



Church of St. John the Evangelist

Clora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara

December 24, 2020
7:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given. (Isaiah 9.6)

7:00pm Holy Communion with Quartet (BCP)

Mass Setting

Messe de Minuit

Charpentier

Welcome

Bells

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Kneel as you are able.

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

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.

COLLECT

Celebrant Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 62.6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have laboured; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Psalm 98

(said responsively by verse)

O Sing unto the Lord a new song;
for he hath done marvellous things.

With his own righ hand, and with his holy arm,
hath he gotten himself the victory.

The Lord hath declared his salvation:
his righteousness hath he openly shown in the sign of the nations.

He hath remembered his mercy and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel;
and all the end of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

Show yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands:
sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

Praise the Lord upon the harp:
sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.

With trumpets also and the sound of the horn,
O show yourselves joyful before the Lord, the King.

Let the sea make a noise, and all that is therein;
the round world, and they that dwell therein.

Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord;
for he is come to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall he judge the world,
and the peoples with equity.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

as it was at the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

GOSPEL John 1.1-17

Please stand as you are able.

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel is written in the 1st chapter of the gospel according to John beginning at the 1st verse.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

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.

SERMON Reverend Canon Paul Walker

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Thank you for your continued financial support of the ministry of St. John's.

You can give a financial gift to the glory of God through:

- *E-transfer to treasurer.stjohnselora@gmail.com*
- *Online at www.niagaraanglican.ca/donate (identify "Elora - St. John's" as the parish)*
- *In person through the mail slot of the door of the Parish Centre*
- *Canada Post to St. John's Elora, [36 Henderson Street, Elora, ON, NOB 1S0](#)*
-

*"Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Emmanuel."
(Isaiah 7.14)*

The Quartet will sing a hymn during the Preparation of the Gifts.

HYMN Quartet *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

INTERCESSIONS

Kneel as you are able.

Celebrant:

In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

We uphold all those in need this night/morning because of illness, trouble, or distress.....
For those who have died..... May they be received into the fullness of thy presence;
For those who mourn; may they be comforted; hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;
hear us, O Lord.
Lord, grant us peace.

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

Quartet stands

Celebrant: The Lord be with you;

Quartet: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts;

Quartet: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

Quartet: 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.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born on this night for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, was made fully human of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin to make us clean from all sin. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the 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.

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, 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.**

Be seated.

Quartet O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world; grant us thy peace.

Administration of Communion

The sacrament is offered in one kind only.

The Celebrant partakes of the chalice on behalf of the entire community, gathered in person and online.

Anthem (*Quartet*) Silent Night

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Kneel as you are able.

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

The First Noel

POSTLUDE Une Vierge Pucelle

N. Lebegue



The Christmas flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of

Eric Hilborn

the gift of his loving wife, Denise and family

My parents, Rita and Arthur Doraty

the gift of Maureen McIntyre

My parents Joan and Alexander Douglas and my granddaughter Amaya Charlotte Chapman.

the gift of Susan Adams

Mary and Norman Coultres,

the gift of Linda Coultres

Ronald Watkins, Ken Coultres

Pam Walker and John Walker

the gift of Paul Walker

Dr. William B. Ellis and family

the gift of Patricia, Sarah, Ben and family

David Rogers

the gift of his family

Loved ones

the gift of Gwyneth Watkins

Stuart and Catherine Sheppard,

the gift of Chris and Jeannie Houston

Rita Houston

Ann Ableson Carotte and Peggy Oxley

the gift of family

Teresa Horrigan, mother of Colleen Murray

Sheila Murray, mother of Rod Murray

John Murray, father of Rod Murray

David Watkins, husband of Barbara Watkins

Peggy Robertson, mother of Catherine Robertson

Ruth Morris

Irene Nudyk

Rector: The Rev'd Paul J. Walker

rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Curate: The Rev'd Judy Steers

curate.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Director of Music: John Wiens

music.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Organist: Jurgen Petrenko

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

Quartet

Audrey Coates, Heather Fleming, Michael Cressman, Lanny Fleming

Video Technicians

Rod Murray, Steve Hornett, Gerry Hill

May you and your loved ones be given the strength and perseverance to keep safe, connected, and grounded in your faith.

May you know the peace of the Christ child during the Christmas season and throughout the new year.

Thank you for your commitment to St. John's, and for all who participate to create these liturgies that are provided for you at home.

If there is anything further we can do to support you spiritually or pastorally, please contact one of the clergy.

