



Church of St. John the Evangelist

Elora, Ontario

Reign of Christ – Sunday next Before Advent

Choral Mattins

November 26, 2023

11:00am

11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

Welcome to St. John's Elora.

*Hymn books, prayer books, hearing assist devices and children's activity packs
are available from the Greeters at the back of the church.*

This liturgy is live-streamed on St. John's Elora You Tube.

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 379 Rejoice, the Lord is King

Darwall

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Your Lord and King adore!

*Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.*

*Life up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

3. His kingdom cannot fail;

he rules o'er earth and heaven;

the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart,

lift up your voice:

rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

2. Jesus the Saviour reigns,

the God of truth and love;

*when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above.*

*Lift up your hearts, lift up your voice:
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

4. He sits at God's right hand

till all his foes submit,

*and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet.*

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:

rejoice, again, I say, rejoice!

5. Rejoice in glorious hope;

Jesus, the judge, shall come

and take his servants up to their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;

the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed. Us in Christ with all the spiritual blessings of heaven.."

- Ephesians 1.3

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 King of Kings

Ruth Watson Henderson

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 Ephesians 1.15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Psalm 100

(Congregation remain seated)

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.

Lesson II Matthew 25.31-46

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Canticle Te Deum Collegium Regale

Herbert Howells

We praise thee, O God : we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee : the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud : the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubin and Seraphin : continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy : Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty : of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles : praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets : praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs : praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world : doth acknowledge thee;

The Father : of an infinite Majesty;

Thine honourable, true : and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost : the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory : O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son : of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man : thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death :

thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God : in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come : to be our Judge.

*We therefore pray thee, help thy servants :
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints : in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people :
and bless thine heritage.
Govern them : and lift them up for ever.
Day by day : we magnify thee;
And we worship thy Name : ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord : to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us : have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us :
as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted : let me never be confounded.*

(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 the Day

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; 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 Antiphon

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Let all the world in every corner sing
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high
His praise may thither fly:
The earth is not too low
His praises there may grow
Let all the world in every corner sing
My God and King!

The church with Psalms must shout
No door can keep them out:
But above all, the heart
Must bear the longest part

Let all the world in every corner sing
My God and King!

Homily Rev'd Canon Paul Walker

Offertory Hymn 505 Be Thou My Vision

Slane

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

*1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art –
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*3. Riches I heed not, not the world's empty
praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only; first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;*

*4. High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!*

*thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.*

Closing Prayers for the church, the community, and the world, and those in need.
(you may kneel or sit)

*Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all!*

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 378 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Diademata

*1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne: hark, how the heavenly anthem
downs all music but its own! Awake, my soul,
and sign of him who died for thee, and hail him
as thy matchless King through all eternity.*

*3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a
sceptre sways from pole to pole, that wars may
cease, absorbed in prayer and praise. His reign
shall know no end; and round his pierced feet fair
flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever
sweet.*

*2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed
o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save. His glories now we
sing who died and rose on high, who died
eternal life to bring, and lives that death may
die.*

*4. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands
and side, rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty
glorified. All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou has
died for me; thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.*

POSTLUDE The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Benedetto Marcelo

Flowers are given to the glory of God.

*Please join us for coffee, tea, refreshments
downstairs following the service.*

Choir Lesley Bouza, Jennifer Krabbe, Rebecca McKay, Janelle Santi, Kate Wright, Emily
Burnett, Kate Helsen, Rachel Barreca, Jerome Chang, Lanny Fleming, Marcus
Kramer, Quade Nielsen, Sharang Sharma, Michael Cressman,
Paul Genyk-Berezowsky, Alan Macdonald, Luke MacLean

Greeters Joyce Reimer, Walter Gosk

Readers Michael Cressman, Emily Burnett

Technician Jon Warland

Events This Week at St. John's

Monday

2:00 Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark (Parish Centre)

6:00 Children's Choir (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study at Portage

Tuesday

5:30 Volunteer Choir

7:30 Conversation on the "94 Calls to Action" (on Zoom)

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters (Parish Centre)

10:00 Holy Communion

10:00 Diocesan Clergy Advent Day (St. Christopher's Burlington)

