



The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 19th, 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

The Congregation stands as the hymn begins.

Hymn 328—Lo, God Is Here! Let Us Adore

St. Catherine (St. Finbar)

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.

Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us take a moment in silence to reflect on and be grateful for the times this week that we, in thought, word, and action, encouraged or participated in the growth of God's Kingdom of love, peace, and justice. *(silence)*

Let us take a moment in silence to reflect on and confess the times this week that we, in thought, word, and action, ignored, discouraged, or worked against the growth of God's Kingdom of love, peace, and justice. *(silence)*

Presider
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, to which all answer, "Amen."

Collect of the Day

Presider

O God, patient and forbearing, strengthen our spirit when we are slow and temper our zeal when we are rash, so that in your own good time you may produce in us a rich harvest from the seed you have sown and tended; through Jesus Christ, the promise of a new creation.

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

Genesis 28:10-19a

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Metrical Psalm

139:1-11, 22-23, St. Anne (528)

**Lord, you have searched me out and known
whatever you have wrought:
my rising up and sitting down,
you know my every thought.**

**You trace my journeys and my rests
and everything I do;
and no word forms upon my lips
which is not known to you.**

**Behind, before, you press on me,
and on me lay your hand;
such knowledge is too wonderful
for me to understand.**

**Then from your Spirit or your face
where can I flee or go?
In heaven above I find you there
and in the grave also.**

**If I should take the wings of dawn
and reach the farthest sea,
yet even there your hand holds fast,
your right hand leading me.**

**If I say, "Darkness will conceal,
and light become as night,"
yet darkness is not dark to you,
both day and night are bright.**

**Search me, O God, and know my heart,
test all my thoughts, I pray;
seek out the evil; lead me in
the everlasting way.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-25

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

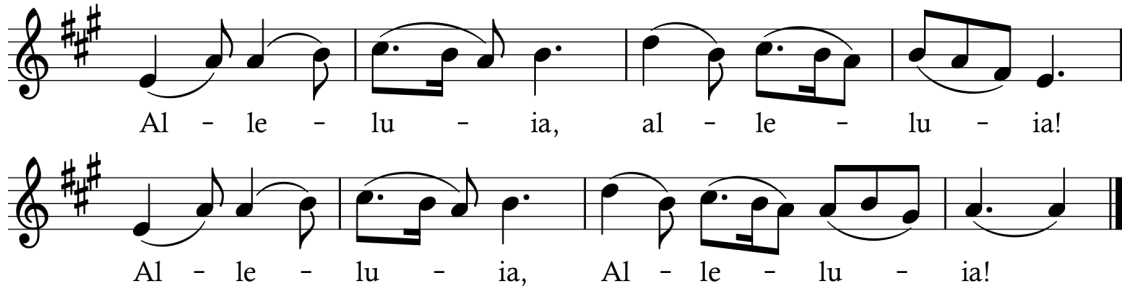
People

The Congregation stands.

Hymn 478—Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast

Albano

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



Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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 Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

The Congregation sits.

Sermon

*A silence for reflection follows the sermon.
The Congregation stands at the invitation of the Presider.*

Affirmation of Faith

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

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.

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.

Hymn 656—She Comes Sailing on the Wind

She Flies On

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider Beloved God, you spread before us a table of plenty, and give us the cup of new life to drink. Receive all we offer this day with our grateful thanks and praise, in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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 Creator.

People **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Presider

It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever. Therefore with angels and archangels, with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and singing:

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 praise you, merciful Father, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost.

Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

All

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Presider

Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

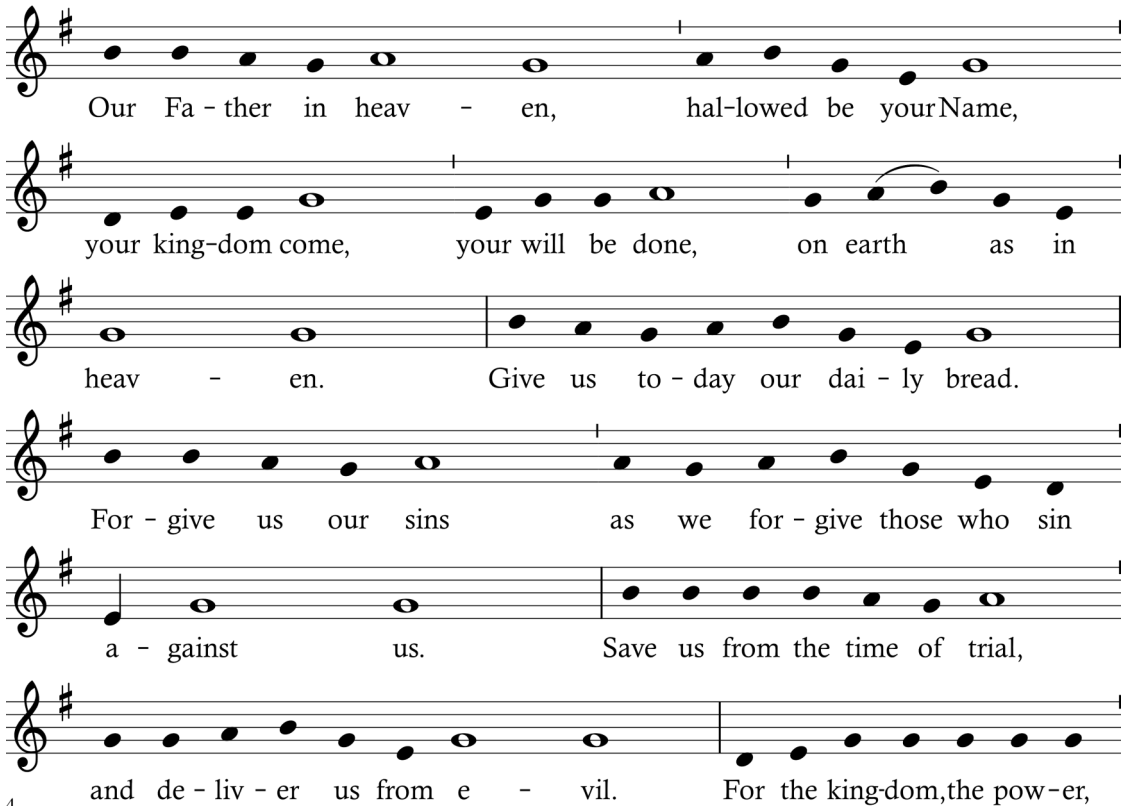
May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.

All

Amen.

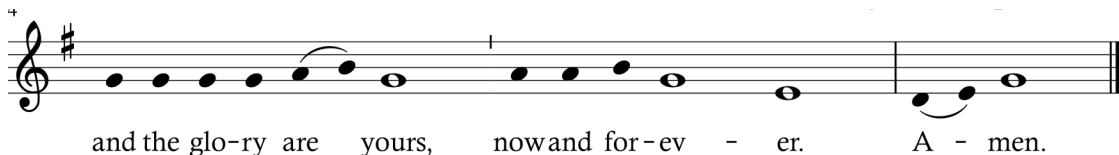
The Lord's Prayer

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,

4



Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

All **We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

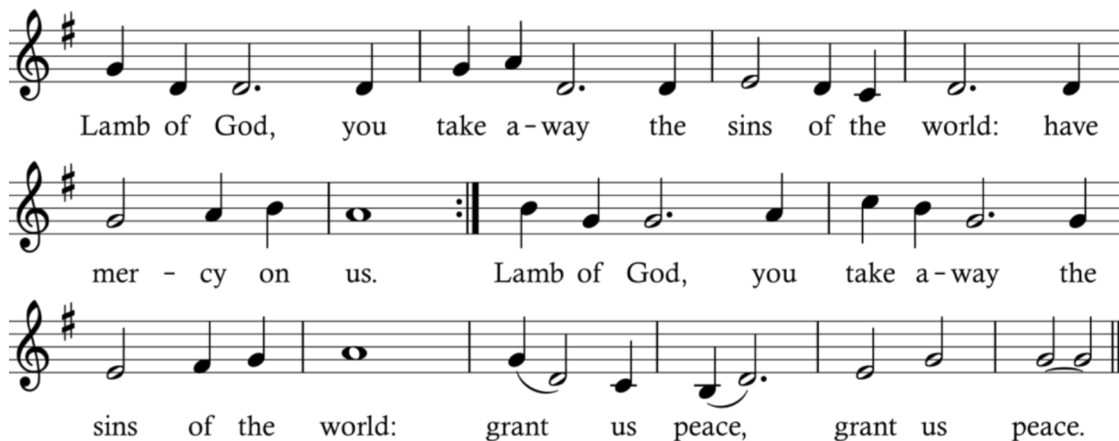
Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

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

745



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: 73—One Bread, One Body

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 505—Be Thou My Vision

Slane

Dismissal

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

All

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

Liturgical Ministers

Presider and Preacher	The Rev. Steve Smith
Organist	Don Anderson
Greeters	John Perkins and Pat Passmore
Readers	Maisie Watson and Trish Murphy
Intercessor	Mickey Bongers
Server/Crucifer	Sam Harvey
Sacrist	Ian Storey
Chalice Administrator	Barb Smith and Maisie Watson
Chancel	Gerri Currier and Trish Murphy
Refreshment Hosts	St. Margaret's Guild
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 Delahey
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.