Welcome to this house of prayer.

May you find peace.



A Choral Celebration

of the Holy Eucharist &
a CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

on the

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

December 11th 2022 at 11 o' clock

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 PRELUDE

Es isy ein Rose entsprungen | Johannes Brahms

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 ENTRANCE

Please rise as you are able when the sacristy bell is rung and the Choir and liturgical ministers enter from the side door.

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.**

A HYMN

O come, O come Emmanuel | CP 89

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

- 2. O come, O come, great Lord of might,
 Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
 In ancient times once gave the law
 In cloud and majesty and awe.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 3. O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,
 From every foe deliver them
 That trust Thy mighty power to save,
 And give them victory o'er the grave.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 4. O come, O Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heavenly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

The Choir sings the Kyrie | William Byrd.

The COLLECT PRAYER

God of power and mercy,

you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated. A READING is given, from the Book of Isaiah chapter 35 verses 1-10, after which the reader says The word of the Lord, and the congregation responds **Thanks be to God**.

The PSALM

Magnificat | Gospel of Luke 1



MY SOUL proclaims the greatness of **the** Lord; * my spirit rejoices in **God** my Saviour.

- 2 FOR HE has looked with fa-vour * on his low-ly ser-vant.
- 3 FROM THIS day all generations will call me **bless**-ed:* the Almighty has done great things for me, and ho-**ly** is his name.
- 4 HE HAS mercy on those who fear him * in every gen-er-a-tion.
- 5 HE HAS shown the strength of **his** arm, * he has scattered the proud **in** their con-ceit.
- 6 HE HAS cast down the mighty from **their** thrones * and has lifted **up** the low-ly.
- 7 HE HAS filled the hungry with **good** things * and the rich he has sent **a**-way emp-ty.
- 8 HE HAS come to the help of his servant, Is-ra-el, * for he has remembered his pro-mise of mer-cy
- 9 THE PROM-ise he made to our **fa**-thers, * to Abraham and his child-**ren** for-e-ver. ■

Please rise as you are able. The GOSPEL is read from the Book of Matthew 11. 2-11. The minister says The Lord be with you, and the congregation responds **And also with you**. The minister says The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to [] and the congregation responds **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**.

At the end of the Gospel, the minister says The Gospel of Christ, and the congregation responds **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**.

A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

The CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The PEACE

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us that peace and unity of your kingdom, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

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

The OFFERTORY HYMN

When the King shall come again | CP **109**

The PRAYER over the GIFTS

God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

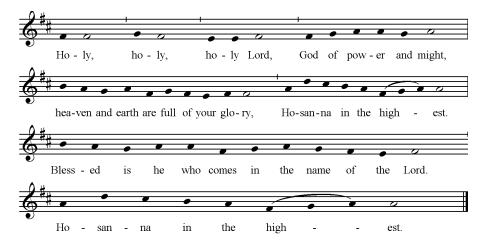
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the fullness of time, he came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation.

Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.



We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command, we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**.

The LORD's PRAYER

As our Saviour has taught us, let us pray.

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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

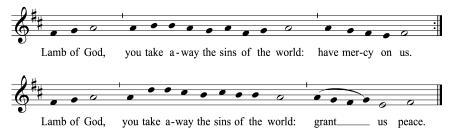
Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now. Let us pray.

We receive you Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome your presence in us, and together proclaim our love for you;

With our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength, with the saints we worship you, with the angels we adore you, with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.

Come to us, and make us one in you. Amen.

LAMB of GOD



All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

If you wish a blessing instead, please come forward and, when reaching the priest, cross your arms over your chest. If you need the sacrament brought to your seat, kindly indicate so to our Greeters.

Gluten-free bread is also available, on request.

The Common Cup has also been restored -as an option for all.

The MOTET

I beheld her | Healey Willan

I beheld her, beautiful as a dove, rising above the water-brooks; and her raiment was filled with perfume beyond all price. Even as the springtime was she girded with rosebuds and lilies of the valley. Who is this that cometh up from the desert like a wreath of sweet smoke, arising from frankincense and myrrh? Even as the springtime was she girded with rosebuds and lilies of the valley.

The PRAYER after COMMUNION

Merciful God,
may this eucharist free us from our sins,
fill us with unending joy,
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

The BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God almighty; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

The ANNOUNCEMENTS

The RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lo, he comes with clouds descending | CP 114 verses 1, 2, 4

The DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Postlude is the last musical offering in the service. You are welcome to stay and enjoy the beauty of music, and say your personal prayers before departing this house of prayer.

The POSTLUDE

Noel Suisse | Louis-Claude d'Aquin



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