



The Feast of St John the Evangelist celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Founding of the Parish

May 3rd, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

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

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.



THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

We gather in this place acknowledging 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	“Festive Variations” Processional Short Fanfare #1	Michael Helman; Cantabile Ringers William Mathias Eric H. Thiman
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The Congregation stands for the hymn.

Hymn	283—For All Your Saints Still Striving (<i>with v. 2H</i>)	Thornbury
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Introit	“Alleluia for a Festival” <i>Alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life. Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. Alleluia.</i> (John 14:5)	David Hurd
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The Greeting

<i>Presider</i>	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
<i>People</i>	The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

<i>Presider</i>	May his grace and peace be with you.
<i>People</i>	May he fill our hearts with joy.

Collect for Purity

Presider Almighty God,
All to you all hearts are open,
all desires known
and from you no secrets are hidden,
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Hymn 702

Refrain

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

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

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

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

The Collect for the Feast of St John the Evangelist

Presider Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light: that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may walk in the light of your truth, and come at last to the fullness of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The 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 1:1-5, 12-19

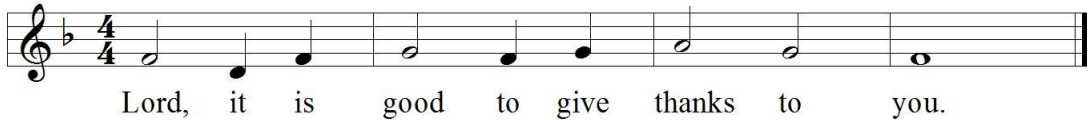
Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All **Thanks be to God.**

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



It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season. **R**

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God; **R**

They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent. That they may show how upright the Lord is, my Rock, in whom there is no fault. **R**

Second Reading

1 John 1:1-9

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation stands.

Hymn 3—Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

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

John 20:1-8

Presider

May God be with you.

People

And also with you.

Presider

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

People

Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.

Presider

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed.

People

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

The Congregation sits.

The Sermon

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

The Nicene Creed

Presider

Let us confess our faith as we say,

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

A sign of peace is shared with members of the assembly or household.

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 worshipping online, please consider making your offering through one of the means available at www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/donate.

Hymn 656—She Comes Sailing on the Wind

She Flies On

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of grace, you have freed us from our sins and made us a kingdom in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in the new life you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hea - ven and earth of your glo - ry are full. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. high - est. Ho-
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider

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

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

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

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

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, St John the Evangelist, St Barnabas the Apostle, the apostles and prophets, and of all our beloved ones living and departed. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

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,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider Lord, we died with you on the cross.

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

Presider We were buried in your tomb.

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

Presider Live in us that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Presider Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now. In this Eucharist, many are made one.

Fraction Anthem

49 v.1,2

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

The Congregation sits.

Communion

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

Hymn: 76—Thee We Adore, O Hidden Saviour, Thee

Adoro Te

Anthem “If We Walk in the Light”

Robert Grandy

If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another. 1 John 1:7

COMMISSIONING AND SENDING

Announcements

A Time for Celebration and Thanksgiving

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

Once all have been named, the Congregation stands as 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

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

Praise God for John, Evangelist

Kingsfold

**Praise God for John, Evangelist, who bore the Spirit's sword,
Whose words reflect, like eagle's wings, the glory of our Lord.
Your brightness, O eternal Word, Apostle John unfurled,
The fullness of your grace and truth for us and all the world.**

**Your great "I Am's" Saint John records, sings of your grace divine:
"I am the way, the truth, the life; the light; the living vine;
Your soul's true bread; thirst-quenching stream, all these I am and more;
The faithful shepherd of the flock, the sheep-fold's only door."**

**O word made flesh, your deeds and words refresh our hearts like dew.
Our thanks we raise that all John wrote bears witness, Lord, to you.
We praise you that John's voice still lives your glory to proclaim
Whereby your Spirit gives us life, the faith to bear your name.**

