and one of Canada's foremost harpsichord players.

St. John's Concert series is held throughout the year for the community; admission is by donation.

Vestry

One of the things Vestry accomplished on February 24 was to elect and appoint a new leadership team for this year. Please welcome the following people:

Wardens: Pam Gradwell, Jon Warland, Colleen Murray and Peter Barr.

Members of Synod: Ian Rice and Thomas Littlewood; Nancy Kendall (Alternate).

Members of Parish Council: Dawn McClure, Ian Hornsby, Jane Anne Murray, Bob Cooper, Wendy Boose, Margaret Johnson, Gerry Hill, Barb Watkins.

Treasurer: Andrew Hirst; Book Keeper: Susan Hirst; Property: Jon Warland; Givings: Thomas Littlewood;

Columbarium: Pat Ellis.

Parish Council meets 6 times in the year to review the finances and support how we carry out the ministry and the vision of the parish as approved by Vestry.

Washrooms

Washrooms are located at the west entrance of the church, downstairs in Thompson Hall, and an accessible washroom is located at the Parish Centre (yellow house east of the church).

Thinking About Baptism

If you or someone you know may be thinking about baptism, there is a booklet available in the Narthex called "Thinking about Baptism". Help yourself to a copy of the booklet and contact the clergy if you are interested in preparing for baptism. Baptism will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 30, 7:30 p.m. and Pentecost Sunday May 19.

Events This Week at St. John's

Monday

2:00 Bible Study (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study (Portage)

Tuesday

9:00 Staff Meeting

11:00 Clericus (All Saints, Guelph)

5:30 Volunteer Choir

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters

10:00 Holy Communion

Thursday

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle

3:00 Lent Book Study (Parish Centre)

Sunday March 17 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:00 Holy Communion (BCP)

9:00 Holy Eucharist

11:00 Choral Communion with Parish Choir

3:00 CONCERT: J.S. Bach: Sonatas for Violin and Harpsichord