



The Last Sunday after the Epiphany February 15th, 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

We gather in this place in person and virtually and 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.

Prelude Partita on “Carlisle” Robert Grandy
“Fairest Lord Jesus” arr. by Charles Maggs (Tintinnabula)

Please stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn 167—‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here Carlisle

Introit “This is My Beloved Son” Don Anderson
Choir This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him. *Matthew 17:5*

The Greeting

Presider The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

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.**

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy.

Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

Collect of the Day

Presider Compassionate God, you transfigured your Son, Jesus Christ, before the eyes of your chosen witnesses and they were overcome by fear. Transfigure us so that we may turn from fear to love and reveal your compassion for all humanity; through Jesus Christ, the Beloved.

All **Amen.**

Collect for the Parish Bicentennial

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.**

Please sit at the conclusion of the prayer.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Exodus 24:12-18

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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



The Lord is king; let the people tremble; he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake. **R**

The Lord is great in Zion; he is high above all peoples. Let them confess his name, which is great and awesome; he is the Holy One. **R**

“O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.” Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; he is the Holy One. **R**

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his name, they called upon the Lord, and he answered them. He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them. **R**

“O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.” Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One. **R**

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21

Reader A reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation stands.

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!

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

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

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.**

Gospeller Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

People The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

The Congregation sits.

Sermon

A silence for reflection follows the sermon. Please stand when the Presider stands.

Affirmation of Faith and the Baptismal Covenant

Presider Let us affirm our faith and renew our baptismal covenant.

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

I will persevere in resisting evil and, whenever I fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.

I will proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ.

I will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbours as myself.

I will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

I will strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Presider Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming sinners and inviting them to the table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence

All 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.**

The Presider pronounces the absolution of sin, to which all answer, “Amen.”

The Peace

Presider The peace of 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 460—Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine

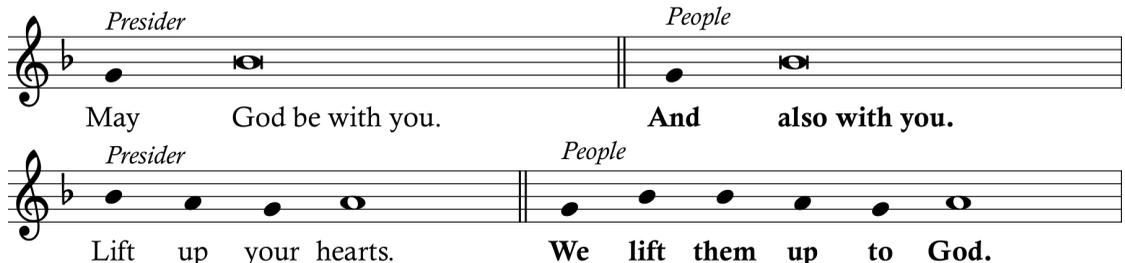
Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of life and freedom, we celebrate the revelation of Jesus as the Christ who makes all creation new. Accept all we offer you this day and make us new in him, who is Lord for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

CW Prayer G



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 It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For on this day he revealed his glory before his chosen witnesses and filled with divine splendour the human flesh in which he is one with us. So he prepared his disciples to bear the scandal of the cross and showed that in the Church, his body, the same glory would be fulfilled that shone forth from him, its head. And so with joyful hearts we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven as they praise your glory without end:

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Presider Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with St John the Evangelist, St Barnabas the Apostle, and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 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.**

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

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Congregation sits.

Communion

For those who are present in person, all baptised persons may receive Communion. Please come forward to the Chancel step via the centre aisle and return to your seat via the side aisles. Gluten free Hosts are available upon request. Those who find walking difficult may request that Communion be brought to them. 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.

Hymn: 61—As We Gather at Your Table

Ecce, Deus

Anthem

“Beautiful Saviour”

arr. by Wallingford Riegger

Beautiful Saviour, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown! Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands, robed in flowers of fragrant Spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing. Beautiful Saviour, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honour, praise, adoration now and forever More be Thine!

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

The Presider offers the blessing; the congregation responds, “Amen.”

Hymn

River of Glory

Refrain

Ri-ver of glo-ry, springs of our birth, flood of God's rich-es

poured on the earth. We are born from the dark-ness and clothed in the

light, we are bathed in the glo-ry of God._____ God._____

Bathed in the glo-ry of God._____

Verses

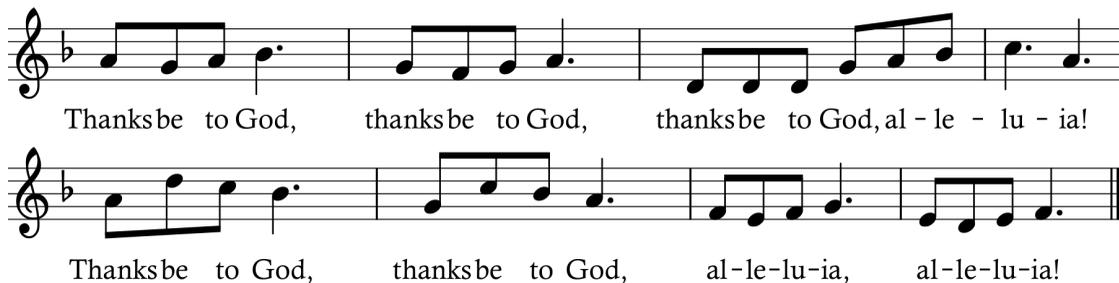
Foun-tain of mer - cy,
 Here there is ha - ven,
 Bread for our jour - ney
 Dark-ness is ban-ished,

grace flow - ing free, streams of sal - va - tion
 heal - ing and health, joy for the ask - ing,
 God will pro - vide. Hope for all a - ges,
 night turned a - way, Christ is our sun - light

spill - ing with love from a tree._____
 love in a - bun - dance of wealth._____
 Je - sus, com - pan - ion and guide._____
 lift - ing and lead - ing our way._____

Dismissal

Presider 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!

