



*Church of St. John the Evangelist
Elora, Ontario*

519-846-5911 www.stjohnselora.ca email: stjohns@sentex.net

Sunday, September 26, 2021

11am

*Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 26, 2021

11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

Welcome to an in-person liturgy at St. John's.

We all have a responsibility to gather safely.

According to Diocesan Guidelines (July 16) you can help with the following:

While indoors please keep your face mask on and keep a physical distance from people not in your household.

When outdoors you may remove your face mask as long as you can keep a 2m physical distance.

Please socialize outdoors.

There is no congregational singing; and tea, coffee or food will not be served.

The 11am liturgy is live-streamed to the St. John's Elora YouTube Channel.

There is no offertory hymn. You are encouraged to give your donation online electronically or using the "Offering Box" located at the church doors.

Please greet one another and socialize outdoors.

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 Haldemand 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. (read by Lesley Bouza)

The love of God hath been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which was given unto us. *Romans 5.5*

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.**

Responses are sung by quintet.

Minister: O LORD, open thou our lips;
Singers: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**
Minister: O God, make speed to save us;
Singers: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
Minister: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
Singers: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**
Minister: Praise ye the Lord;
Singers: **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Canticle Jubilate (*sung by quintet, congregation may be seated*)

Felix Mendelssohn

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise.
be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ESTHER

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me - that is my petition - and the lives of my people that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Psalm 124 (sung by quintet)

If the Lord himself had not been on our side, now may Israel say;
if the Lord himself had not been on our side, when men rose up against us;

They had swallowed us up alive,
when they were so wrathfully displeased at us;

Then the waters had drowned us,
and the torrent had gone over our soul;

Yea, then the raging waters
had gone even over our soul.

But praised by the Lord,
who hath not given us over for a prey unto their teeth.

Our soul is escaped even as a bird out of the snare of the fowler:
the snare is broken, and we are delivered.

Our help standeth in the Name of the Lord,
who hath made heaven and earth.

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.

Reading Mark 9.38-50

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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 by quintet.

Minister: The Lord be with you;

Singers: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister: Let us pray.

(congregation is invited to kneel or sit)

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Singers: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Singers: **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;
Singers: **And grant us thy salvation.**
Minister: O Lord, save the Queen;
Singers: **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**
Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;
Singers: **And make thy chosen people joyful.**
Minister: O Lord, save thy people;
Singers: **And bless thine inheritance.**
Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Singers: **And evermore mightily defend us.**
Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us;
Singers: **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Collect of the Day

Lord, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; 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.**

Hymn 620 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (vv 1,2,3)

(hymn is sung by quintet, congregation is invited to stand)

*How the sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away our fear.*

*It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary rest.*

*Dear name! The rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place,
My never failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace.*

Homily Rev'd Judy Steers

Anthem Expectans Expectavi

Charles Wood

*This sanctuary of my soul, unwitting I keep shite and whole,
Unlatched and lit if thou shouldst care to enter, or to tarry there
With parted lips and outstretched hands thy servant stands,
Call thou early, call thou late, to thy great service dedicate.
My soul, keep white and whole.*

Closing Prayers for the church, the community, and the world.

(you may kneel or sit for the prayers)

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

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.**

POSTLUDE **Grand March from Athalia**

Felix Mendelssohn

Please allow people closest to the door to exit first.

***Please keep a physical distance from one another
and greet one another outdoors.***

*The flowers are the gift of Maureen and Max McIntyre-
thinking of and missing Chandler Kerwin*

*Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David McCallum
(November 13, 1980 to September 9, 2021)*

*Contact Elaine Dightam if you would like to give flowers in memory of loved ones who
have died, or in thanksgiving for an anniversary, birthday or event.*

You can contact Elaine at 519-843-5091

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Reader | Audrey and Terry Petkau |
| Greeter | Felicia Gow |
| Singers | Lesley Bouza, Janelle Santi, Christina Stelmacovich, Lanny Fleming, Alan Macdonald |
| Video Technician | Steve Hornett |

ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

Welcome Back

Welcome back to church “in-person”. Please keep a physical distance from people not in your household. Face masks are required at all time indoors, and when you cannot keep a physical distance of 2m outdoors.

