

# PEACE



*Church of St. John the Evangelist*

*Elora, Ontario  
Diocese of Niagara*

*December 4, 2022  
11:00 am*

*Second Sunday of Advent*

## 11:00 am Choral Eucharist (BCP)

*Welcome to St. John's Elora.*

*Hymn books, prayer books and hearing assist devices are available at the back of the church.*

*Face masks are recommended when indoors at St. John's.*

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

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*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.*

**Mass Setting    Missa Sancti Nicolai**

Franz Josef Haydn

**Hymn 103 On Jordan's Bank**

Winchester New

*(Advent candle of PEACE will be lit during the Processional Hymn)*

*1. On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.*

*3. For thou art our salvation Lord,  
our refuge, and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flowers that wither and decay.*

*2. Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within.  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.*

*4. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.*

*5. All praise eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent doth thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.*

### **THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Celebrant:**    ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*(congregation may be seated or kneel)*

### **TEN COMMANDMENTS**

*Sung response after each commandment: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

*Sung response after tenth commandment:* **Lord have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

**Kyrie** (choir)

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

**COLLECT**

*Celebrant:* Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*People:* **Amen.**

**Reading**     **Isaiah 11.1-11**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. On that day the Lord will again raise his hand to recover the remnant that is left of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea.

**Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19** (*plainchant*)

Give the king thy judgements, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.  
Then shall he judge thy people according unto right, and thy poor with justice.  
The mountains also shall bring peace, and the little hills righteousness unto the people.  
He shall keep the simple folk by their right, save the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.  
He shall live as long as the sun, and while the moon endureth, from one generation to another.  
He shall come down like the rain upon the mown grass, even as the showers that water the earth.  
In his time shall righteousness flourish; yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.  
Let his name endure for ever; let his name continue as long as the sun.  
Let all the tribues of the earth be blessed through him, and let all nations call him happy.

*(please stand)*

**GOSPEL**

*Reader:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with thy spirit.**

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel is written in the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of the gospel according to Matthew beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

*People:* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." The Gospel of Christ.

*People:* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*Celebrant:* I BELIEVE in one God

*People:* **the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; light, of light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and**

glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**ANTHEM This is the Record of John**

Orlando Gibbons

*This is the record of John,  
when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem  
to ask him,  
Who art thou?  
And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly,  
I am not the Christ.*

*And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou  
Elias?  
And he said, I am not.  
Art thou the prophet?  
And he answered, No.*

*Then said they unto him,  
What art thou? that we may give an answer unto  
them that sent us.  
What sayest thou of thyself?  
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in  
the wilderness,  
Make straight the way of the Lord.*

**HOMILY Rev'd John Lockyer**

**OFFERTORY HYMN 105 Where Jordan Cuts the Wilderness**

Morning Song

*An offertory plate will be passed during this hymn to receive donations to support the ministry of St. John's.*

*1. Where Jordan cuts the wilderness,  
a burning voice now warns:  
"You brood of snakes, you hypocrites, prepare!  
Messiah comes.*

*3. The heritage of Abraham  
means less than desert stones  
unless we share our need and wealth.  
Prepare! Messiah comes.*

*2. There comes a day of harvesting  
the fruit of faith and love:  
the useless culled, the evil purged.  
Prepare! Messiah comes.*

*4. Exploiters of the poor and weak  
with rage and theft be done.  
Prepare the way of holiness,  
prepare! Messiah comes.*

*5. With water I baptize you now  
in readiness for one whose Spirit bathes,  
whose fire refines – prepare!  
Messiah comes."*

**PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS**

*During the Offertory the Celebrant prepares the elements for Communion.*

*"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God."*

- Luke 3.4,6

**PRAYERS**

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all people: We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept

our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all they that do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to lead all nations in the way of righteousness; and so to guide and direct their governors and rulers, that thy people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace: And grant unto thy servant *CHARLES* our King, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, all Bishops, Priests and Deacons, and specially to thy servant Susan, our Bishop, and Colin, our Assistant Bishop, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and living Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments: Prosper, we pray thee, all those who proclaim the Gospel of thy kingdom among the nations: And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and specially to this congregation here present, that, with meek heart and due reverence they may hear and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life as in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, *especially those for whom our prayers are desired.*

We remember before thee, O Lord, all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear: ... (*Names of those who have died are offered*)...and we bless thy holy Name for all who in life and death have glorified thee; beseeching thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*Leader:* YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

*Celebrant:* ALMIGHTY God,

**All:** **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people: we acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Leader:* Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him: Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. - *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. - *John 3:16.*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. - *1 Timothy 1:15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any one sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. - *1 St John 2:1, 2.*

## **THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you;

*All:* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts;

*All:* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

*All:* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Celebrant:* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and preserver of all things. Who in the multitude of thy Saints hast compassed us about with so great a cloud of witnesses, that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us, and together with them may receive the crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with the whole company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the Highest.

