



CHURCH OF
ST JOHN
THE EVANGELIST
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO

The First Sunday of Advent
November 29th, 2020—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, 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

Prelude

Medley of Carols on cello and piano by George Hamilton and Julie Deck

The Congregation stands as the Procession enters approaches the altar.

Land Acknowledgement

Presider 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.

The Greeting

Presider From the One who is and who was and who is to come, grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Dear ones, we enter today the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ. Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

A Penitential Act

Presider When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

All Lord, have mercy on your people.
For we have sinned against you.

Presider Lord, show us your mercy.
All **And grant us your salvation.**

Presider Lord, let your love be upon us.
All **For we place all our trust in you.**

Presider May Christ who came among us forgive our sins.
May Christ who is with us always heal what is broken in us.
May Christ who is to come in glory do justice for us and save us, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Collect of the Day

Presider O God of all the ages, rouse us from sleep, deliver us from our heedless ways and form us into a watchful people, so that, at the advent of your Son, we may be found doing what is right, mindful of all your command. We ask this through him whose coming is certain and whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.
All **Amen.**

The Congregation sits at the conclusion of the prayer.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Reader A reading from the Book of Isaiah

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Leader and Congregation read the Psalm responsively by verse.

- Leader* Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- People* **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, ***
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- Leader* Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- People* **O LORD God of hosts, ***
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- Leader* You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- People* **You have made us the derision of our neighbours, ***
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- Leader* Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- People* **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, ***
and son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- Leader* And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- People* **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Gospel

Gospeller May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospeller Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

The Congregation sits for the sermon. A silence for reflection follows the sermon. If you missed part of the sermon or would like to listen to it again, it will be posted on our website in the Worship section.

Please stand when the Presider stands.

Affirmation of Faith

Presider We say together in faith

All **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.**

Presider We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

All **for by his will they were created and have their being.**

Presider We believe in God the Son, who was slain:
All **for with his blood, he purchased us for God, from every tribe and language, from every people and nation.**

Presider We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
All **the Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come!’ Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

*The Prayers of the People are offered by members of the congregation.
They reflect the needs and concerns of the local church and community,
and of people in various kinds of need, sickness, or adversity throughout the world.*

Sharing of the Peace

Presider In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. The peace of Christ be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

The Peace is exchanged with words alone as a symbol of our reconciliation with our neighbour before approaching the altar. Please do not shake hands or move from your place.

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.

Offertory Music

Wait for the Lord, Whose Day Is Near; Taizé

The Congregation may sit during the Offertory and stand when the Presider indicates.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and 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 Creator.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. Out of nothing, you called all worlds to be, and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment. Dawn and evening celebrate your glory till time shall be no more.

In Christ your Son the life of heaven and earth were joined, sealing the promise of a new creation, given, yet still to come. Taught by your Spirit, we who bear your threefold likeness look for the City of Peace in whose light we are transfigured and the earth transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose who await the coming of your Son, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father. In Jesus you showed us yourself. Our hope is built on him, the first, the last, the living one. Obedient, even to accepting death, he opened the gate of glory and calls us now to share the life of heaven.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, alight with the vision of a feast that heralded a kingdom yet to come, 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."

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them 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, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our beloved ones living and departed. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **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.

Communion

Jesus is the Host who invites us to share his Table. All those who are baptised in any tradition are welcome to receive Communion. For those present in person, please come forward to receive as follows: those sitting on the outside Epistle side (in front of the lectern) aisle will go first, then those sitting on the centre aisle, and finally those on the outside Gospel side (in front of the pulpit) aisle. All who wish to receive Communion will make their way to the back of the church, then proceed up the centre aisle to the front, observing distancing as indicated by the white lines on the floor. Each communicant must stop on the first red mark to hear and respond to the words of administration, then proceed to the Chancel step to receive the Host in the palm of the hand. After receiving the Host, communicants will proceed to either of the stations to the left and right of the Chancel step, remove the mask, consume the Host, replace the mask, and sanitise hands, then return to their seat down the side aisles. Communion will be brought to those who are unable to come forward.

For those who are present in spirit, the following prayer may be said to make a spiritual Communion.

I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, present in bread and wine, and present in your people, who are gathered in spirit. In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart, and in our community. May you, enthroned on the altar, be now enthroned in my heart; may you, present in bread and wine, feed and renew my soul; may you, who give yourself to us again, fill us with grace and heavenly blessing. Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you and for your reign of justice and peace increase, that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day when your kingdom shall come on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

Music during Communion

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending
Sung by Alex Meinhardt

COMMISSIONING AND SENDING

Announcements

*Please stand at the conclusion of the announcements.
Having been fed with the spiritual food of our Lord,
we now prepare to be sent into the world to share the light and life of God.*

Prayer after Communion

Presider Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’

All With love and compassion,
come, Lord Jesus.

Presider With judgement and mercy,
All **come, Lord Jesus.**

Presider In power and glory,
All **come, Lord Jesus.**

Presider In wisdom and truth,
All **come, Lord Jesus.**

Blessing

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

Dismissal

Presider As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Postlude

Russian Dance; P. Tchaikovsky

The Coffee Hour will be online from 11:00 to noon at www.stjohnspeterborough.ca/coffee

The Sunday Reflections on the Readings group can be joined through the coffee link and will start at 11:15.

Liturgical Ministers

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Presider | The Rev. Canon Brad Smith |
| Preacher | The Rev. Canon Brad Smith |
| Organist | Julie Deck |
| Chimes | John Earnshaw |
| Server | Rachel Bulgin |
| Reader | John Earnshaw |
| Intercessor | Ellen Seddon |
| Greeters & Sidespeople | Carol Koeslag & John Balfour |

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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. Terry Noble
Associate Priest

The Rev. Ruth Adams
The Rev. Mary Bell-Plouffe
The Rev. Steve Smith
Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Christian Harvey
The Rev. Bev Thompson
Deacons

Ms. Julie Deck
Director of Music

Director of Family Ministries

Ms. Jennifer Passmore
Mr. Jim Weldon
Churchwardens

Mrs. Mickey Bongers
Deputy Churchwarden

stjohnspeterborough.ca

www.facebook.com/
StJohnsPtbo

Welcome!

COVID-19 Protocols

Please see the Pandemic Protocols for the Amber Stage poster highlighting precautions to be taken for in-person worship.

Children's Ministry

We welcome children and youth. They are welcome to 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. At this time, due to restrictions around COVID-19, we are unable to offer nursery services or the Sunday School. Families are most welcome to bring colouring sheets, toys, and snacks for their children if they wish.

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

Please do take the time to complete a visitor's card, which can be found in the pocket at the aisle end of your pew. We would love the opportunity to stay in touch with you.

Assistive Hearing Devices

If you are hard of hearing, headsets to assist you to hear the service are available. Please ask a Greeter or Sidesperson (usher) to assist you in finding and operating a headset.

Accessibility

The facility is entirely accessible through the Brock St entrance. There are three accessible parking spots in the upper lot off Brock St. The church is level with the Brock St entrance and all other levels of the facility are accessible via elevator.

Washrooms/Change Table

Fully accessible washrooms are located down the hall to the right as you enter the lobby from Brock St. 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.