Thursday

9:00 Yoga (Parish Centre)

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle (Parish Centre)

7:30 Concert Series - Duo Thalia

(folk songs and dance music across the centuries on violin and cello)

Saturday

11:00 Service for Bruce Whitestone

Sunday December 3 - First Sunday of Advent

8:00 Holy Communion

9:00 Holy Eucharist

11:00 Choral Matins with Quartet

4:00 Advent Lessons and Carols

6:00 Advent Lessons and Carols

Welcome to St. John's Elora

Welcome to St. John's

We are delighted you are here today. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex before you leave. To receive the weekly "Pastoral Letter" with a reflection from the Rector and updates on events, please send an email to rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Open Doors Update

As the project continues to go through the process of municipal approvals, in preparation for a special vestry we are meeting with parishioners who are interested to learn more about the project and to gauge support. We are happy to give you an on-site tour or meet with you so you can learn more about how this project is vital to our mission as a parish and address your questions. Please speak with Peter Barr, Colleen Murray, the co-chairs of the Open Doors team, or to the Rector.

Christmas Puddings!

Pick up your puddings today at coffee hour!

Small \$10.00 Large \$ 20.00

Cash payments accepted or E-transfer to: treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com. Identify "Puddings" in the note area.

Contact Jane Anne Murray to place your order at jamconsults@gmail.com or come to church tomorrow!

Exploring the *Gospel according to St. Mark*

Monday, 2:00pm

Join us Monday in the Parish Centre as we continue to explore the ideas about the gospel of Mark. If you have an NRSV Bible, please bring it with you; otherwise there are some NRSV Bibles available to borrow from the back pew of the church.

Bruce Whitestone

A service to celebrate and give thanks for the life of [Bruce Whitestone](#) will be held on Saturday December 2, 11:00 a.m. at St. John's.

Bruce was a long time faithful member of St. John's Elora and died in the peace of Christ on October 15 in his 101st year. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Advent Lessons and Carols

NEXT Sunday December 3, 4:00 and 6:00 pm.

Begin the new season of the Christian calendar with the annual Advent Lessons and Carols service. Invite friends and neighbours to join you for this inspiring service.

Compline

Tuesday December 5

6:30 - Compline Choir rehearsal. Let Patrick Murray know you are coming.

8:00 - Compline service. All are welcome.

TRC – Calls to Action – Tuesday at 7:30

Join a small group on Tuesday over Zoom to continue to read through and learn about the 94 Calls to Action. Contact the Rector for the Zoom link.

Fall Concert Series St. John's

Bring friends or family as we continue our fall concert series featuring "Musicians of the KWSymphony." Admission by donation at the door.

Friday, December 1, 7:30pm

Duo Thalia (Xueao Yang, violin; Kendra Grittani, cello).

An innovative evening of classical and contemporary music for string duo inspired by folksong and dance music across the centuries.

Saturday, December 16, 2:30pm

A Child's Christmas in Wales.

Narrated by Tom Allen. With music by Lori Gemmell, Larry Larson, and Debbie Stroh.

N.B. This event is over 3/4 full, with some seats remaining in the back portion of the church.

Please [RSVP online at our Concert Series website](#) if you plan to attend.

The Barrel Boys at St. John's Elora

Friday November 24, 7:30

Back for a second year, celebrate the Christmas season in Elora with The Barrel Boys' enchanting melodies and heartwarming harmonies!

Tickets are \$25 advance or \$30 at the door, and \$10 for under 13. Advance tickets are available at thebarrelboys.com/shows

Song Circle - Friday, 10:30

Join Stan on ukulele as he leads us in singing some favourite old tunes. Song books provided.

Memorial Flower Donations

To make a donation towards memorial flowers for Advent or Christmas, please leave a message for Elaine Dightam at the church office, 519-846-5911.

Keeping Healthy

Help keep one another healthy by ensuring that your flu and COVID vaccines are up to date. If you test positive for COVID please stay home; if you have symptoms or have a compromised immune system, please wear a face mask in large gatherings of people. Always practice good hand and respiratory hygiene.

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)

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
Honorary Assistant:	Rev'd John Lockyer	
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

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