



Church of St. John the Evangelist

*Elora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara*

*April 28, 2024
11:00 am*

Fifth Sunday of Easter

11:00 am Choral Mattins (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.

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 425 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

*1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.*

*2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.*

*3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.*

"I am the vine, you are the branches, says the Lord. Those who abide in me, and I in the, bear much fruit."

- John 15:5

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.**

Introit A New Commandment

William Mundy

A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord, that ye love together, as I have loved you, that e'en so ye love one another.

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.**

Lesson 1 Acts 8.26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm 22.24-31

(Congregation remain seated)

Of thee cometh my praise in the great congregation;
my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; they that seek after the LORD shall praise him;
may your heart live for ever.

All the ends of the world shall remember, and be turned unto the Lord;
and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's and he is the Governor among the nations.

Surely to him shall all the proud of the earth bow down;

and before him shall kneel all that go down into the dust, and they that cannot keep their souls alive.

Their posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord unto a generation yet to come.

And all shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done it.

Lesson II John 15.1-8

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Canticle Jubilate

Arthur Sullivan

*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.*

(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

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unworthy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; 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 O How Glorious

Healey Willan

O how glorious is the kingdom
in which all the saints rejoice with Christ,
clad in robes of white
they follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

Homily Canon Paul Walker

Offertory Hymn 325 Angel-Voices, Ever Singing

Angel-Voices

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

1. Angel voices, ever singing,
round thy throne of light;
angel harps, forever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee,
and confess thee, Lord of might!

3. In thy house, great God,
we offer of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer, in humility, hearts
and minds and hands and voices,
in our choicest psalmody.

2. Yea, we know that thou rejoices
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
artists' craft and music's measure
for thy pleasure all combine.

4. Honour, glory, might and merit,
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, blessed Trinity!
Of the best that thou hast given,
earth and heaven render thee.

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

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 486 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol

*1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown,
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art,
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.*

*2. Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive,
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temple leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.*

*3. Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

POSTLUDE

Little Prelude and Fugue in F

J S Bach

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our mom,
Sheila Jane Murray (1928-2020). Gone but remembered every day by Jane Anne and Rod Murray.

Coffee, tea, and sweets are served in Thompson Hall.

Quartet	Rebecca McKay, Rachel Barreca, Jerome Chang, Alan Macdonald
Readers	Dinah Bristowe, Alan Macdonald
Greeters	Mark Haslett, Jane Houlding
Flower Guild	Jane Anne Murray

Events This Week at St. John's

TODAY

2:55 Doors Open for Bach Meditations Concert

3:15 Bach Meditations Concert

Monday

2:00 NEW: Bible Study Series on the Gospel of Matthew (Parish Centre)

6:00 Children's Choir (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study (Portage)

Tuesday

9:00 Staff Meeting

5:30 Volunteer Choir

7:30 TRC Reading Group (Zoom)

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters

10:00 Holy Communion

12:00 Ministerial (Thompson Hall)

2:00 Investment Committee (Parish Centre)

6:00 Men's Dinner (Thompson Hall)

Thursday

11:00 Service at Wellington Terrace

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle (Parish Centre)

Sunday May 5 - Patronal Feast of St. John the Evangelist

8:00 Holy Communion (BCP)

9:00 Holy Eucharist with Volunteer Choir

11:00 Choral Communion followed by luncheon

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	
Sexton and Caretaker:	Garry Cantlon	sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Administration:	Thomas Littlewood	parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Honorary Assistants:	Rev'd John Lockyer, Rev'd Judy Steers, Canon Robert Hulse	

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Follow St. John's Elora on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

stjohns@sentex.net
www.stjohnselora.ca

Welcome to St. John's Elora

Welcome

Please fill out a "Welcome" card in the pew and return it to the clergy. 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

Bach Meditations - TODAY at 3:15 p.m.

DOORS OPEN at 2:55 p.m.

Join us for an illuminating discussion and performance of Bach's Cantata 12: Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen, written for the third Sunday after Easter in 1714. Featuring the combined voices of the professional Choir of St. John's Elora, soloists Autumn Debassige, Sharang Sharma, and Paul Genyk-Berezowsky, and period-instrument ensemble. With commentary and discussion by director of music Patrick Murray and guest speaker Rev. Greg Smith-Young.

Doors open at 2:55pm, event begins at 3:15pm lasting approx. 45 minutes. Tickets are not required. Admission by contribution at the door (\$30 suggested).

Men's Dinner - Wednesday at 6:00 for 6:30 p.m.

Let Ian Hornsby know if you are coming. Edward Thomas, a long time member of St. John's and an architect, will be speaking on the topic of Sustainability, having recently attended a conference on that topic in Denmark. Edward is both a thoughtful and articulate presenter.

Raise Funds for St. John's

Be a part of supporting the ministry and mission of St. John's on the new Fund-Raising Team, led by Margaret Johnson. To learn more or be a part of this team contact Margaret Johnson.

Bible Study on St. Matthew - Monday at 2pm

A new Bible Study series on the gospel of Matthew will continue tomorrow, 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Centre. Please join us.

Elora Children's Choir - Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

Contact Kate Wright in the Parish Choir or leave a message for her in the Parish office.

TRC Reading and Reflection Group- Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Learn more about the 94 Calls to Action by meeting together on Zoom.

Song Circle - Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Stan Litch leads an informal time of singing some old tunes. All are welcome.

Patronal Festival - Feast of St. John the Evangelist

Sunday May 5

If you are willing to contribute something to the luncheon following the Patronal Festival please contact Thomas Littlewood.

Bishop's Company Dinner - Tuesday May 7

Thanks to your generous response we have a full table from St. John's to attend this event.

The Bishop's Company raises funds to allow the Bishop to provide resources to theological students and support to clergy and their families in transition or crisis. There will be a special dinner at the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Bishop will interview Rev'd Michael Coren, priest, author, and columnist.

Flower Arranging Workshop - Saturday May 25, 1:00 p.m.

Damaris Martin and Dawn McClure are offering a flower arranging workshop for up to 8 people in the Parish Centre. Cost is \$15 per person. Vases will be displayed at the Coronation Evensong and Tea on May 26, and then you can take your arrangement home. Space is limited, so register today by contacting Dawn or Damaris through the Parish office.

Coronation Evensong and Garden Tea - Sunday May 26 at 4:00 p.m.

Judy Bates, Pam Gradwell join the Rector in coordinating the Coronation Garden Tea. Please let one of them know if you can contribute sandwiches, cakes or sweets. Most importantly we need a set up team in the afternoon, servers, and a clean-up crew on the day. Many hands make light work.

The 2024 Elora Singers Vocal Academy Participants in Recital.

Friday May 3 - 1:00 pm at St. John's Anglican Church, Elora

This recital is an opportunity to hear the eight talented singers who have been chosen to participate in the intensive Vocal Academy program, led by Mark Vuorinen, The Elora Singers, renowned tenor Benjamin Butterfield and accompanist Anna Ronai. Come hear the stars of tomorrow!

Admission is free.

Maiden, Mystics, Myths and Memories

The Elora Singers joined by the 2024 Vocal Academy Participants in concert.

Sunday May 5 - 4:00 pm at Harcourt United Church in Guelph

Come enjoy a feast of choral gems! Tomas Luis de Victoria, Sergei Rachmaninov, Benjamin Britten, Francis Poulenc, Eric Whitacre, Samuel Barber and more!

Tickets can be purchased at elorasingers.ca

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).