



The Baptism of Jesus **January 11th, 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 Two Choral Preludes on “Christ Unser Herr Zum Jordan Kam”
Preludio—The Baptism of Christ

J.S. Bach
Derek Healey

Please stand as the hymn begins.

Hymn 162—Sing of God Made Manifest

Salzburg

Introit “A Voice Came From Heaven”

Don Anderson

Choir A voice came from heaven saying: This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.

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.

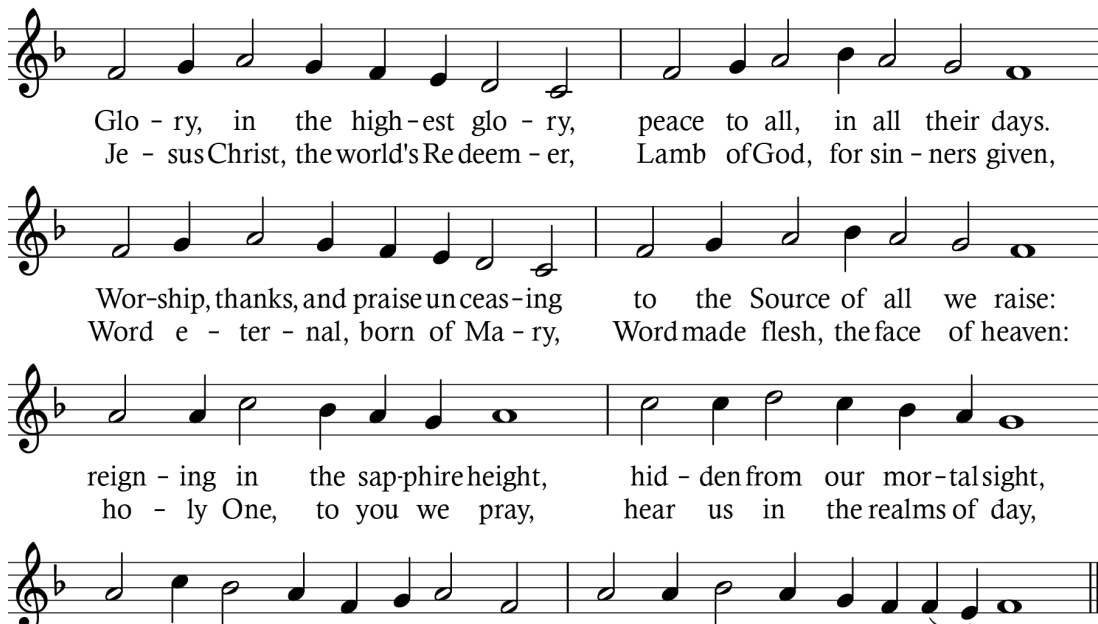
People **And also with you.**

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.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Hymn 366



Glo - ry, in the high - est glo - ry, peace to all, in all their days.
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re deem - er, Lamb of God, for sin - ners given,
Wor - ship, thanks, and praise unceas - ing to the Source of all we raise:
Word e - ter - nal, born of Ma - ry, Word made flesh, the face of heaven:
reign - ing in the sap - phire height, hid - den from our mor - tal sight,
ho - ly One, to you we pray, hear us in the realms of day,
now re - ceive our a - dor - a - tion, as we make our sup - pli - ca - tion.
with the Spir - it there u - nit - ed, and the God - head high ex - alt - ed.

Collect of the Day

Presider O God the creator of all, at his baptism you proclaimed Jesus your beloved and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: make us faithful to our calling to be your beloved children and empower us with your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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.**

The Congregation sits.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

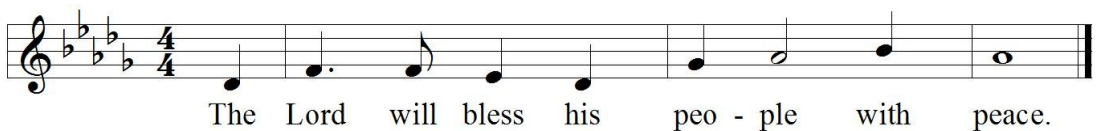
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

29

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



Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe, and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are

crying, "Glory!" **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people. The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. **R**

Second Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to the Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation stands.

