



HOPE

Church of St. John the Evangelist

*Elora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara*

December 3, 2023

11:00 am

First Sunday of Advent

11:00 am Choral Eucharist (BCP)

Welcome to St. John's

Hearing Assist devices, hymn books and prayer books and children's activity packs are available from the Greeters at the back of the church.

The first Advent Candle of HOPE is lit during the processional hymn.

Mass Setting Communion Service in A

Harold Darke

Processional Hymn 88 Come Thou Long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

*1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.*

*3. Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a King;
born to reign in us forever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.*

*2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.*

*4. By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.*

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.**

(congregation may be seated or kneel)

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Celebrant: Hear the Law of God which was given to Israel in old time. God spake these words and said: I am the Lord thy God; Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

The remaining commandments are sung with the same response, followed by

Celebrant: Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

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

Kyrie

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

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Celebrant: Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever.

People: **Amen.**

Lesson 1 Corinthians 1.3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 80.1-7, 17-19 (sung)

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock;
show thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubim.
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up thy strength, and come and help us.
Turn us again, O God; show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.
O Lord God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?
Thou hast fed them with the bread of tears, and has given them plenteousness of tears to drink.
Thou makest us a very strife unto our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Turn us again, O God of hosts; show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.
Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand,
and upon the son of man, whom thou madest so strong for thine own self.
And so shall we not go back from thee; O let us live, and we will call upon thy Name.
Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

(please stand)

GOSPEL Mark 13.24-37

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel is written in the 13th chapter of the gospel according to Mark beginning at the 24th verse.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass

away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

Celebrant: I BELIEVE in one God

People: **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 Veni redemptor gentium

Andrew Smith

HOMILY Rev'd John Lockyer

Offertory Hymn 109 When the King Shall Come Again

Tempus Adest Floridum

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

*1. When the King shall come again,
all his power revealing, splendour shall announce his
reign, life and joy and healing;
earth no long in decay, hope no more frustrated, this is
God's redemption day longingly awaited.*

*2. In the desert, trees take root, fresh from
God's creation; plants and flowers and
sweetest fruit join the celebration; rivers
spring up from the earth, barren lands
adorning. Valleys, this is your new birth;
mountains, greet the morning!*

3. *Strengthen feeble hands and knees; fainting hearts, be cheerful! God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fearful. Deaf ears, hear the silent tongues sing away their weeping; blind eyes, see the lifeless ones walking, running, leaping!*

4. *There God's highway shall be seen where no roaring lion, nothing evil or unclean, walks the road to Zion: ransomed people homeward bound all your praises voicing, see your Lord with glory crowned, share in his rejoicing!*

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

"Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved."

- *Psalm 80.19*

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. Today we remember.....Lord in thy mercy

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

Grant this, O Father, 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.

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 give 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.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and

through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; 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.

Quartet: Agnus Dei

Administration of Communion

All are welcome to receive communion as a reminder of your baptism. The congregation is invited to come forward to receive the sacrament or a blessing during the singing of the Agnus Dei. You are welcome to participate in receiving the chalice by either touching the base of it, or drinking from it. If you would like communion brought to you in the pew, please let the Greeter know.

Communion Motet Never Weather-Beaten Sail (Thomas Campion)

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

OUR Father

All: 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

Recessional Hymn 116 Your Kingdom Come – on Bended Knee

Irish

*1. "Your kingdom come" on bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom's day.*

*3. And lo, already on the hills,
the flags of dawn appear,
Gird up your loins, you prophet souls;
proclaim the day is near:*

*2. But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong,
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.*

*4. the day in whose clear shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might,
and every hurt be healed;*

*5. when knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad –
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.*

POSTLUDE

Flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Bruce Whitestone.

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.

Quartet	Lesley Bouza, Audrey Coates, Sharang Sharma, Paul Genyk-Berezowsky
Greeters	Maureen MacIntyre, Ian Rice
Readers	Dinah Bristowe, Joyce Reimer
Chalice Bearers	Rev'd Lockyer, Thomas Littlewood, Doris M'Timkulu, Bob Cooper
Flower Guild	Barb Clarke
Altar Guild	Wendy Donohue, Meg Prichard

Events This Week at St. John's

TODAY

4:00 Advent Lessons and Carols

6:00 Advent Lessons and Carols

Monday

2:00 Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark (Parish Centre)

6:00 Children's Choir (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study at Portage

Tuesday

5:30 Volunteer Choir

6:00 Compline Choir

8:00 Compline Service

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters (Parish Centre)

10:00 Holy Communion

6:00 Men's Dinner

Thursday

9:00 Yoga (Parish Centre)

11:00 Service at Wellington Terrace

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle (Parish Centre)

Sunday December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 Holy Communion

9:00 Holy Eucharist

11:00 Choral Matins with Parish Choir

Welcome to St. John's Elora

Welcome to St. John's

We are delighted you are here today. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex before you leave. To receive the weekly "Pastoral Letter" with a reflection from the Rector and updates on events, please send an email to

rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Open Doors Update

As the project continues to go through the process of municipal approvals, in preparation for a special vestry we are meeting with parishioners who are interested to learn more about the project and to gauge support. We are happy to give you an on-site tour or meet with you so you can learn more about how this project is vital to our mission as a parish and address your questions. Please speak with Peter Barr, Colleen Murray, the co-chairs of the Open Doors team, or to the Rector.

Christmas Puddings!

Pick up your puddings at coffee hour!

Small \$10.00 Large \$ 20.00

Cash payments accepted or E-transfer to: treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com. Identify "Puddings" in the note area.

Contact Jane Anne Murray at jamconsults@gmail.com for more information or come to church tomorrow!

Exploring the *Gospel of Mark*

Monday, 2:00pm

Join us Monday in the Parish Centre as we continue to explore the ideas about the gospel of Mark.

Advent Lessons and Carols

TODAY, 4:00 and 6:00 pm.

Begin the new season of the Christian calendar with the annual Advent Lessons and Carols service. Invite friends and neighbours to join you for this inspiring service.

Compline

Tuesday December 5

6:30 - Compline Choir rehearsal. Let Patrick Murray know you are coming.

8:00 - Compline service. All are welcome.

Men's Dinner

Wednesday December 6, 6:30

Our speaker will be Bob Cooper who will share with us his experience of hiking The West Highland Way.

Contact Ian Hornsby at ihornsby0@gmail.com by Sunday Dec 3rd to let us know if you are planning to attend.

A Child's Christmas in Wales at St. John's

Admission by donation at the door (suggested \$30).

Saturday, December 16, 2:30pm - A Child's Christmas in Wales.

Narrated by Tom Allen. With music by Lori Gemmell, Larry Larson, and Debbie Stroh.

N.B. **This event is SOLD OUT.**

Song Circle - Friday, 10:30

Join Stan on ukulele as he leads us in singing some favourite old tunes. Song books provided.

Christmas Lessons and Carols

Sunday December 17 at 4:00 and 6:30 pm

Come for this beautiful service with the Parish Choir at 4:00 or 6:30pm. Invite friends and family to join you.

Memorial Flower Donations

To make a donation towards memorial flowers for Advent or Christmas, please leave a message for Elaine Dightam at the church office, 519-846-5911.

Keeping Healthy

Help keep one another healthy by ensuring that your flu and COVID vaccines are up to date. If you test positive for COVID please stay home; if you have symptoms or have a compromised immune system, please wear a face mask in large gatherings of people. Always practice good hand and respiratory hygiene.

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)

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 Assistant:	Rev'd John Lockyer	

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