



## **The Second Sunday in Lent March 1st, 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](http://www.stjohnspeterborough.ca)



## **THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

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*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.*

**Preludes** Fugue in C Major

D. Buxtehude

*The Congregation stands as the hymn begins.*

**Hymn** 529—God, My Hope on You Is Founded

Michael

### **The Greeting**

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

*All* **And also with you.**

### **Collect for Purity**

*Bishop* Bless the Creator who forgives all our sins.

*All* **God's mercy endures for ever.**

*Bishop* 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 Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.**

*Lent is a season of preparation for Easter, when the Church celebrates the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is customary that baptism occurs at Easter, so in Lent we examine how faithfully we have kept the promises made in our baptismal covenant, so that we may be ready to reaffirm our commitment at Easter.*

### **Confession and Absolution**

*Bishop* Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare for the Paschal Feast, let us make ready our hearts to renew the covenant of our baptism.

Let us ask God to bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts.

How faithfully have we continued in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*All* **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

*Bishop* How faithfully have we persevered in resisting evil, and whenever we fell into sin, repented and returned to the Lord?

*All* **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

*Bishop* How faithfully have we proclaimed by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

*All* **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

*Bishop* How faithfully have we sought and served Christ in all persons, loving our neighbours as ourselves?

*All* **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

*Bishop* How faithfully have we striven for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being?

*All* **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

*Bishop* How faithfully have we striven to safeguard the integrity of God's creation; respecting, sustaining, and renewing the life of the earth?

*All* **Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.**

*Bishop* Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

*All* **Amen.**

**Trisagion** (*sung three times*)

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and migh - ty, ho - ly  
im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

### **Collect of the Day**

*Bishop* Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross, give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our merciful Redeemer.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Collect for the Parish Bicentennial**

*Bishop* 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**

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### **First Reading**

Genesis 12:1-4a

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

*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).*



My help comes from the mak - er of heav'n and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Mighty One, the maker of heaven and earth. **R**

God will not let your foot be moved and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep. Behold, God who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep; **R**

It is the Creator who watches over you; God is your shade at your right hand, so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. **R**

The Merciful One shall preserve you from all evil; it is God who shall keep you safe. The Creator shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore. **R**

## Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5,13-17

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

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The Congregation stands.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Je - sus, king of end - less glo - ry,  
Sav-iour of the world, Sav-iour of the world.\_\_\_\_\_

## Gospel

John 3:1-17

*Gospeller* May God be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to John.*People* **Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.**

*Gospeller* Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

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

## Sermon

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

**Solo** “He That Keepeth Israel”

Adolphe Schlösser

## The Apostles’ Creed

*Bishop* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God’s 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. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

### The Peace

*Bishop* 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.*



In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

*Bishop*

Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ. All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit, in the holy Church, now and for ever.

*All*

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Bishop* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.



Our Fa - ther in heaven, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
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 power, and the glo - ry are yours,  
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## Breaking of the Bread

*Bishop* We break this bread,  
*All* **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

*Bishop* Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.  
*All* **If we have died with him, we shall live with him;  
if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.**

*Bishop* The gifts of God for the People of God.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

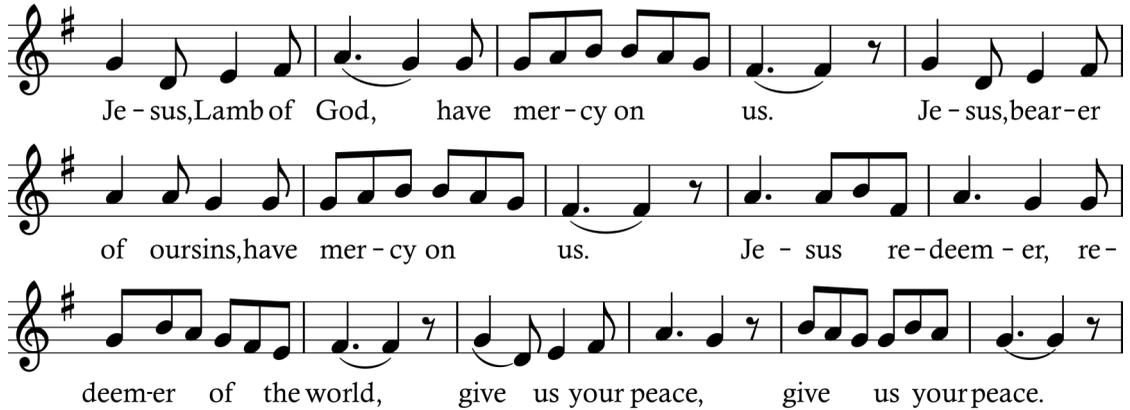
*Bishop*

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**

CP 747

*All*



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er  
of oursins, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus re - deem - er, re -  
deem - er of the world, give us your peace, give us your peace.