Hymn 635—Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Bridegroom

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

Hymn 715



Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

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

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Gospeller

The Gospel of Christ.

People

Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Sermon

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

Thanksgiving over the Water

Presider

May God be with you.

People

And also with you.

Presider

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider

We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things.

All

Blessed be God for ever.

Presider

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

All

Blessed be God for ever.

Presider

We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus. For us he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. For us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit. For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin and death, and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

All

Blessed be God for ever.

Presider We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with her gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Presider We give you thanks that you have called us to new life through the waters of baptism. Now sanctify this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Anoint us with your Holy Spirit as we come together as the family of your Church, that we may become inheritors of your glorious kingdom. We give you praise and honour and worship through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All **Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.**

Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant

Presider Let us join our voices to all those who have committed themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All **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.

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All **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.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?
All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?
All **I will, with God's help.**

Concluding Prayer and Asperges

Blessed water from the font will be sprinkled over the people as a symbol of the renewal of our baptism.

The Prayers of the People

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.


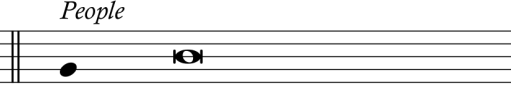


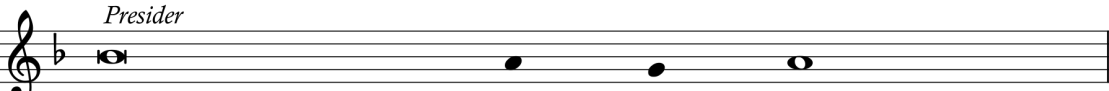
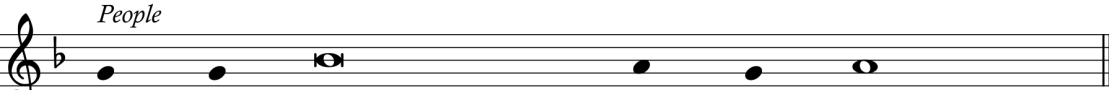
THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

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 163—When Christ's Appearing Was Made Known St Venantius


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.**


<p><i>Presider</i></p>  <p>May God be with you.</p>	<p><i>People</i></p>  <p>And also with you.</p>
<p><i>Presider</i></p>  <p>Lift up your hearts.</p>	<p><i>People</i></p>  <p>We lift them up to God.</p>
<p><i>Presider</i></p>  <p>Let us give thanks to God our Cre - ator.</p>	
<p><i>People</i></p>  <p>It is right to offer thanks and praise.</p>	

Presider

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord; you renew that mystery in bread and wine and nourish us, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the holy people who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



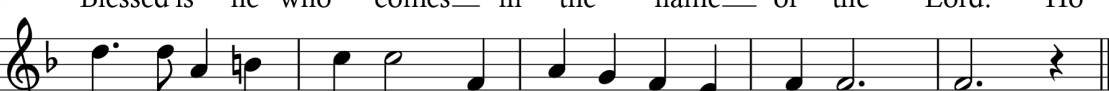
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -



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



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

Presider 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 a 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."

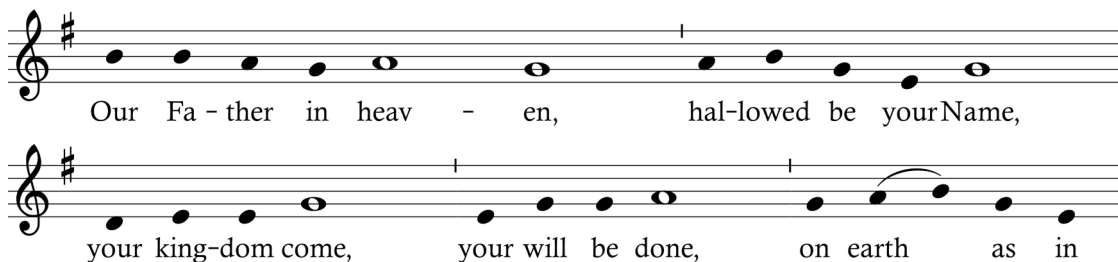
All Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

Presider 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 beloved ones; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, 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.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,



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.

