



Church of St. John the Evangelist

Clora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara

First Sunday after Epiphany
Baptism of the Lord
11 am
Choral Eucharist

11:00 am Choral Eucharist (BCP)**Mass Setting Short Communion Service**

Charles Wood

Hymn 159 Brightest and Best

Stella Orientis

1. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid: gem of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

3. Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion, odours of Edom and offerings divine, gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

2. Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, low lies his head with the beasts of the stall; angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation vainly with gifts would his favour secure; richer by far is the heart's adoration, dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

5. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid: gem of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

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.**

SUMMARY OF THE LAW *(congregation can kneel or sit for prayer)*

Celebrant: OUR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it:

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Kyrie - Quartet

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

GLORIA

Merbecke

(congregation please stand)

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards all. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

COLLECT

Celebrant: O heavenly Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ did take our nature upon him and was baptized for our sakes in the river Jordan: Mercifully grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may also be partakers of thy Holy Spirit; through him whom thou didst send to. Be our Saviour and Redeemer, even the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR EPIPHANY

O god, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten son to the Gentiles: mercifully grant, that we, who know thee now by faith, may be led onward through this earthly life, until we see the vision of thy heavenly glory; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Lesson Acts 19.1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - altogether there were about twelve of them.

Psalm 29

Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye mighty, ascribe unto the Lord worship and strength.
Give unto the Lord the honour due unto his Name; worship the Lord with holy worship.
The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
it is the glorious God that maketh the thunder, even the Lord upon many waters.
The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar trees; yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.
He maketh Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young ox.
The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shaketh he wilderness;
yea, the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young, and strippeth bare the forests:
in his temple doth every thing speak of his honour.

The Lord sitteth above the water-flood, and the Lord remaineth a King for ever.
The Lord shall give strength unto his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

(please stand)

GOSPEL: Mark 1.4-11

The Lord be with you.

And with thy Spirit

The Holy Gospel is written in the 1st chapter of the gospel of Mark beginning at the 4th verse.

Glory be to thee O Lord.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

All: I BELIEVE in one God 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 Sicut cervus

G.P. da Palestrina

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks: so longeth my soul after thee, O God.

HOMILY Rev'd John Lockyer

Offertory Hymn 162 Sing of God Made Manifest

Salzburg

1. Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, magi came and gift unbound, signs mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and king foretold.

3. Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine; further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave, and healed, bringing light and life to all who would listen to God's call.

2. Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, "I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do." Then from heaven a double sign – dove-like Spirit, voice divine – hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."

4. Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest, where both voice and vision waned until Christ alone remained: glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

"A voice came from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."

– Matthew 3:7

INTERCESSIONS *(You may kneel or sit for prayer)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Let us pray for the church, for our community, for the world. Let us pray for reconciliation with indigenous peoples of Canada. Let us pray for all who need our prayers today, and all who have died in the peace of Christ.

Leader: 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. Lord, in thy mercy.

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

Leader: 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. Lord, in thy mercy.

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and specially to thy servant Linda, our Primate, and Susan, our 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, that, with meek heart and due reverence, we may hear and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life. Lord, in thy mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

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

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember before thee, O Lord, all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear: 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. Lord in thy mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

We offer these prayers from our hearts for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, 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.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, in substance of our mortal flesh, manifested forth his glory, that he might bring us out of darkness into his own marvellous light.
Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with the whole company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

Quartet: 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 gave 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.

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.

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 Agnus Dei. 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.

Communion Anthem

A New Year Carol

Benjamin Britten

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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, 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

Hymn 644 Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Eisenach

*1. Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly dove,
with light and comfort from above;
be thou our guardian thou our guide;
o'er every thought and step preside.*

*3. Lead us to Christ, the living way,
nor let us from his pastures stray;
lead us to holiness, the road
that we must take to dwell with God.*

*2. The light of truth to us display
and make us know and choose thy way;
plant holy fear in every heart,
that we from God may ne'er depart.*

*4. Lead us to heaven, that we may share
fullness of joy forever there;
lead us to God, our final rest,
to be with him forever blest.*

Postlude

Flowers are to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rev'd Gordon Walls,
beloved priest and servant of Christ, from the parish.