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

*Celebrant:* BLESSING and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he give it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you;

*All:* **And with thy Spirit.**

*All:* **We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies May be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.**



**Choir:** Agnus Dei

### **Administration of Communion**

*All are invited to come forward to receive the sacrament as a reminder of your baptism. Please come forward during the singing of the Angus Dei. The choir will receive after the congregation. If mobility challenges prevent you from navigating the chancel steps safely, the clergy will bring the sacrament to you. If you do not wish to receive the chalice, you are invited to touch the base of the chalice while you hear the words of administration.*

*If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

### **PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

OUR Father

**All:** **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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

**All:** **And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN 106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness**

Ascension

*1. There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!*

*3. But your word, O God, is faithful, your arm, O Lord, is strong; you stand in the midst of nations, and you will right the wrong. You will feed your flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to your breast; in pastures of peace you'll lead them, and give to the weary rest.*

*2. O Zion, give voice to good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King. The works of pride all perish, like flowers they shall decay; the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.*

*4. There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where the Lord our God may go!*

Choir	
Readers	Patricia Reimer, David Campbell
Greeters	Jane Rapp, Charlotte Logan
Chalice Bearer	Ken Reid
Altar Guild	Thomas Littlewood, Pam Gradwell
Technician	Gerry Hill

Flowers are to the glory of God  
in memory of Lucille Colthurst.

### **Pastoral Letter**

To receive the weekly Pastoral Letter from the Rector with a reflection and update on St John's events and activities, send an email to the Rector at [rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com)

### **Special Vestry - TODAY**

The Wardens have called a Special Vestry to gather today at **1:30pm on Zoom** to authorize them to retain SRM Architects to help us carry the Open Doors priority of [our Vision](#) to the next steps. The Zoom link was provided in yesterday's Pastoral Letter.

In June 2021 Vestry affirmed that we are being called to create a new accessible multi-purpose reception hall space that would connect the church to the Parish Centre. Concept drawings were presented to Parish Council in June 2022 and at the Parish Retreat in October 2022.

To move the project from a concept into the next phase, the Wardens will present a motion to retain SRM Architects to develop the design and seek land use approvals. This phase of the project would include preparing drawings, identifying costs, and beginning a process to seek approvals from various regulatory bodies, including but not limited to the Diocese, the municipality, the Bereavement Authority of Ontario, and the Heritage Committee.

This is the first phase in a long process and requires architectural drawings to be prepared. All of this is done in consultation with the diocesan Building Advisory Group, Finance Advisory Group and the Bishop. Once this phase is underway, the Wardens are required to call another Vestry to present the overall design, cost details and funding proposals.

I invite you to attend this meeting to learn more of how this significant part of our vision is unfolding as we continue to discern God's call for us at St. John's. Please send regrets to Thomas Littlewood.

**Eligibility to vote:** over 16; baptized in a Christian church; not a member of another Vestry; attending and supporting the ministry of St. John's for the past six months.

### **Upcoming Choral Programs**

Thank you for your response to the invitation to help sponsor some new initiatives from the Parish Choir next year. If you are interested learn more about being a sponsor for some new musical outreach initiatives, please contact Patrick Murray. We are planning an afternoon series exploring the church cantatas of J.S.Bach in their musical and scriptural context; and we will be commissioning some new music from living composers for the Parish Choir. As these events are outside of our annual budget, we are looking for your sponsorship to help make them happen. Thank you for your generous support for our choral and musical program.

### **Christmas Carollers at Your Door for the Holidays**

Thank you for your response to sign up and have members of the Parish Choir visit your home in quartets to offer 15 minutes of Christmas carols.

There are a few slots remaining on the evenings of **December 16 and 17** for residents living in the Elora and Fergus area.

To request carollers for yourself or for someone else, please contact Christina Stelmacovich at [christina.stelmacovich@gmail.com](mailto:christina.stelmacovich@gmail.com) or leave a message at 519-846-5911 and indicate your preferred date.

Schedule will follow.

A suggested minimum donation to the Parish Choir Fund to cover our costs is \$75. Anything above that supports the ongoing activities of the Parish Choir and the music program at St. John's. Donations are eligible for tax receipts; please mark "**Choir Fund - Carolling**" on your envelope. You can also make the donation by E-transfer to [treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com) and identify "Choir Fund - Carolling" in the description box.

### **Church Calendars for 2023**

New church calendars are available while supplies last in two different designs (following two different lectionaries) at the back of the church or in the Parish Centre.

### **Christmas Lessons and Carols**

#### **December 18 at 4pm and 7pm**

This is an event not to be missed; so bring your friends to this inspiring service on Sunday December 18 at 4pm or 7pm.

### **Christmas Puddings**

We are SOLD OUT. Thank you for all your support.

### **This Week at St. John's**

TODAY	1:30	SPECIAL VESTRY (on Zoom)
Monday	7:00	Bible Study at Portage
Tuesday	5:30	Volunteer Choir
	6:30	Compline Choir
	8:00	Compline Service
Wednesday	9:30	Knitters and Quilters
	10:00	Holy Communion
Thursday	9:00	Yoga (Parish Centre)
	7:00	Parish Choir
Friday	11:00	Heritage River Communion Service

### **Third Sunday of Advent - December 11**

8:00	Holy Communion
9:00	Holy Eucharist
11:00	Choral Matins with Parish Choir

## 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	<a href="mailto:rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com">rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com</a>
Director of Music:	Dr. Patrick Murray	<a href="mailto:music.stjohnselora@gmail.com">music.stjohnselora@gmail.com</a>
Organist:	Jurgen Petrenko	
Sexton and Caretaker:	Garry Cantlon	<a href="mailto:sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com">sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com</a>

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