Welcome to this house of prayer. May you find peace.



A Choral Celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

December 4th 2022 at 9.30 am

Pandemic precautions remain in effect. It is encouraged wearing a mask while inside the church building.

Kindly silence your phones. Children are welcome to be children.

The WELCOME & TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that our parish is located on the traditional territory of the Houdenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We are located in the Lower Chedoke Watershed.

The PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

The **LIGHTING** *of the* **ADVENT WREATH** *Peace* - Second Sunday

Along with the prophets and people through the ages, we dream of a world of peace and justice. We share the dream of John the Baptist of making crooked paths straight, of making a smooth highway broad enough for all God's children to move on together in peace and harmony.

Last week we lit the first Advent candle, for hope while we wait. The flame of this second candle reminds us that God's dreams can become real and burn brightly in our world.

Loving God, give us the desire, and the courage to be part of your dream for a world of peace and justice. We pray in the name of Jesus, your dream come true. **Amen**.

SONGS Waiting here for you. I see you.

The COLLECT PRAYER

Almighty God,

who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah; inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The CHILDREN'S CHURCH

The children leave the assembly to return for the Holy Eucharist.

A READING Epistle to the Romans 15. 4-13

The **GOSPEL** Book of Matthew 3. 1-12

DISCERNING the WORD

The PRAYERS of the CHURCH

To this Advent Litany, the church gathered responds by praying: Lord Jesus, come soon.

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live. And we pray, **Lord Jesus, come soon**!

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us. And we pray, **Lord Jesus, come soon**! O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more. And we pray, **Lord Jesus, come soon**!

O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison. And we pray, **Lord Jesus, come soon**!

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death. And we pray, **Lord Jesus, come soon**!

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. And we pray, **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

And we pray, Lord Jesus, come soon!

The PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

A SONG Give thanks.

The PRAYER over the GIFTS

God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The INVITATION to HOLY COMMUNION

In the homes of Peter, Jarius, Zaccheus, Joanna, Mary and Martha, Jesus was the guest. At this table, he is the host. If you wish to serve Jesus, you must first be served by him. If you want to follow Jesus, you must first be fed by him. So come, all you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to his.

The STORY

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, and, having blessed it, He broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, Saying, 'this is my body which is given for you.' In the same way he took wine, and, having given thanks for it, He poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, 'this cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it'.

So now we take this bread and wine, gifts of the living earth and of human labour. In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

The THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you, **And also with you**.

Lift up your hearts, **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God, It is right to give both thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom your holy name is proclaimed on heaven and earth. Lower voices: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. Higher voices; Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. God of power, God of might. your glory fills heaven and earth Hosanna in the highest Blessed is he who comes in your name oh Lord. Hosanna in the highest

But our praise alone is but part of our fulfilling your purpose, so we remember him who came and lived and died among your children, because words are not enough.

Setting aside our words and our will, lifting up our hearts, we ask for the healing, the accepting, and the forgiving which Christ alone can offer.

Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now, as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be your own food and drink; renewing, sustaining and making us whole. Grant that the Church in this place may be your body and blood to the world, proclaiming the salvation and life to be found in you.

The PRAYER of JESUS

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The BREAKING of the BREAD

These are the gifts of God for all the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The SHARING of the EUCHARIST

All are welcome to receive. If you wish a blessing instead, come forward and cross your arms over your chest as you near the priest. If you need the sacrament brought to your seat, kindly indicate so to our Vergers. Gluten-free bread is also available.

A SONG O come, O come Emmanuel

The PRAYER after COMMUNION

Faithful God,

we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

The BLESSING

A SONG Days of Elijah

The SENDING

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



The Church of St. John the Evangelist www.rockonlocke.ca

Bishop of Niagara The Right Reverend Susan J.A. Bell www.niagaraanglican.ca

> Parish Administrator Amylynn Loader

Coordinator of Youth & Families Ministry Daniela Cruz

> *Treasurer* John Loukidelis

Church Wardens Deborah Bowen, Michael Bowering, Bonnie Munn, Mary Donkin

> Parish Organist and Choirmaster Paul Grimwood

Honorary Assistant The Reverend Canon Brian Ruttan

Interim Priest-in-charge The Reverend Leonel Abaroa-Boloña