Coffee, tea and treats are served downstairs in Thompson Hall following the service.

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| Quartet | Rebecca McKay, Autumn Debassige, Lanny Fleming, Michael Cressman |
| Greeters | Mark Haslett, Jane Houlding |
| Readers | Mark Haslett, Jane Houlding |
| Chalice Bearers | Thomas Littlewood |

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Altar Guild | Wendy Donohue, Barb Watkins |
| Flower Guild | Jane Anne Murray |
| Technician | Rod Murray |

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 Haldemand 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.

Welcome to St. John's Elora

Learn More

If you would like to learn more about what is happening at St. John's by receiving the weekly Pastoral Letter by email with events and a reflection from the Rector, send an email to rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

THE MINISTERIAL OF CENTRE WELLINGTON will be holding a worship gathering celebrating the unity of Christians in Jesus Christ regardless of denomination or congregation. The worship gathering will take place on Tuesday, January 23 at 10:30 am in the Aboyne Room at the Wellington County Museum. The theme is "Loving God and loving neighbour." There will be singing, prayers, Bible reading and reflections on the Bible reading. All are welcome to join in this celebration. For more information contact Peter Bush at 519-843-3565 or peter.bush@wightman.ca

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

Join Rev'd John Lockyer and others who are exploring themes in the gospel of Mark. The gospel of Mark is the earliest recorded gospel and is the focus of our liturgical calendar this year.

Volunteer Choir – Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Come sing with us on Tuesdays as we rehearse, and then participate liturgically on Sundays at 9:00 every other week. Contact Jurgen for more information. We begin rehearsals on January 16.

Knitters and Quilters - Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Join a group of people who knit, crochet, or simply enjoy being together on Wednesday morning in the Parish Center.

Men's Dinner - Wednesday January 10

Contact Ian Hornsby to confirm that you are attending the Men's Dinner on Wednesday at 6:00 for 6:30pm start. The speaker is Michael Chong, MP for Wellington-Halton Hills.

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

Join Stan Litch as he leads an informal time of signing some old tunes on Fridays at 10:30. It's a fun and informal time together of signing and stories. All are welcome.

Concert - Sunday January 21, 3:00 p.m.

"New Year's Follies" featuring our own Lesley Bouza and Alan MacDonald. Admission by donation at the door (suggested \$30).

Evensong - Sunday January 28, 4:00 p.m.

Join the Parish Choir as we offer Evensong for Candlemas.

Vestry Reports

Please send your annual Vestry Report to Thomas Littlewood at parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com before January 31.

Become Involved at St. John's

There are many opportunities for engagement at St. John's. If you would like to become more engaged at St. John's liturgically, pastorally or with our ministry and mission, please let the Rector know. If you are interested in our music program and outreach, please contact Patrick Murray.

2024 Calendars

2024 Church calendars are available at the back of the church.

2024 Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2024 are at the back of the church for you to pick up.

Thank you for your generosity to support St. John's. If you would like Offering Envelopes please contact Thomas through the office or by email at parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Keeping Healthy

Here's what you can do to keep healthy:

Consider wearing a face mask when you are in a large gathering (like at church or a concert).

Wear a face mask if you have symptoms or a compromised immune system.

Stay home if you test positive for COVID.

Wash your hands frequently, and cover your cough or sneeze.

Ensure your flu and COVID vaccines are up to date.

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

Monday

2:00 Bible Study (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study (Portage)

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters

10:00 Holy Communion

Thursday

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle

1:30 Service at Heritage River Residence

Sunday January 14 - Second Sunday after Epiphany

8:00 Holy Communion (BCP)

9:00 Holy Eucharist

11:00 Choral Matins with Parish Choir

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| 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 | |

Church of St. John the Evangelist
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