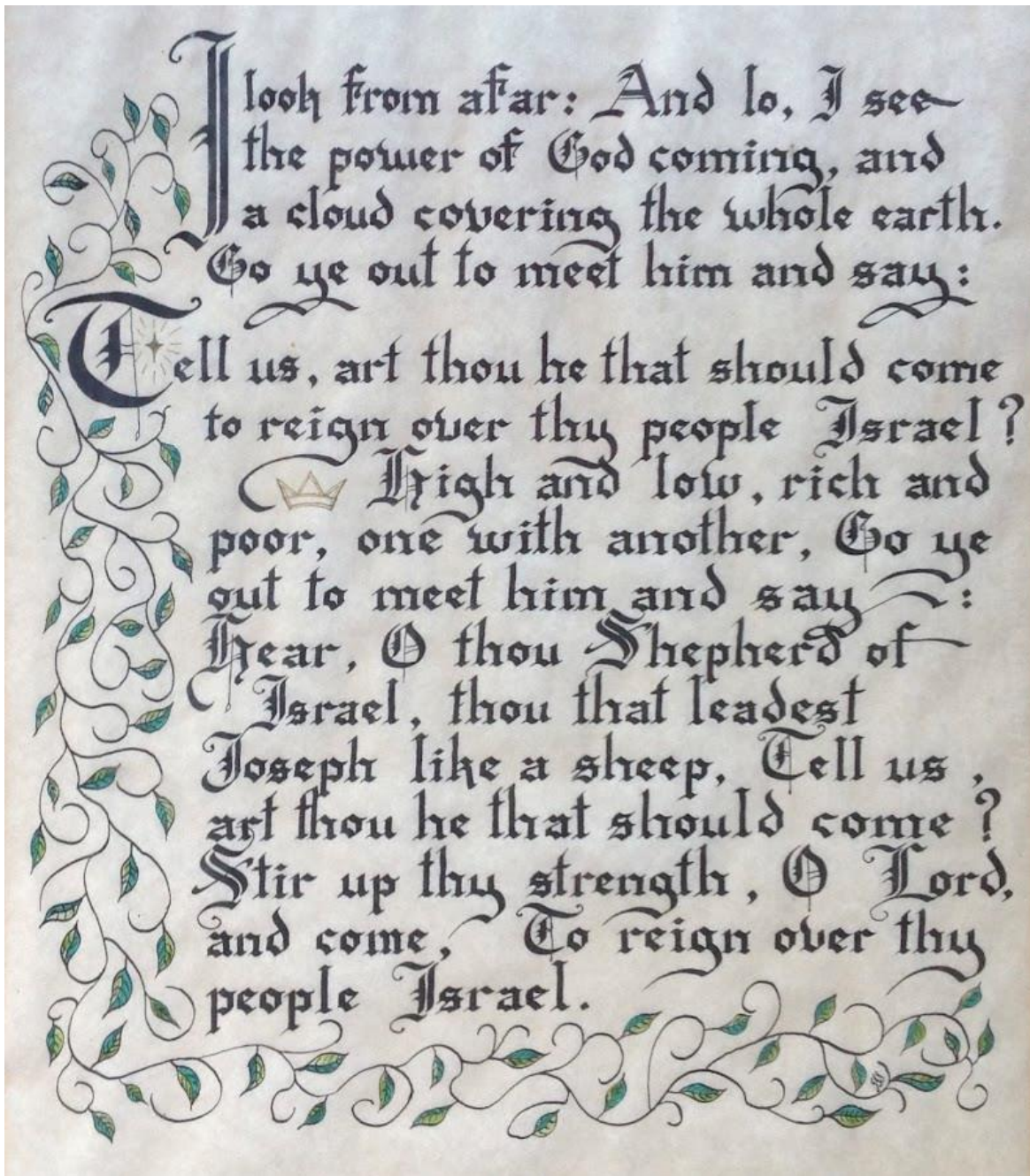


Advent Lessons and Carols

Church of St. John the Evangelist, Elora



*Sunday, November 28, 2021
4:00pm and 6:30pm*

Welcome to St. John's Elora. We gather together under guidelines from Public Health and Diocese of Niagara. Please keep a physical distance from people in other households, wear a face mask, and sing softly. Thank you for helping us worship together safely.

MATIN RESPONSORY

I Look From Afar

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (adapted)

Opening Sentences and Prayer

Beloved in Christ, the season of Advent bids us prepare ourselves both for the celebration of Christ's nativity and also for that Day when he shall come to judge the hearts of all people. So, in sorrow and penitence, let us confess our failures and shortcomings, and renew in ourselves the vision of God's perfect kingdom, which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In words and music we will give voice to the hope set forth in the Scriptures, that God's kingdom will come; with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will prepare for its coming, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life, and death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

But first, let us pray for those who, by reason of adversity, yearn especially for its coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved, those who sit in the darkness of despair or who walk in the shadow of death. Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness, and peace; and, that it may bear witness to this hope in a world divided by wrath and sorrow, let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church.

Silence is kept

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom, in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

May the Lord when He comes find us watching and waiting. Amen.

CAROL **Veni, Redemptor Gentium**

Andrew Smith

1. Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth:
let every age adoring fall;
such birth befits the God of all.

3. From the Father forth he came
And returneth to the same,
Captive leading death and hell,
High the song of triumph swell!

2. Wondrous birth! O wondrous child
Of the virgin undefiled!
Though by all the world disowned,
Still to be in heaven enthroned.

