



The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost October 25th, 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 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 Trio and Chorale on Psalm 90
Meditation on the Hymn-Tune “Primrose”

Martin Ellis
F.R.C. Clarke

The Congregation stands as the hymn begins.

Hymn 347 – The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

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.

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy.

Lord, _____ have mer-cy. Lord, _____ have mer-cy.

Collect of the Day

Presider Your love, O God, is boundless. We who were strangers have been made your children; we who were defenceless have been brought into your household. Keep us mindful of your mercy, so that we may love you with our whole heart and love our neighbour as ourselves. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Congregation sits.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Bethpeor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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).



Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God. **R**

You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth." For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night. **R**

You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass. In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered. **R**

Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? be gracious to your servants. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life. R

Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us and the years in which we suffered adversity. Show your servants your works and your splendour to their children.

R

May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork. **R**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

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

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Congregation stands.

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



Gospel

Matthew 22:34-46

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

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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 and the Baptismal Covenant

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

Confession and Absolution

Presider Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming sinners and inviting them to the table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.
Silence

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 Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

Please turn to the people around you and exchange a sign of God's peace.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

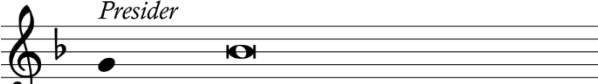
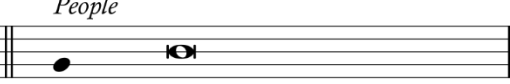
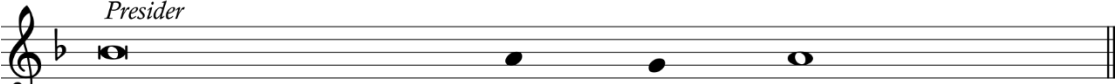
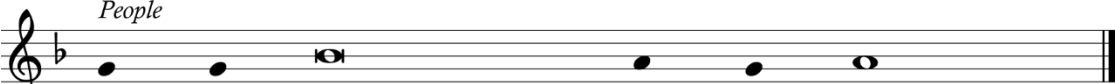
At the Offertory, gifts of bread and wine, signs of the fruit of human labour, are brought to the altar to be transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, signs of God's love for the world. The money offering, a sign of our gratitude for God's blessing of our lives, collected before the liturgy, is blessed.