Burial of the Alleluia

“Alleluia” is the Church’s song of joy and praise. On this last Sunday before Lent, in accordance with the ancient custom of the Church, after the last “alleluia” is sung in the dismissal, the Alleluia Banner will be deposited under the High Altar, thus “burying” it. In Lent, “alleluia” is not said or sung in the liturgy; it will be restored at the First Eucharist of Easter, when we proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Postlude “O Nata Lux de Lumine”

Flor Peeters

TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDE: On this Last Sunday after Epiphany, the opening hymn is “‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”. Back in 2020, I wrote a work based on that hymn: **Partita on “Carlisle”**. A “partita” is simply a collection of musical pieces—in this case, all based on one hymn. After the original hymn is played you will hear a set of six short but increasingly dense variations. **Monologue:** an embellished and relaxed unison setting of the melody. **Duo:** a two-part setting, with rapid ascending and descending passages. In the second half of this variation, the right-hand music becomes the left-hand music and vice versa. **Trio:** a three-part arrangement for three different organ stops. **Quartet:** a four-part setting for strings, with the tune plainly heard on a flute stop in the pedal, but sounding two octaves higher. **Quintet:** a lilting five-part setting, with the tune in the top voice, and part of the hymn-tune “Abbot’s Leigh” drawn out in the pedals. **Hymn:** a majestic reharmonization of the tune. Late last year saw the resurrection of “Tintinnabula”, a Handbell Quartet that rang at the former Trinity United Church, consisting of four members of the Handbell Choir at that time. Today it makes its “return debut” here at St. John’s, featuring Margo Tant, Stacey Fletcher, Caroline Varsava and yours truly. Our “opener” is a four-part setting of that favourite hymn “Fairest Lord Jesus”, as arranged by Charles Maggs, an organist, choir director and handbell director in southern California, with over 90 pieces of handbell music in print. The four ringers are responsible for a total of sixteen bells. Sharing of bells is an absolute requirement in quartet playing. You will notice the ringers putting down a bell and another ringer picking up that same bell to ring it seconds later. You may also notice the passing of bells from ringer to ringer, when necessary. Handbell ringing in a normal-sized choir is a team effort, but it is ever so important when there are only four ringers!

INTROIT: Our own **Don Anderson’s** short Introit “**This Is My Beloved Son**” was written on February 23rd, 2011, specifically for this Sunday when the Transfiguration gospel is heard. Don uses words from Matthew 17:5, spoken by God at the Transfiguration of Christ. Very similar if not identical words were also heard at Jesus’ Baptism according to Matthew 3:17.

ANTHEM: American composer **Wallingford Riegger** (1885-1961) took the old familiar “Crusader’s Hymn” (Fairest Lord Jesus) and arranged it for three-part choir in the 1930’s, calling it “**Beautiful Saviour**”. Each choral section gets a chance at the tune in this serene setting. This little work is a far cry from his other works, many of which are full of early twentieth-century dissonance. Riegger studied in Berlin and on his return to the United States, he taught music at Drake University in Iowa and at various colleges in New York. As were many musicians, he was called before the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1957. He died tragically in New York in 1961 when he tripped over the leashes of two fighting dogs, resulting in a fall and a head injury from which he did not recover despite treatment.

POSTLUDE: **Flor Peeters** was a Belgian-born composer (1903-1986), who wrote mainly for the organ—producing a large quantity of chorale preludes based on well-known hymn tunes, German chorales and plainsong melodies. It is one of the latter you will hear today—one based on “**O Nata Lux de Lumine**” (O light which from the light hast birth). This toccata-like piece features the plainsong melody in the top voice, supported by running sixteenth-note figures. The melody is echoed in the pedals a bar later. The original plainsong chant will be played first.

Liturgical Ministers

Presider	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Preacher	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Tower Chimes	Steve Hunter
Organist	Robert Grandy
Greeters	Alan Brunger and Alice Marshall
Cantor	Alex Meinhardt
Readers	Brenda Whiteman and Brenda McMurray
Intercessor	Caelan McMurray
Crucifer/Server	Bobby Kelly
Sacrist	Caelan McMurray
Chalice Administrator	Caelan McMurray and Brenda Whiteman
Chancel Guild	Peggy Kruger and Pat Passmore
A/V	Matt Grandy
Coffee Hosts	St. Margaret's Guild

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 Delahey
Deputy Churchwarden

Mrs. Carolyn Porteous
Parish Administrator

Ms. Jennifer Passmore
Custodian

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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-authorized 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.