

Diocese of Ottawa • Anglican Church of Canada

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

SMITHS FALLS | 175 YEARS | 1849-2024



*Fourth Sunday
In Lent*

Mar 15th, 2026
Sung Eucharist ~ **10am**
Book of Alternative Services, p. 185

Welcome to the Church of St. John the Evangelist

We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.



This service is video recorded, streamed, and broadcast. By attending this service, you are agreeing to appear on video in our on-line worship offering through St. John's website and Facebook pages.



Hymns are from the [blue](#) Common Praise hymnbook unless otherwise indicated.

Today's service can be found on page 185 of the [green](#) Book of Alternative Services ([BAS](#)) located in the pew-back in front of you.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Announcements

"We Have Come Into His House" (vs 1 – 2))(See insert)

Greeting

p.185

"We Have Come Into His House" (vs 3))(See insert)

Children's Talk

Collect for Purity

p.185

Trisagion (*said*) x3

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Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
through the waters of baptism
your Son has made us children of light.
May we ever walk in his light
and show forth your glory in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

*Holy words long preserved, for our walk in this world.
They resound with God's own heart, oh let the Ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where e'er we roam, Ancient words will guide us Home.
Ancient words ever true, changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts, oh let the Ancient words impart.*

Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

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Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

Gospeller: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be

put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to be-come his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Holy words long preserved, for our walk in this world.

They resound with God's own heart, oh let the Ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.

*In this world where e'er we roam, Ancient words will guide us Home.
Ancient words ever true, changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts, oh let the Ancient words impart.*

Sermon

The God We Love—Nicene Creed (*see insert*)

Prayers of the People

*O Lord, hear our prayer. O Lord hear our prayer.
When we call, answer us.*

*O Lord, hear our prayer. O Lord, hear our prayer.
Come and listen to us.*

All: *Almighty God, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders in your Church. Give grace to your servant, The Venerable Kathryn Otley, who has been called to the office and ministry of Bishop for your people in our Diocese; fill them with the truth of your doctrine and holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve you, to the glory of your name and for the benefit of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Confession and Absolution

p. 191

The Peace

p. 192

People may greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Offertory Hymn – “O Praise the Name”(*see insert*)

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the Gifts

God of light,
your Word brings to us a new vision of your glory.
Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

p. 198

The Lord's Prayer *(sung)*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come;
Your will be done
On earth, as in heav'n.
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, and the power, and the glory are yours;
Now and forever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread 6

p. 213

Celebrant: We break the bread of life,
And that life is the light of the world.

**All: God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.
Grant us your peace.

Communion

All who are baptized are welcome to receive the bread and/or the wine of Holy Communion. At the Greeter's direction, please make your way to receive the elements if you wish to. All are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Hymns during Communion (See insert)

"Bless The Lord My Soul"

"Cornerstone"

"Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me"

Doxology (See Insert)

Prayer after Communion

p. 214

The Blessing (See insert)

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Amen – Amen-Amen

Amen – Amen-Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Memorial Flowers – If you wish to remember loved ones with memorial flowers this Easter, please contact the Parish Office with the names of the people you wish remembered. Donations may be dropped off at the Parish Office. Please make cheques payable to *St. John's – Easter Memorial Flowers*. The deadline is **Tuesday, March 24th, 2026**.

Food Insecurity – Food insecurity is at an all-time high in Smiths Falls, impacting 25% of our community. As a parish-wide, Lenten fast, we'd like to make a collective offering to the Smiths Falls Foodbank. Each parishioner is invited to make a donation of any amount and/or commit to offering prayers of support for those in need and for the success of programs providing assistance. Both options are wonderful gifts of sacrifice for Lent.

"Our Lenten Fast" envelopes will be provided at the north entrance and the back of the church throughout Lent. Please return your envelope with cash, cheque or prayer commitment directly to Karen Bryan or Trish Warren. (The Foodbank will provide receipts for donations of \$20 or more.). Please consider participating. This Lenten season, we have the opportunity to make a difference--to genuinely feed the hungry. For further information, please speak with Trish or Karen.

Smiths Falls Food Bank – Collection baskets are at the North and South doors of the Church. Please consider making a contribution, which will be collected after the third Sunday of each month, and delivered to the Food Bank. Please contact Deb Lewis for more info at 613.284.6111. Thank you for your support.

St. John's Cemetery Board – Our Cemetery Board could use your help. Please consider joining in the management and oversight of our lovely and peaceful place of rest for our dearly departed. Please see Paul Howard or Nancy Fleming if you are interested.

Interested in Cursillo?

Cursillo is a short retreat which is designed to help us grow our faith and relationship with the Lord. This weekend event includes inspiring talks, wonderful music and concentrated prayer time – all around a chosen theme for the weekend.

This **April 24th to 26th**, there will be a Women's Cursillo Weekend being held at the Galilee Centre in Arnprior. If you might be interested or have any questions, please connect with Trish Warren 613.206.1405 or Kathy Porter 613.283.7605.

Do Your Bit – Greeters, Readers/Intercessors, and Servers are needed for both the 8am and 10am Sunday services, as well as other special services that we hold.

If you are able to help out with this vital and rewarding ministry, please let the office know. We will provide training on **Saturday, April 25th, 2026**, to go through the responsibilities involved.

This section has been designated to assist those in emergency need; those looking to help by donating to individual organizations; and for those who currently need extra help – please contact any of the organizations below for assistance:

Food Calendar for free or low-cost meals in the area:

https://www.foodcoregl.ca/_resources/calendars/Food_Calendar_Smiths_Falls.pdf

Smiths Falls Community Food Bank – 93 Russell Street East, 613.283.6695

Smiths Falls Salvation Army – 251 Brockville Street, 613.283.3563

The Falls Food Hub – 41 Chambers Street, 613.267.6428, Ext #108

The Lighthouse Café – 15 Russell Street East, 613.205.1122

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
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www.stjohn-smithsfalls.com

Follow us on Facebook at:
St-John-the-Evangelist-Anglican-Church-Smiths-Falls

Laura Savage – Parish Administrator
Office Hours: Monday – Wednesday 9 a.m. – 12 noon
Thursday 1 – 4 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Weekly Liturgies

Holy Eucharist – Sundays 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.* – Wednesdays 10 a.m.
*Sunday School offered at 10 a.m. from September – June

The Venerable Kathryn Otley – Bishop of Ottawa

The Reverend Dr. Thomas Brauer, Presiding Celebrant & Preacher
The Reverend Canon Brian Burrows – Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Canon Jim Roberts – Honorary Assistant

Wendy Stokes-Earl – Organist
Dan Willis – Rector's Warden 613.884.5095
Lois Arkell – People's Warden 613.485.9181
Tammy Mulrooney – Deputy Warden 613.485.3128
Cindy Penman – Deputy Warden 613.283.8516
Tammy Mulrooney – Envelope Secretary
sjsfenvelopesecretary@gmail.com

Today's Presiding Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Thomas Brauer
Next Sunday's Readings, Feb 22, 2026:
EZEK 37:1-14; PS 130; ROM 8:6-11; JN 11:1-45