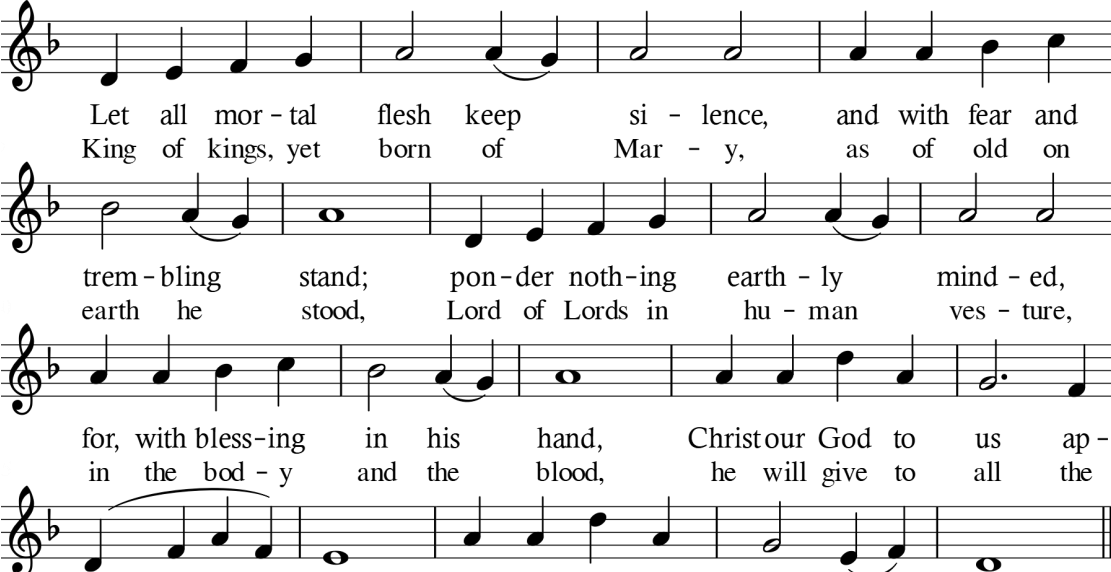
Breaking of the Bread

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



Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed,
earth he stood, Lord of Lords in hu - man ves - ture,
for, with bless - ing in his hand, Christ our God to us ap -
in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to all the
proach - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
faith - ful his own self for heav - en - ly food.

The Congregation sits.

Communion

For those who are present in person, all baptised persons may receive Communion. Please come forward to the Nave altar in single file to receive the Bread from the Presider and then move to the first available Chalice Administrator to receive the Wine. 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: 165—Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering

Rendez À Dieu

Anthem "Holy Spirit, Come and Fill Us"

Joseph M. Martin

Holy Spirit, come and fill us. Breath of Life and Heavenly Dove, come and know us, come and form us in the spirit of God's love. Holy Comfort, sent from heaven, you provide our every need, every pain and sorrow bearing, every tear and scar you read. Holy Truth, quiet touch from heaven, peace beyond the minds of all, fill us with your understanding, may our hearts become your hands. 'Til (on) that day, we see the Saviour, we must search with hearts of faith, for a glimpse of heaven's glory, in the shadow of God's grace.