4. Brightly doth Thy manger shine,
Glorious is its light divine.
Let not sin o'er cloud this light;
Ever be our faith thus bright.

5. To you, O Christ, most blessed king,
And you, the Father, glory be,
With you the Spirit, Paraclete,
To the everlasting ages long. Amen.

LESSON I Genesis 3.1-15

The Fall of Adam and Eve

*Read by Meg Prichard at 4 pm**Read by Patricia Reimer at 6:30pm*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

ANTHEM Adam Lay Ybounden

Matthew Larkin

*Adam lay ybounden
Bounden in a bond
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long*

*Nay had the apple taken been
The apple taken been
Nay had never our lady
Abeen heavene queen*

*And all was for an apple
An apple that he took
As clerkes finden
written in their book*

*Blessed be the time
That apple taken was
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gracias, Deo gracias!*

LESSON II

Isaiah 6.1-11

God reveals his glory to the prophet.

*Read by Ken Reid 4 pm**Read by Chris Houston 6:30 pm*

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

ANTHEM A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

*A spotless Rose is blowing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light,
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight,*

*The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing,
In Mary, purest Maid;
For, through our God's great love and might,
The blessed babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.*

LESSON III Jeremiah 31.31-34 A new covenant is promised.

Read Terry Petkau 4:00pm

Read by Jeannie Houston 6:30 pm

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

CAROL Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

*The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.*

*I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the Appletree.*

*His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the Appletree.*

*This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the Appletree.*

*For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the Appletree.*

HYMN **Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending**

*Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah,
God appears on earth to reign.*

*Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!
Hallelujah! Come, Lord come!*

LESSON IV: **Baruch 4.36-5.9** **God will redeem all of creation.**

Read by Audrey Petkau 4 pm

Read by Mark Haslett 6:30 pm

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the joy that is coming to you from God.
Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away;
they are coming, gathered from east and west,
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing in the glory of God.
Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.
Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;
for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.
For God will give you evermore the name,
“Righteous Peace, Godly Glory.”
Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
look toward the east,
and see your children gathered from west and east
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.
For they went out from you on foot,
led away by their enemies;
but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.
For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.
The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God’s command.
For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

ANTHEM O Radiant Dawn

James MacMillan

*O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
 come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.
 Isaiah had prophesied,
 The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light
 upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.
 Amen.*

LESSON V Zephaniah 3.14-18 The Lord will be among us.

*Read by Leo Pelligrino (Grade 12 student from St. John's Kilmarnock School) 4pm
 Read by Jane Houlding 6:30pm*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
 Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!
 The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies.
 The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.
 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.
 The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;
 he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;
 he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.
 I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

ANTHEM E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come

Paul Manz

<i>Peace be to you and grace from him</i>	<i>Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell within</i>
<i>Who freed us from our sins</i>	<i>Rejoice on earth, ye saints below</i>
<i>Who loved us all and shed his blood</i>	<i>For Christ is coming, is coming soon</i>
<i>That we might saved be</i>	<i>For Christ is coming soon</i>
<i>Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord</i>	<i>E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come</i>
<i>The Lord, Almighty God</i>	<i>And night shall be no more</i>
<i>Who was, and is, and is to come</i>	<i>They need no light nor lamp nor sun</i>
<i>Sing Holy, Holy Lord</i>	<i>For Christ will be their All!</i>

LESSON VI Isaiah 65.17-25 God promises a new heaven and a new earth.

*Read by Ian Hornsby 4pm
 Read by Peter Barr 6:30pm*

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;
 the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.
 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating;
 for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.
 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people;
 no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.
 No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days,
 or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
 for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
 and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
 They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

ANTHEM **There Shall A Star**

Felix Mendelssohn

*There shall a star come out of Jacob,
and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel,
with might destroying princes and cities.*

*As bright the star of morning gleams,
So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams of light and consolation.*

*Thy Word, O Lord—radiance darting, truth imparting—gives salvation.
Thine be praise and adoration.*

BLESSING

HYMN **“Your Kingdom Come” – on Bended Knee**

*“Your kingdom come” on bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth the kingdom’s day.*

*The day in whose clear shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed.*

*When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.*

Postlude **Come Thou Saviour of the Gentiles**

J.S. Bach

Choir: Audrey Coates, Rebecca McKay, Janelle Santi, Emily Petrenko, Catherine Robertson,
Christina Stelmacovich, Jerome Chang, Marcus Kramer, Richard Hrytzak, Alan Macdonald,
Luke Maclean, Quade Nielsen

Crucifer Thomas Littlewood

Greeters **4:00 pm** Charlotte Logan, Jane Rapp, Ian Hornsby
6:30 pm Colleen Murray, Jane Anne Murray, Rod Murray

Rector: The Reverend Canon Paul J. Walker rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Judy Steers curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Director of Music: Patrick Murray music.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Organist: Jurgen Petrenk

Sexton and Caretaker: Garry Cantlon sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com

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Email: stjohns@sentex.net

Please REGISTER online to attend.

Services are subject to change and are in compliance with Public Health and Diocese of Niagara guidelines.

Christmas at St. John's Elora

Sunday December 19

4 and 6:30pm Christmas Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 24

4:00pm Carols, Reflection, Eucharist (B.A.S.)

6:30pm and 9pm Traditional Christmas Communion with members of the Parish Choir

Saturday, December 25

10:00am Traditional Christmas Communion with Quartet

December 26

10:00am Choral Matins for Feast of St. Stephen