



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

Choral Evensong

*February 25, 2024
4:00 pm*

4:00pm Choral Evensong (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.*

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.

Introit Call to Remembrance

Richard Farrant

Call to remembrance, O Lord,
thy tender mercy and thy loving kindness which hath been ever of old.
O remember not the sins and offences of my youth,
but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

Sentence

*"I do not glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me,
and I to the world.*

Galatians 6:14

Minister: Dearly beloved, let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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.**

Versicles and Responses are sung by Choir.

Bernard Rose

O LORD, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

(please stand)

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.
Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's Name be praised.

(congregation may be seated)

Psalm 84 (sung)

(Chant: C.H.H. Parry)

O how lovely are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will be always praising thee.

Blessed are they whose strength is in thee, in whose heart are the pilgrim ways;

Who going through the Vale of Misery use it for a well; yea, the early rain covereth it with blessings.

They go from strength to strength, and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayers: hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God, our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.

For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.

I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

For the Lord God is a light and defence; the Lord will give grace and glory;

and no good thing shall be withhold from them that lead a godly life.

O Lord God of hosts, blessed is the one that putteth their trust in thee.

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 1.1-10

The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, to whom the word of the Lord came in the days of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. It came also in the days of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah until the end of the eleventh year of King Zedekiah son of Josiah of Judah, until the captivity of Jerusalem in the fifth month.

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

Magnificat

Leonard Enns

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel;
As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
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.*

SECOND LESSON

John 5.19-24

Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own but only what he sees the Father doing, for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing, and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. Anyone who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and does not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

Nunc Dimittis

Leonard Enns

*LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.*

*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.*

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.

Versicles and Responses are sung by Choir.

Bernard Rose

*The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.*

*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.**

*O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.
O Lord, save the King;
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

*Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.*

*O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.*

*Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Because there is none other that fighteth for us but only thou, O God.*

*O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

Collect for Second Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Collect For Aid Against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Anthem Evening Hymn

H. Balfour Gardiner

To thee before the close of day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That, with thy wonted favor, thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Withhold from us our ghostly foe,
That spot of sin we may not know.

O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son,
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

Offertory Hymn 434 The Love of Jesus Calls Us

Aurelia

During the Offertory Hymn an offering will be collected.

1. The love of Jesus calls us our joyous praise to sing; our deeply felt thanksgivings we now together bring, for all God's many blessings, unasked yet still received, and for the generations who faithfully believed.

2. The love of Jesus calls us, that we may always be companions on a journey, where all the world may see that serving Christ is freedom which time does not destroy; where Christ's command is duty, and every duty joy.

3. The love of Jesus calls us to go where he would go, to challenge all that limits, to change, to learn, to grow, to know that Christ has freed us, that prisons are no more; for those who seek his kingdom, Christ opens every door.

4. The lover of Jesus calls us in swiftly changing days, to be God's co-creators in new and wondrous ways; that God with men and women may so transform the earth, that love and peace and justice may give God's kingdom birth.

Prayers

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.**

Recessional Hymn 20 Day is Done, But Love Unfailing

Ar Hyd Y Nos

1. Day is done, but love unfailing dwells ever here; shadows fall, but hope, prevailing, calms every fear. God, our maker, none forsaking, take our hearts, of love's own making; watch our sleeping, guard our waking, be always near.

2. Dark descends, but light unending shines through our night; you are with us, ever lending new strength to sight. One in love, your truth confessing, one in hope of heaven's blessing, may we see, in love's possessing, love's endless light!

3. Eyes will close, but you unsleeping watch by our side; death may come, in love's safekeeping still we abide. God of love, all evil quelling, sin forgiving, fear dispelling, stay with us, our hearts in dwelling, this eventide.

Readers: Sharon Rice, Michael Cressman

Technician: Jon Warland

Choir: Brittany Harris, Karianne Pasma, Janelle Santi, Kate Wright, Rachel Barreca, Emily Burnett, Audrey Coates, Autumn Debassige, Lanny Fleming, Quade Nielsen, Sharang Sharma, Marcel Van Helden, Nicholas Allen, Michael Cressman, Marcus Kramer, Alan Macdonald

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	
Parish Administration	Thomas Littlewood	parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Sexton and Caretaker:	Garry Cantlon	sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com

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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.

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

Vestry Meeting

Thank you for your participation and prayers for the annual meeting of Vestry yesterday. We gathered to give thanks for all that was offered to the glory of God last year and committed ourselves to new ministry in the coming year. Copies of the annual report are available at the back of the church.

Lent Book Study

"Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life" by Rowan Williams. Join the Rector to reflect on this book together. Copies of the book are available to purchase. To accommodate the time of the World Day of Prayer we meet this **Friday at 3:30** in the Parish Centre.

World Day of Prayer - Friday March 1, 2:00 p.m.

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fergus is hosting the regional World Day of Prayer service this year. The service was written by the women of Palestine. All are welcome to this annual ecumenical event.

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

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

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.

Elora Children's Choir - Sunday March 3, 11:00 a.m.

Come to hear the liturgical debut of the Elora Children's Choir on Sunday March 3 at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Compline Service - Tuesday March 5

The choir rehearses at 6:30 on the day of the service. The service begins at 8:00 p.m. and is offered on March 5, April 9, May 7 and June 4.

Men's Dinner - Wednesday March 6, 6:30 p.m.

Our speaker will be Wayne Simpson, a professional photographer and author who is based in Elora. Wayne's talk is titled "Portraits in Resilience" which is based on his current book. His book will be available for sale at the end of the evening - price \$65 - either cash or by e-transfer.

Please let Ian Hornsby know by Thursday February 29th if you plan to attend. ihornsby0@gmail.com

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)

Events This Week at St. John's

TODAY

4:00 Evensong

Monday

2:00 Bible Study (Parish Centre)

6:00 Children's Choir (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study (Portage)

Tuesday

5:30 Volunteer Choir

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters

10:00 Holy Communion

Thursday

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle

2:00 World Day of Prayer (St. Andrew's Fergus)

3:30 Lent Book Study (Parish Centre)

Sunday March 3 - Third Sunday in Lent

8:00 Holy Communion (BCP)

9:00 Holy Eucharist

11:00 Choral Communion with Parish Choir and Elora Children's Choir