**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 Bishop.*

Hymn: 69—We Who Live by Sound and Symbol

Chartres

**Anthem**

“God So Loved the World”

Noël Goemanne

*God so loved the world that he gave his only son; that those who believe in him shall never die; but have life eternal. (John 3:16)*

# COMMISSIONING AND SENDING

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## Announcements

### A Time for Celebration and Thanksgiving

*On the first Sunday of each month, members of the Congregation are invited to name aloud significant date in their lives at this time— anniversaries of birth, marriage, etc.—and other occasions for celebration.*

*Once all have been named, the Doxology is sung.*

### Doxology



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures high and low;



give thanks to God in love made known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spi - rit, one.

### Prayer after Communion

*Bishop*

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

*All*

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

468—To Abraham and Sarah

Thornbury

## Dismissal

*Bishop*

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



Lord, dis-miss us with your bless-ing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;



let us each, your love pos-sess-ing, tri-umph in re-deem-ing grace;



O re-fresh us, O re-fresh us, trav-elling through the wil-der-ness.

**Postlude** Toccata in D Minor

Johann Jacob Froberger

## TODAY'S MUSIC

**PRELUDES:** This morning's music turns our ears toward the early influences that helped shape the young J.S. Bach. One of the brightest among them was Dietrich Buxtehude, the celebrated organist and composer of the middle Baroque. Though born in what is now northern Germany—territory that was Danish at the time—Buxtehude's musical reach extended far beyond borders. His keyboard works left a deep imprint on German musical tradition, guiding composers such as Pachelbel and, most famously, Bach himself. Today's Fugue in C Major is affectionately known as the "Jig Fugue," thanks to its buoyant 12/8 rhythm that dances with a lilting, almost folk-like swing. True to fugal craft, the theme steps forward first in the soprano voice, then passes gracefully through alto, tenor, and finally bass. Like many of Buxtehude's fugues, the piece is driven primarily by the manuals, with the pedals joining only near the end. His larger fugues often blossom into improvisatory finales. Here, that flourish is brief but unmistakable as the music leans into its final cadence.

**SOLO:** Our Soprano Choral Scholar Robyn Hawthorne will offer us her rendition of "He That Keepeth Israel" by the German-born English composer Adolphe Schlösser (1830-1913). Born in Darmstadt, and educated by his father, Schlösser became a gifted pianist, made his debut at Frankfurt, and gave recitals in France and Germany. In 1854 he moved to London, where he became a noted teacher, being connected with the Royal Academy of Music as an instructor. Schlösser's "Schumann Evenings" in London did much to make the works of that gifted composer known to the people of England. Schlösser wrote a variety of pieces for strings, a set of twenty-four studies for the piano, and numerous vocal solos.

**ANTHEM:** Today's anthem, "God So Loved the World" contains one of the best-known verses of scripture. These words were given an effective setting by the late Belgium-born composer Noël Goemanne (1926-2010) over 30 years ago. Goemanne was a very important composer of music for the Catholic church, having composed the first Vatican II-approved masses in English. He served as Organist in several large Catholic churches in Michigan and Texas. This anthem's brevity makes it a good choice for a meditation at any point during Lent or Holy Week. Written for soprano, alto and men's voices, it is an evocative and at times powerful setting of those familiar words from John 3:16.

**POSTLUDE:** Our postlude brings us to Johann Jacob Froberger, another towering figure of early Baroque keyboard music. A German composer, organist, and harpsichordist, Froberger crafted works that remain some of the most expressive and imaginative of the era. His musical voice was shaped not only by his time in Vienna but also by his studies in Rome under the great Frescobaldi—an influence that earned him deep admiration from Bach. The Toccata you'll hear today is alive with the improvisatory spirit so characteristic of early Italian organ writing. Midway through, Froberger shifts gears, moving from a steady 4/4 into a flowing 12/8, before returning to 4/4 to frame the piece with symmetry and intention. Early organs offered limited pedalboards and modest registration options, so composers relied on rhythm, harmony, and the interplay of musical lines to create colour.

## Liturgical Ministers

Presider and Preacher	The Rt Rev. Riscylla Shaw
MC	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Organist	Julie Deck
Cantor	Alex Meinhardt
Soloist	Robyn Hawthorne
Greeters	Marian Olson and John Perkins
Readers	Colin Walsh and Angela Slater
Intercessor	Andrew Vreugdenhil
Sacrist	Caelan McMurray
Crucifer	Elijah van Slageren
Server	Owen van Slageren
Bishop's Chaplain	Colin Walsh
Chalice Administrators	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith and Leslie Sherman
Chancel Guild	Ellen Seddon and Leslie Sherman
A/V	Matt Grandy
Refreshments Hosts	Pat Passmore and Marian Olson

### 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-authorised giving program for monthly donations that are debited from your bank account or we accept e-transfers to [office@stjohnspeterborough.ca](mailto:office@stjohnspeterborough.ca). Please visit [www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/donate](http://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.