

PEACE



Church of St. John the Evangelist

Clora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara

December 6, 2020
11:00 am

Advent 11

11:00 am Holy Communion with Quartet (BCP)

Mass Setting Mass for St. Stephen's

Ireland

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Kneel as you are able.

Celebrant: ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, it 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.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT

Celebrant: Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou has given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

Be seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the

uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalm 85.1-2, 8-13

(said responsively by verse)

Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land:

thou hast restored the fortunes of Jacob.

Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people,

and covered all their sin.

I will hearken what the Lord God will say:

for he shall speak peace unto his people and to his saints,

and unto them that turn their heart to him.

Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him,

that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together:

righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth springeth out of the earth;

and righteousness hath looked down from heaven.

Yea, the Lord shall give what is good;

and our land shall yield her increase.

Righteousness shall go before him,

and shall direct his going in the way.

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 Mark 1.1-8

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 Mark beginning at the 1st verse.

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" 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."

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 Rev'd Judy Steers

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, N0B 1S0](#)
"Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28)*

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

HYMN Quartet *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

INTERCESSIONS

Kneel as you are able.

Celebrant: Let us pray for Christ's holy Catholic Church.
Let us pray for peace on earth and for the unity of all Christian people.
Let us pray for our all who proclaim the gospel in this community, our diocese and around the world.
Let us remember before God all of our loved ones who have departed this life and are at rest.
Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth.

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 ELIZABETH our Queen, and to all that are put in authority under her, 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 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, and specially to this congregation here present and all those gathered together with us online, 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 their life. Lord, in thy mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: And 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.**

Leader: Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.

People: **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

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.

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 Agnus Dei

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*) *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Praetorius

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming,
From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When halfspent was the night*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind;
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When halfspent was the 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

POSTLUDE *Chorale Prelude on Lord Christ the Only Son of God*

J.S. Bach

Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ron Watkins and Dianne Rees, husband and daughter of Lois, the gift of Lois Watkins.

If you would like flowers in memory of loved ones or to celebrate an occasion please contact Elaine Dightam at elaine.dightam@gmail.com

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.

Server/Reader	Ken Reid
Quartet	Audrey Coates, Heather Fleming, Marcus Kramer, Matt Oxley
Video Technicians	Rod Murray, Steve Hornett, Gerry Hill

Announcements for December 6, 2020

Coffee Time

You are invited to join us for a time to check in and visit with one another and the clergy and staff Sunday, 1:30 to 2:30 on Zoom.

Pastoral Letters

If you would like to receive a copy of the weekly Pastoral Letter from the Rector by email, please contact Paul at rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

Keeping Engaged Safely

Given our local case numbers, and the need to minimize gatherings, under the advice of our Reopening Team we have suspended attendance at in-person liturgies until further notice. You can access the following online resources to keep you connected and sustained in your faith. They are available on the St. John's Elora YouTube Channel unless otherwise noted.

Wednesdays - Knitters and Quilters on Zoom at 10:30am.

- Morning or Evening Prayer.

Thursdays - Choral Thursday from the Parish Choir.

Sundays - Livestream of our liturgy with Quartet and Sermon at 11:00am.

- Coffee Time on Zoom at 1:30pm.

If you do not have a computer to access the Orders of Service or weekly Pastoral Letters, please call the office and let Paul know so we can make arrangements to deliver or mail a copy to you.

Christmas Puddings

If you ordered a Christmas Pudding Barb Dunsmore has contacted you about payment and curbside porch pick up this Thursday. If you did not order a Christmas Pudding, please let us know as we have a few extra. They are \$20 each and are extra tasty this year.

Christmas Lessons and Carols

Sunday December 20th at 7:00pm Bishop Susan is joining members of the Parish Choir to livestream this service from St. John's to you and people across the diocese. Even though we are not physically together, this will be a very special service this year, and we hope that you can participate in real time with everyone together. As Bishop Susan is using this service to promote the work of the Bishop's Company, while it's not a requirement, you are encouraged to register for the service online at the home page of the Diocese of Niagara website.

Advent Lessons and Carols

So far we have had over 500 views of this service and the service will be broadcast by Wightman Cable on their community TV channel several times this month. We will let you know when it is scheduled.

Christmas Flowers

If you would like to donate towards Christmas flowers in memory of loved ones, please contact Elaine Dightam at 519-843-5091 or elaine.dightam@gmail.com

Christmas Services

At present, assuming that attendance at in-person liturgies will continue to be suspended, we will livestream two Christmas liturgies: Christmas Eve at 7:00pm and Christmas Day at 10:00am. They will be available on the St. John's Elora YouTube Channel, Facebook page, and website. Christmas Day service will special as it includes several of our favourite Christmas Carols.

A Christmas Carol - live on zoom, Thursday December 17th at 7:30

Join us for a dramatic reading of Dickens' Christmas classic. Hosted by St John's Elora with our special guest, Judy Maddren (retired CBC news anchor). Our six readers that evening are: Colin Fox, Rev Ann Turner, Michael Chong, Meg Prichard, Michael Cressman and Judy Maddren.

There is no cost but during the evening and after we will be receiving donations to benefit food security and outreach programs locally and in the diocese, and the parish choir fund.

Pour a cup of cheer, curl up with a blanket, and enjoy. Here is the link to the Dec 17th event. Please 'sign in' a few minutes before the start time:

"A Christmas Carol" live reading

Time: Dec 17, 2020 7:30 PM Eastern (please sign in a few minutes beforehand)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/98297815707?pwd=T2tOSWw5dGZ2L1BTc0FVQmNpcE9ydz09>

PWRDF

Our PWRDF group sent out an email last week identifying the work of PWRDF during the pandemic in Bangladesh, Kenya, and South Sudan. We continue to invite your generous support for the water well project in Kenya by making a gift in your offering envelope marked "PWRDF - Kenya Water Wells." You are invited to look through the PWRDF Christmas Gift Catalogue for ideas of gift giving to loved ones, and to order Christmas Cards at 1-866-308-7973. You can find the gift catalogue in the recent edition of the Anglican Journal or online at www.pwrdf.org/world-of-gifts.

