



The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 26th, 2026—10:00 a.m.

Welcome.

This church is a place of prayer and encounter with God. The stones of these walls have sheltered people seeking the presence of the Holy One for almost two centuries. This place of worship has been made hallowed by the prayers of generations and you are welcome to join your heart and voice to theirs.

St John's is an inclusive community of faith in the Anglican tradition: we welcome saints and sinners, people of faith and of no faith, people who are sure they know everything and those who are full of questions. All persons may share equally in the life and leadership of our church and we worship with and serve people of different ethnicities, politics, gender identities and sexual orientations, economic circumstances, and abilities. This church belongs to God, so all of God's children are welcome here.



Peterborough's Oldest Church—Established 1826
99 Brock Street, Peterborough Ontario K9H 2P2
705-745-7624 www.stjohnspeterborough.ca



THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

As we gather for worship we acknowledge that we are in Nogojiwanong, the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe, the Original inhabitants and stewards of this part of the Creation, on whose land and by whose waters we gather by the Williams Treaty to worship, listen, learn, share, and heal together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

Preludes Three Hymn Settings arr. by John Bird
1. "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
2. "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
3. "This Is God's Wondrous World"

The Congregation stands as the hymn begins.

Hymn 486—Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Blaenwern

The Greeting

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Presider May his grace and peace be with you.

People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Collect for Purity

Presider Almighty God,

All **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.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Hymn 702

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on
earth. peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Final Refrain*

Collect of the Day

Presider

O God, whose Son is the good shepherd: send us out as shepherds to seek the lost, to heal the injured and to nurture all with grace and compassion; through Jesus, who calls each by name and is the shepherd and guardian of our souls.

All

Amen.

Collect for the Parish Bicentenary

Presider

God of life and love, who put into the hearts of our ancestors in faith the building of a church in this place: we give you thanks and praise for your steadfast mercy through the generations; for the calling of this parish of St John the Evangelist to serve the needs of our neighbours and to proclaim the good news of your kingdom. In our bicentennial year, renew in us our zeal for your mission: let us be generous, compassionate, and faithful servants of the gospel and wise stewards of the heritage handed down to us, that this place and its people may be a light upon the hill, showing forth your love to all who see it. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All

Amen.

The Congregation sits.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

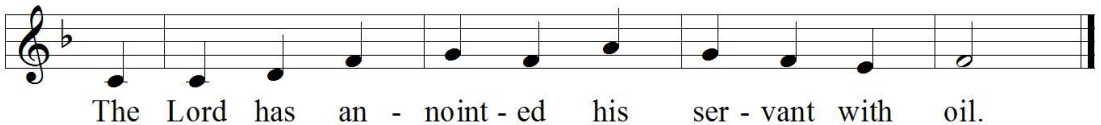
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

23

The Cantor sings the verses. The Congregation joins in the refrain (R).



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside still waters. **R.**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so

that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation stands.

Hymn 519—The Lord's My Shepherd

Crimond

Gospel Acclamation (*sung before and after the Gospel*)

Hymn 715

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the acclamation, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

Gospeller May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Gospeller The Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.**

Gospeller Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will

be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.**

The Congregation sits.

Sermon

*A silence for reflection follows the sermon.
The Congregation stands with the Presider.*

The Nicene Creed

Presider Let us confess our faith as we say,

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Sharing of the Peace

Presider The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please turn to the people around you and exchange a sign of God's peace.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

At the Offertory, gifts of bread and wine, signs of the fruit of human labour, are brought to the altar to be transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, signs of God's love for the world. The money offering, a sign of our gratitude for God's blessing of our lives, collected before the liturgy, is blessed. If you are participating in worship online, please consider making your offering through one of the means available at www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/donate.

Hymn 620—How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

St. Peter

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God our strength and our salvation, receive all that we offer you this day, and grant that we who have confessed your name, and received new life in baptism, may live in the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ the Lord.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Presider May God be with you. *People* And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them up to God.

Presider Let us give thanks to God our Cre - ator.

People It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Presider

Blessed are you, gracious God creator of heaven and earth, we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of power and might.

Hea - ven and earth of your glo - ry are full. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. high - est. Ho-

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, Author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world. You are unceasingly at work, from chaos bringing order and filling emptiness with life. Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light. Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb and changed the women's sorrow into joy. From the Garden the mystery dawned that he whom they had loved and lost is with us now in every place for ever. Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, welcoming weary fishermen on the shore, he renewed the promise of his presence and of new birth in the Spirit who sets the seal of freedom on your beloved children.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which slaves walked free, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command:

All

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory,**

Presider

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and with it ourselves: a single, holy living sacrifice. Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your

love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, St John the Evangelist, St Barnabas the Apostle, the apostles and prophets, and of all our beloved ones living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.

All

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin
a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All **Now we are raised to new life.**

Presider We were buried in your tomb.

All **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Presider Live in us that we may live in you.

