



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

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Sunday, April 25, 2021

11am

*Fourth Sunday of Easter
(Good Shepherd Sunday)*

11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

This service is live-streamed and created in compliance with Diocesan guidelines of having no more than five people on site. Today we have four people on site.

Welcome and Announcements

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed. O come, let us worship.

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.**

Jubilate (said)

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;

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.

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.

Reading John 10.11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The

hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good

shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this

fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it

up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Hymn 539 The King of Love My Shepherd is (vv 1,2,4,6)

*The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.*

*In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff may comfort still,
Thy Cross before to guide me.*

*Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.*

*And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.*

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

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful people: Grant unto thy 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.**

Homily Canon Paul Walker

Anthem (solo) He Leadeth Me to Still Waters

J.S. Bach

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.**

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.**

Postlude **Lo My Shepherd's Hand Divine**
(Virtual Audio Choir)

Joseph Haydn

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dave Watkins, the gift of family Barb, Susan, Tom and Mary Ann; also in loving memory of Sheila Murray, commemorating her 93rd birthday this week, the gift of Rod and Colleen Murray and Jane Anne Murray.

Reader
Singer
Video Technician

Jon Warland
Christina Stelmacovich
Rev'd Judy Steers

ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 25, 2021

Keeping in Touch

If you would like a copy of the Order of Service and text of the Sunday sermon delivered or mailed to you, please let us know.

Seeking a New Music Director

We are seeking a new Music Director to lead our Parish Choir and our music program. The details of the job posting are available on the St. John's website. The deadline for applications is June 15th.

Pastoral Care

If you know of someone in need of pastoral care or prayer, please call the Parish Center and leave a voicemail for one of the clergy or contact them by email.

Support Project for Migrant Farmworkers

One of the challenges for Migrant Farmworkers arriving for their 14 day quarantine is spending that length of time in semi-isolation and...boredom! To mitigate that in their isolation time, Girol Books, a Spanish bookstore has offered to provide Spanish-language novels, biographies, inspirational books etc at a discounted cost. If you would like to make a donation towards purchasing Spanish language reading material for arriving farmworkers, please make a donation through the regular channels for St John's Elora (etransfer, cheque – either mailed or dropped off). Thank you.

Please contact Rev Judy Steers - curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Thanks to all who so generously donated warm outdoor coats and sweaters. Please stay tuned for other requests as needs arise.

Provincial Stay at Home Order

With the new province wide stay at home order the clergy, staff and volunteers of St. John's are working from home except to perform duties that require us to be on site. The diocese has updated guidelines for all churches across the diocese to limit the number of people gathered for creating a live-stream Sunday service to five people. Baptisms, weddings and funerals continue to be postponed. Grave side interments are allowed for no more than ten people. All of these guidelines are in response to the rapid rise of transmission of COVID-19, the increased stress on our hospital capacity, and the severe risks associated with contracting the COVID-19 variant. Please know that we are still here to support you and our ministry continues to be offered for you safely. Participants in the Sunday live-stream are limited to four people on site and we arrange our time indoors to the strictest minimum. According to diocesan guidelines we are all screened, and we are approved by the Archdeacon for travel for the purpose of employment.

Evening Prayer on Zoom – Wednesdays 8:00pm

During this time of provincial stay-at-home pandemic restrictions, St John's is hosting Evening Prayer each Wednesday at 8:00 pm on Zoom. The link is found in the Rector's weekly email, or by writing to Rev Judy Steers (curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com). Evening prayer will be a short time of prayer, readings and music, then 30 minutes of Bible study/scripture reflections together. This weekly zoom liturgy and reflections time is offered as an additional way of keeping us connected and spiritually grounded during the coming weeks.

Vision for St. John's

The Rector has invited five people to help him develop a process for the parish to establish a vision for our ministry coming through the pandemic and into the 2030's. Since January it has been a very exciting process and the Vision Team has now met with over sixty people in online workshops. We are hearing from parishioners what we are learning about ministry in the pandemic and what we need to build the capacity for now to create a flourishing ministry into the 2030's.

So far the Vision Team has identified four areas of ministry that are emerging from the conversations:

Engage and Involve - there is a desire to expand our online programming and engage more broadly with the community;

Celebrate our Uniqueness - there is a desire to uphold our unique traditions and not imitate other's programming;

Open Doors - there is a need to create a welcoming and accessible physical space with accessible washrooms and commercial kitchen;

Musical Outreach - there is a desire to leverage the strength of our choral program to engage people from a broad backgrounds, ages, and entry points.

There will be some more material available in the coming weeks. In the meantime, if you would like to participate please call the Parish Centre and we will be happy to engage your thoughts.

Rector's Holiday

The Rector is on holiday from zoom, emails, screen time and telephone calls this coming week returning to work on May 3rd. If you have any pastoral concerns during this time please contact Rev Judy Steers at curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com or through the Parish Office at 519-846-5911.

Rector: The Rev'd Canon Paul J. Walker rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Curate: The Rev'd Judy Steers curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Organist: Jurgen Petrenko

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

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