



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

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Sunday, March 14, 2021

11am

Fourth Sunday of Lent

(Laetare Sunday)

## Laetare Sunday

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### 11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

*According to Diocesan Guidelines this liturgy is live-streamed from St. John's with no more than ten people on site.*

#### Welcome and Announcements

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

*Psalm 96.9*

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.

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.**

*Responses are sung.*

Minister: O LORD, open thou our lips;

People: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Minister: O God, make speed to save us;

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Minister: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

People: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

Minister: Praise ye the Lord;

People: **The Lord's Name be praised.**

### **Psalm 107.1-3, 17-22**

*(sung by quartet)*

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious,  
and his mercy endureth for ever.

Let them give thanks whom the Lord hath redeemed,  
and delivered from adversity;

And gathered them out of the lands, from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

They that are foolish are afflicted for their offence,  
and because of their wickedness.

Their soul abhorred all manner of meat,  
and they were even hard at death's door.

So thy cried unto the Lord in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress.

He sent his word and healed them,  
and saved them from their destruction.

O that we would therefore praise the Lord for his goodness,  
and declare the wonders that he doeth for all peoples!

That they would offer unto him the sacrifices of thanksgiving,  
and tell out his works with gladness!

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.

### **First Reading Numbers 21.4-9**

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

### **Canticle Deus Misereatur (Psalm 67)**

God be merciful unto us and bless us,  
And show us the light of his countenance and be merciful unto us.  
That thy way may be known upon earth,  
Thy saving health among all nations.  
Let the people praise thee, O God:  
Yea let all the people praise thee.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad,  
For thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon the earth  
Let the people praise thee, O God:  
Let all the people praise thee.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
And God, even our own God shall give us his blessing.  
God shall bless us, and all the ends of the world shall fear him.  
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 Reading John 3.14-21**

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

## **Canticle Benedicite (Song of the Three Children)**

O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O ye heavens,

O ye waters that be above the firmament,

O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O ye sun and moon

O ye stars of heaven,

O ye showers and dew,

O ye winds of God,

O ye fire and heat,

O ye winter and summer, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O ye dews and frosts,

O ye frost and cold,

O ye ice and snow,

O ye nights and days

O ye light and darkness,

O ye lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O let the earth bless the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O ye mountains and hills,

O all ye green things upon the earth,

O ye wells,

O ye seas and floods,

O ye whales, and all that move in the waters,

O all ye fowls of the air,

O all ye beasts and cattle,

O ye children, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O let Israel bless the Lord:

O ye priests of the Lord,

O ye servants of the Lord,

O ye spirits and souls of the righteous,

O ye holy and humble of heart, bless ye the Lord:

**praise him, and magnify him for ever.**

O Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, bless ye the Lord:  
**praise him, and magnify him 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.**

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;

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister. Let us pray.

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Minister: 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;

People: **And grant us thy salvation.**

Minister: O Lord, save the Queen;

People: **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

People: **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Minister: O Lord, save thy people;

People: **And bless thine inheritance.**

Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People: **And evermore mightily defend us.**

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

People: **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

### Collect of the Day

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou has made, and dost 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, 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.**

### Hymn 593 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (vv 1,2,4)

*When I survey the wondrous Cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the Cross of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his Blood.*

Homily            Rev'd Canon Paul Walker

Anthem            **God So Loved the World**

John Stainer

Closing Prayers for the church, the community, and the world.

### A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three

are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

All: **May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Postlude Mankind Bewail your Grievous Sin JS Bach

We do not offer flowers during the season of Lent, however, if you would like to give flowers in memory of loved ones for Easter, please contact Elaine Dightam at 519-843-5091

Reader	Chris Rynberk
Quartet	Audrey Coates, Christina Stelmacovich, Lanny Fleming, Alan Macdonald
Video Technicians	Steve Hornett, Rod Murray, Gerry Hill

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS MARCH 14, 2021**

### **Vaccine Updates**

The Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health is now inviting residents who are 60 years of age and older to PRE-register for their vaccine. You can find more information by visiting the website for Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health; and if you live in the Kitchener-Waterloo area please visit the Waterloo Public Health website.

### **Clothing Drive for Migrant Farm Workers**

Migrant Farmworkers are arriving in Canada this month and are required to quarantine for 14 days on arrival. There is no opportunity for them to leave their premises to get winter clothing. Their hosts have asked for donations of the following;

- > Men's winter coats/jackets
- > Men's sweaters or polar fleece
- > Playing cards
- > Games (chess, checkers, board games)
- > Spanish language books (novels, periodicals, **no** dictionaries)

Donations can be dropped off in a box on the porch of the Parish Centre **before MARCH 25.**

Other items will be needed later - for now please only drop off the requested items.

For more information contact Ian Hornsby or Judy Steers at 519-546-5911.

### **Establishing a Vision towards the 2030's**

Over the coming weeks you are invited to meet online with the Visioning Team in small groups to contribute to establishing a vision for ministry at St. John's into the 2030's.

**This week consider one of these options to participate online:**

- *Coffee Time*, Sunday at 1:30pm
- *Knitters and Quilters*, Wednesday at 10:30am



- *Book Club*, Wednesday at 7:30pm

You can participate as many times as you like.

There will also be some open online sessions provided in the following weeks.

Upholding all that is good from our past, and embracing all that we are learning through the pandemic, we are looking to begin to establish a vision for St. John's into the 2030's. If you do not have access to a computer, we will provide you with an alternative way to give input.

### **Keeping in Touch**

If you know of someone who is not online, and they would like the Order of Service, text of the Sunday sermon, or weekly Pastoral Letter delivered or mailed to them, please let us know.

### **Marking a Year**

Recognizing one year since the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic, the provincial House of Bishops invited us all to a day of prayer and fasting. Archbishop Ann Germond writes: "As we move towards brighter horizons, the story of Jesus' resurrection beckons us with an urgent call to look around and notice the persons and communities who remain bound by the graveclothes of this pandemic through unemployment, poverty, abusive relationships, addiction, grief, and the long-term effects of COVID-19." The Archbishop concludes by inviting parishes to be "caring communities and to walk alongside the brokenhearted until they are able to walk in dignity again."

The local ministerial association is inviting us to an online service to lament what we have lost, to give thanks for all the acts of generosity and accomplishments in the past year, and to look with hope to the future. The service is online on Tuesday March 16th at 1:30pm

Rector:	The Rev'd Canon Paul J. Walker	<a href="mailto:rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com">rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com</a>
Curate:	The Rev'd Judy Steers	<a href="mailto:curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com">curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com</a>
Organist:	Jurgen Petrenko	

You can call any one of us at 519-846-5911.

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