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 377—To the Name of Our Salvation

Oriel

Dismissal

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



Postlude Exurgat Deus

Peter Hurford

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of
Leslie and Barbara Storey; Joyce McClennan; Don and Patricia McClennan
by Ian and Tony Storey

TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDES: On this Sunday when we celebrate the “Baptism of the Lord”, you will first hear two settings of Martin Luther’s hymn “**When Christ, Our Lord, to the Jordan Came**”, both by **J.S. Bach**. In the first prelude the tune is heard plainly in the pedals while the waters of the Jordan are represented by the continuous flow of sixteenth notes in the left hand. The right hand presents a short four-note motif suggesting the sign of the (baptismal) cross. Bach’s second version is for manuals alone and comes across as the little brother or sister of its bigger and grander sibling. The tune is heard somewhat hidden at first in the tenor range while the other parts weave around it. Eventually the tune makes its way to the soprano voice, with the left hand playing Bach’s usual imaginative counterpoint.

Derek Healey (b. 1936) is a British-born composer who moved to Canada in 1969 to study at the University of Toronto. He later taught there, as well as at the University of Victoria, Waterloo Lutheran University, and the University of Guelph, before moving to the University of Oregon in 1978. He returned to England in 1988 when he became academic professor of music at the RAF School of Music. He retired from teaching in 1996 and settled in Brooklyn, New York but has continued to actively compose, particularly for wind ensemble, saxophone octet, solo voice, choir and organ. In the early 1970’s he wrote a set of “Three Quiet Pieces”, inspired by a painting by the British artist Sir Stanley Spencer. In the first piece entitled “**Preludio – The Baptism of Christ**”, you will hear music representing the dove in the story, ascending and descending, as well as music conjuring up the image of rippling water.

INTROIT: “A Voice Came From Heaven” is one of the numerous Introits in Don Anderson’s “Introits for the Church Year”. In the *Book of Alternative Services*, a sentence is supplied for each Sunday of the year for the 3-year cycle of the lectionary. Don composed 101 short Introits on these sentences. With the encouragement of the late Archdeacon Gordon Finney, and the perseverance of the choir here (!) as guinea pigs, Don “unleashed” an Introit each Sunday, some having being completed minutes before a choir rehearsal!

ANTHEM: “Holy Spirit, Come and Fill Us” is a gentle anthem for two-part mixed voices by the prolific American composer Joseph Martin (b. 1959). It is a perfect choice for smaller choirs. As in all of Martin’s works, the lovely, flowing melodies are firmly supported by a well-written keyboard accompaniment. Martin is the Director of Sacred Publications for Shawnee Press and has himself over 1200 compositions in print.

POSTLUDE: “Exurgat Deus” is the final movement from the suite “Laudate Dominum”, a significant organ work by the renowned British organist and composer **Peter Hurford** (1930-2019), composed in 1961, featuring six movements inspired by texts from the Psalms, showcasing his virtuosity and unique style. This movement is based on Psalm 68:1-3, which states “*Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. Like as the smoke vanisheth, so shalt thou drive them away: and like as wax melteth at the fire, so let the ungodly perish at the presence of God. It’s a popular piece for recitals and worship, blending traditional sacred themes with contemporary harmonic and rhythmic flair, But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God: let them also be merry and joyful.* A popular piece for recitals and worship, it blends traditional sacred themes with contemporary harmonic and rhythmic flair.

Liturgical Ministers

Presider	The Rev. Mary Bell Plouffe
Preacher	The Rev. Mary Bell Plouffe
Organist	Robert Grandy
Greeters	Pat Passmore and Joyce Kane
Sacrist	Caelan McMurray
Crucifer/Server	Cathy Brunger
Readers	Brenda McMurray and Eva Webster
Intercessor	Caelan McMurray
Chalice Administrators	Caelan McMurray and Pat Passmore
Chancel Guild	Betty Hinton and Sandy Hoult
A/V	Andrew Vreugdenhil
Refreshments Hosts	Mary Ann Hall and Rosemary Mallin

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

Vacant
Deputy Churchwarden

Mrs. Carolyn Porteous
Parish Administrator

Ms. Jennifer Passmore
Custodian

stjohnspeterborough.ca

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[@stjohnspeterborough](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnspeterborough)

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 \$20 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.