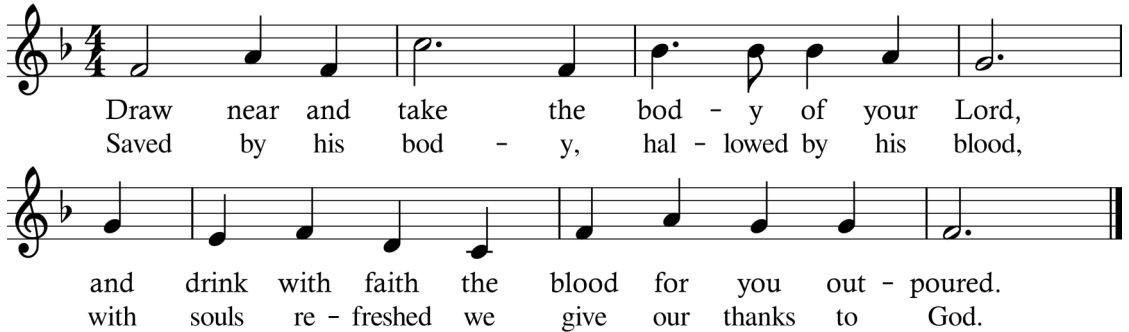
Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Presider 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. In this Eucharist, many are made one.

Fraction Anthem

49, v 1 and 2



Draw near and take the bod - y of your Lord,
Saved by his bod - y, hal - lowed by his blood,
and drink with faith the blood for you out - poured.
with souls re - freshed we give our thanks to God.

The Congregation sits.

Communion

For those who are present in person, all baptised persons may receive Communion. Please come forward in single file to the High Altar rail and return to your seat via the Sacristy. Those who find steps difficult may receive Communion in the Lady Chapel and those who find walking difficult may request that Communion be brought to them. Gluten free Hosts are available upon request. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion may indicate their desire by crossing their arms over their breast when they approach the Presider.

Hymns: 61—As We Gather At Your Table
75—With the Body That Was Broken

Ecce, Deus
Panis Vitae

Anthem “The Lord Is My Shepherd” Thomas Matthews; solo soprano Mary McLaughlin
The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

COMMISSIONING AND SENDING

Announcements

Prayer after Communion

Presider All your works praise you, O Lord,
All **and your faithful servants bless you.**

**Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
May we, who share his body, live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup, bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

Hymn Majesty

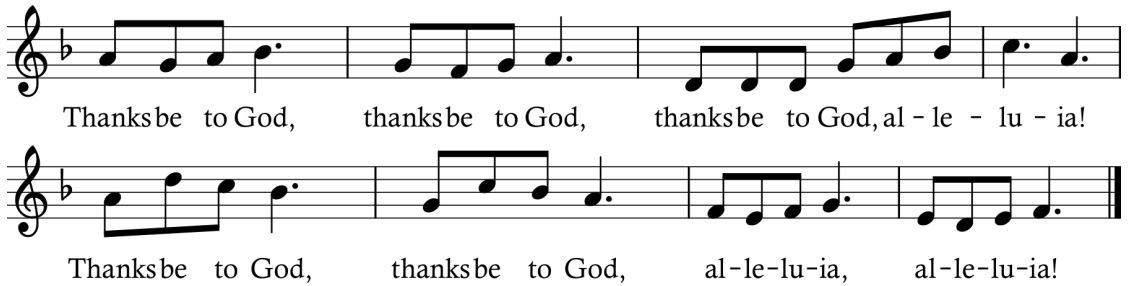
**Majesty, worship his majesty.
Unto Jesus be all glory, honour, and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority flow from his throne
unto his own; his anthem raise.**

**So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship his majesty—
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.**

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship his majesty—
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

Dismissal

Presider Alleluia! Followers of Jesus,
inspired by the Holy Spirit,
serve the world God loves!



Thanks be to God, thanks be to God, thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia!

Thanks be to God, thanks be to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Postlude “Go Forth with Joy!” from *Morning Songs*

Gwyneth Walker

Today's Music

PRELUDES: Our in-house recorder group “The Whistling Saints” are featured this morning. They will play three hymn settings as arranged by our own John Bird, beginning with “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”, a much loved, sentimental gospel hymn from an arrangement by local musician, Tori Owen. The words are true Canadian content, as they were written in 1855 on the shores of nearby Rice Lake by Irish immigrant, Joseph Scriven, after his fiancée took ill and died from an immersion baptism in cold spring waters on the Oak Ridges moraine. The melody was composed by American Charles Converse. “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” is a rousing Welsh hymn tune composed by John Hughes in 1907. The tune is known as Cwm Rhondda, after the South Wales coal-mining valley of the same name. The text was originally written in Welsh by William Williams. This arrangement was adapted from the Anglican *Book of Common Praise*. The text for “This is God’s Wondrous World” (originally This is My Father’s World) also has a regional connection, having been written as a poem by Presbyterian Rev. Maltbie Babcock, inspired by the view over Lake Ontario from the Niagara escarpment near Lockport, New York. Published posthumously in 1901, it was set to music by Babcock’s friend, Franklin Sheppard. The tune, a version of a traditional English song, bears the Latin title, Terra Beata, meaning blessed earth. This arrangement was adapted from the United Church of Canada Hymnal. We are playing this today to honour God's creation, as April 22nd was Earth Day.