For the purposes of screening and contact tracing it is important that you **register each week online**, before Saturday at 9pm, or if you do not have a computer, please call the office before Friday. If you have any questions about your registration you can contact Thomas Littlewood at reservations.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Vaccine Policy

The Bishop has issued a Vaccine Policy that requires all clergy and volunteers participating in any part of liturgical leadership or parish governance to show proof of their vaccines. Thank you for your cooperation with this policy as Jeff Ostic and Linda Coultres have been recording names and vaccine dates for all involved at St. John’s and Christ Church Drayton. This helps us all gather on Sunday with more confidence knowing that we are helping to minimize the transmission of the virus in our community.

If you are involved in the Poppy Project, if you haven’t already done so, please show your vaccine receipt when you come to participate.

Poppy Project

We have received over 5,000 poppies for this community project.

Please contact Barb Dunsmore by email at gbdunsmore@gmail.com or by telephone at 519-846-5911 if you want to participate in attaching poppies to the garden netting.

There are three one and a half hour shifts on Thursdays and one shift on Sunday afternoon. Each shift has no more than four people. All participants are required to have shown a copy of their vaccine receipt and satisfy the screening questions before entering the building.

Pastoral Care

If you know of someone in need of pastoral care, please contact a member of the clergy directly.

Keeping in Touch

Each week copies of the Order of Service and Sermon Text notes are mailed or hand delivered to a group of people who do not have access to a computer and may not be able to attend in-person services because of health restrictions. If you know of someone who needs to be included on this list please contact Susan Edwards through the office at 519-846-5911.

Walking in Right Relations – Truth and Reconciliation

Orange Ribbon Action - in honour of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Find out more about the TRC, the 94 recommendations and place an orange ribbon on a tree outside on our church property to remember and honour the lives of the children who never came home from Residential School.

An orange ribbon is in your bulletin this morning. Thanks Jane Rajantie for preparing these for us. Visit the front porch of the parish centre to learn more. Bring friends and neighbours as we turn the trees orange to observe National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on Sep 30th.

Why we do land acknowledgments

(By Lesley Bouza)

As settlers we humbly seek to learn and live together in pursuit of justice for Indigenous peoples, acknowledging past harms, and striving to walk forward in right relations. One of the ways that we do this is by acknowledging the land that we occupy. These land acknowledgements are a first step in the process of reconciliation. Indigenous artist Tannis Nielsen explains that true reconciliation involves a “physical act of sorrow”. She describes this original meaning as coming from the Christian context, where one achieves reconciliation with God through an act of atonement. The land acknowledgment might serve as a first step in our physical act of sorrow. What could our next steps be? Perhaps look up songs by an Indigenous musician on Youtube, like Jeremy Dutcher, or Tanya Tagaq. Maybe read a book by an Indigenous author, or watch a movie or documentary by an Indigenous filmmaker, exploring the stories of this land - the stories that were buried, sometimes literally, by the settlers who wrote this land’s history. This way our land acknowledgement may grow beyond a token, and may embody the true spirit of reconciliation that we collectively strive towards.

Ordinations

By the grace of God, the Bishop will ordain Rob Duncan, Matt Gillard, Rob Jones and Randy Williams to the order of a Deacon, and the Rev Michael Coren to the order of a Priest in the church on Sunday September 26th. Pray for them as they prepare for this event. All are welcome to participate in the service on the Diocese of Niagara Facebook page on Sunday September 26th at 4:00pm.

Blessing of Animals

The Feast of St. Francis (October 4) is traditionally a time to bless the animals of our land and our homes. Francis was an ambassador for all creation, and is the patron saint of animals.

St. John’s is offering an outdoor service (weather permitting) for the Blessing of the Animals on **Sunday October 3 at 2:00pm**. You are welcome to attend, whether you are bringing animals for a blessing or not.

We are hoping to provide an online option for pre-registration. Everyone present is expected to keep a 2m distance from members of other households, and if you haven’t registered online, to leave your name and contact information for contact tracing purposes. If a 2m distance is compromised at any time participants are required to wear a face mask.

Rector: The Rev'd Canon Paul J. Walker rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Curate: The Rev'd Judy Steers curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Organist: Jurgen Petrenko

You can call any one of us at 519-846-5911.

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

Facebook and Instagram: St. John's Elora Website: www.stjohnselora.ca
Email: stjohns@sentex.net