Dismissal

Presider

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



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



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

Postlude

Toccata Viva

Lani Smith

Today's Music

Prelude: Our Cantabile Ringers open this our Patronal Feast Day with “**Festive Variations**” by American composer **Michael Helman** (b.1956). Currently Director of Music/Organist at Faith Presbyterian Church in Cape Coral, Florida, he directs the adult vocal choirs, conducts a graded handbell program for children through adults, and coordinates the church's Concert Series. He is an active composer of handbell, organ, and choral music with well over 140 pieces in print. Michael has also won nine composition contests including the 1997, 1998, and 2000 AGEHR National Composition Contests. Helman is in demand as a handbell festival director and clinician all over the states. His “Festive Variations” begins with an original theme followed by five variations that employ numerous ringing techniques including ring touch, echo, martellato, as well as a whole variation played by mallets. Changing moods and meters add to the interest to the piece. On the organ you will hear “**Processional**” by Welsh composer **William Mathias** (1934-1992). This piece is a cheerful march, with the opening section recurring several times. The harmony sounds old to begin with but moves from this deliberately archaic sound to more modern colours, building to a triumphant conclusion. Mathias is well-known as a choral composer. He was a child prodigy – playing the piano at three and composing at the age of five! Before the Opening Hymn, you will hear a short “**Fanfare**” by British composer **Eric H. Thiman** (1900-1975). A prolific composer with roughly 1,300 published works, he was mainly self-taught and wrote almost all his music for amateur organists and choirs.

Introit: Using a short text from John 14:5, American composer **David Hurd** (b. 1950) wrote a triumphant sounding short anthem, commissioned by St. Philips Church, Jackson, Mississippi, for the induction service of the Rev. Dr. Colton Smith as rector. Originally scored for brass and choir, today's rendition uses reed stops on the organ in place of the brass quartet. Shouts of Alleluia open and close the work, while the middle section features the familiar “I am the way...” text from John. Hurd is also a concert organist and music educator, and has served as Organist at many New York City churches. He is currently Director of Music at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Times Square.

Anthem: My short anthem “**If We Walk in the Light**” was also written for an induction – this one, the induction of Fr. Tom Little to St. Mark's Church, Port Hope in February of 1996. Thirty years later, it is being sung on our Patronal Festival – having words from 1 John 1:7. – a favourite text of Fr. Little's. Two-part writing opens the work, with alto and bass voices echoing the opening soprano and tenor lines. A short polyphonic section ensures, followed by a repeat of the first section, ending with a glorious statement of “the light”.

Postlude: Today's service concludes with a rousing finale – **Toccata Viva** by **Lani Smith** (1934-2015), an American organist best known for his church music compositions. He served as an editor, composer, and arranger on the Lorenz Publishing editorial staff between 1967 and 1982. During this time, he received composing and arranging credits for over 1000 works. Smith was such a prolific composer/arranger that he published under at least seven names: his own, plus the pseudonyms Tom Birchwood, Edward Broughton, Christopher Gale, David Paxton, Gerald Peterson, and Franklin Ritter. As in many toccatas for the organ, this one features rapid manual passages over a strong melody in the pedals. A quiet middle section ensues with no pedals. This builds to a return of the opening music and a strong ending.

Liturgical Ministers

Presider	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Preacher	The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Organist	Robert Grandy
Greeters	Matthew Harvey and Joelle Kovach
Cantor	Robyn Hawthorne
Readers	Angela Slater and Brenda Whiteman
Intercessor	Andrew Vreugdenhil
Sacrist	Ian Storey
Crucifer	
Server	Lucas Rumble
High Altar Chalice Administrators	Ian Storey and Ellen Seddon
Lady Chapel Bread Administrator	The Rev. Keith Dobyns
Lady Chapel Chalice Administrator	Brenda Whiteman
Chancel	Betty Hinton, Trisha Black and Sandy Hoult
Refreshments Hosts	Mary and Walter Howell
A/V Tech	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.