ANTHEM: Thomas Matthews (1915-1999) was an American composer. In 1936 he accepted the post of Organist/Choirmaster at St. Martin-in-the-Fields (Chestnut Hill) in Philadelphia. During WWII Dr. Matthews conducted the famous Blue Jacket Choir and after the war assumed the music position at St. Luke's, Evanston, Illinois. He also served on the Northwestern University School of Music faculty and was director of music for Seabury-Western Theological Seminary. While in Tulsa he founded the music department at Holland Hall School, served on the faculty of the University of Tulsa, and supervised the design and installation of the IV/82 Moller which continues to serve the greater Tulsa community. Dr. Matthews composed over thirty published anthems of which “**The Lord Is My Shepherd**” is best known. It has sold well over one million copies. Featuring two solo phrases for a soprano voice, this anthem shows Matthew’s flair for the dramatic as well as his use of beautiful harmonies and long soaring lines.

POSTLUDE: We continue with the music of **Gwyneth Walker**, who was born in New York to a Quaker family and grew up in New Canaan, Connecticut. She began her first efforts at composition at an early age and went on to receive BA (1968) from Brown University, and MM (1970) and DMA (1976) degrees in Music Composition from the Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford. She taught music for fourteen years at Hartt School of Music, the Hartford Conservatory and the Oberlin College Conservatory, and then moved to Vermont to become a full-time composer. In 1988, she helped found the Consortium of Vermont Composers and later became the director of the organization. “**Go Forth With Joy!**” from her collection entitled *Morning Songs* is an energetic postlude. The rhythmic thematic contour (pick-up quarter, followed by half-notes and a dotted-half-note) celebrates the words "go forth with joy!" This 4-note theme recurs in many guises, including a syncopated statement near the end.

Liturgical Ministers

Presider and Preacher	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Organist	Robert Grandy
Greeters	Mary Ann Hall and Lynda Mercer
Cantor	Lucas Paradis
Crucifer	Owen van Slageren
Sacrist	Caelan McMurray
Server	Elijah van Slageren
Readers	Brenda McMurray and Caelan McMurray
Intercessor	Caelan McMurray
High Altar Chalice Administrators	Ian Storey and Caelan McMurray
Lady Chapel Bread Administrator	The Rev. Steve Smith
Lady Chapel Chalice Administrators	Barb Smith
Chancel Guild	Ellen Seddon and Leslie Sherman
Refreshment Hosts	Alice Marshall and Rosemary Mallin
A/V	Andrew Vreugdenhil

Acknowledgements

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To the right are some commonly-asked questions by visitors. If you have a question that is not answered here, please do not hesitate to ask one of the greeters or clergy for assistance.



The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Rector

The Rev. Ruth Adams
The Rev. Mary Bell-Plouffe
The Rev. Steve Smith
Honorary Assistants

Mr. Robert Grandy
Director of Music

Dr. Andrew Vreugdenhil
Mr. Colin Walsh
Churchwardens

Mrs. Tammy Delaheff
Deputy Churchwarden

Mrs. Carolyn Porteous
Parish Administrator

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Welcome!

Children's Ministry

We welcome children and youth, who may remain with you to worship and do not have to remain perfectly still and quiet! Please feel free to allow them to roam if they wish. Families are most welcome to use the activities in the children's area in the church and to bring colouring sheets, toys, and snacks for their children.

On Posture in Worship

It is customary that we stand to pray and sing and sit to hear God's Word proclaimed and interpreted. Some people prefer to kneel to pray. Please adopt the posture that helps you to worship.

Visitor's Cards

If you're visiting, please do take the time to complete a visitor's card, which can be found in the rack on the bookcase in the Chapel. We would love the opportunity to stay in touch with you.

Making an Offering (Donation)

To support the ministry of the parish, an offering may be made by placing cash or a cheque in an envelope available where you picked up this order of service. Please write your name and address on the envelope, then place it on the brass offering plate. Tax receipts are issued for gifts of \$25 or more. We also have a convenient pre-authorised giving program for monthly donations that are debited from your bank account or we accept e-transfers to office@stjohnspeterborough.ca. Please visit www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/donate for more information.

Accessibility

The facility is entirely accessible through the Brock St entrance, from where all levels of the facility are accessible via elevator.

Washrooms/Change Table

Accessible washrooms are located down the hall from the narthex (lobby). A change table is in the nursery at the end of the hall.

Fragrances

We ask that you refrain from wearing strong fragrances in order to accommodate those with breathing sensitivities.

Fellowship & Refreshments

All are welcome to stay after the liturgy for fellowship and refreshments in the Guild Hall.