Hymn 494 – Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels Comfort

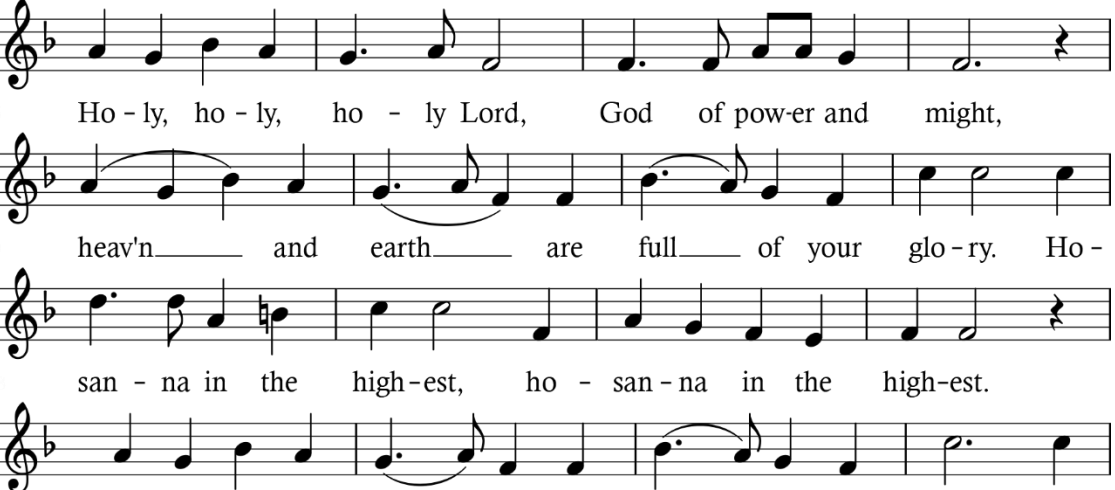
Prayer over the Gifts

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

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



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

4

Breaking of the Bread

Presider Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

All **So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

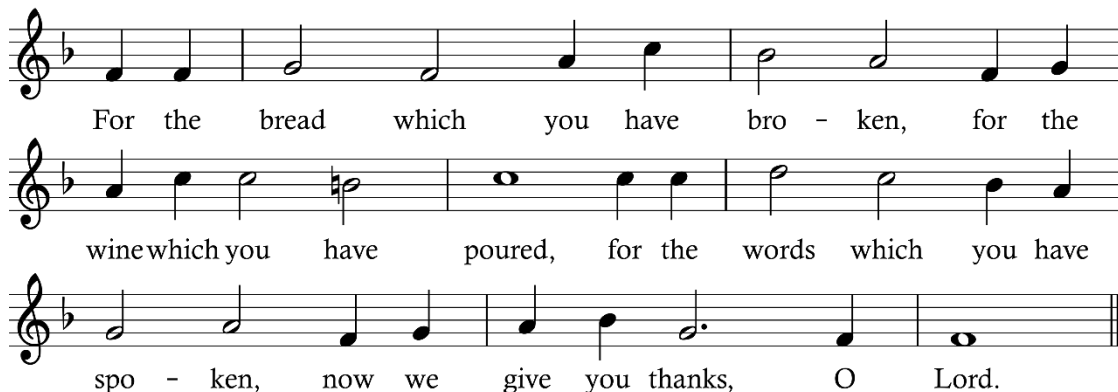
Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

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

74



The Congregation sits.

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 Presider.

Hymn: 507 – Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Dennis

Anthem “You Stand Above Time”

Charles McCartha

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 379 – Rejoice, the Lord is King

Darwall

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 Voluntary on Psalm 90:7

Lester Groom

TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDE: Psalm 90, today's appointed psalm, was the inspiration for a sprightly *Trio and Chorale on Psalm 90* by American composer Martin Ellis (b. 1967). Luther's famous hymn, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" is also based on Psalm 90, and Ellis uses the tune in this work. It opens with a dance-like figure in the right hand, with the tune coming in later on strong principal stops. The chorale that follows is set for soft strings and flutes. The sprightly trio returns to conclude the work.

The *Meditation on the Hymn-tune "Primrose"*, by Canadian composer F.R.C. Clarke (1931-2009) is an expressive piece for the strings and reed stops of the organ. "Primrose" is a tune from the Southern United States. This morning we will be singing this tune to the words "Where charity and love prevail" (CP 487). In this piece, Clarke uses the tune in canon fashion, like a round.

ANTHEM: "You Stand Above Time" is a contemporary anthem by **Charles McCartha** with a text by Julie Myers, based on 2 Peter 3:8-9. In his letter to churches, Peter wrote that false teachers were scoffing at the promise of Christ's coming again to judge the world. Christ's return seems delayed because God's perspective of time is radically different than ours. "With the Lord, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like a day." (2 Peter 3:8). In today's psalm, the verse that reads "For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night" reminded me of this anthem. Charles McCartha is Director of Music Ministries at the First United Methodist Church of Tallassee, Alabama, where he has served since 1993. Throughout his career in music, he has enjoyed composing and arranging a variety of styles of music, both sacred and secular. My former Trinity United Church Chancel Choir gave the Canadian premiere of this anthem on Sunday December 7th, 2014.

POSTLUDE: One final interpretation of Psalm 90 today from the pen of American composer Lester Groom (1929-2000). He was inspired by the seventh verse which reads "We are consumed by Thine anger, and by Thy wrath are we troubled." A strong theme is presented at the beginning of the piece which is heard several times in the work. A slower and softer middle section, in a hymn-like style draws the listener in. The strong opening section then reappears and concludes the work.

Liturgical Ministers

Presider and Preacher
Organist
Tower Chimes
Cantors
Greeters
Readers
Intercessor
Sacrist
Crucifer
Server
Chalice Administrators
Chancel
Refreshments Hosts
A/V

The Rev. Canon Brad Smith
Robert Grandy
Christopher McDonald
Cassie Henderson and Lucas Paradis
Mickey Bongers and Mary Ann Hall
AJ Trossman and Annette Skujins
Ernie Skujins
Ian Storey
Lucas Rumble
Bobby Kelly
Ernie Skujins and Ian Storey
Betty Hinton, Trisha Black and Sandy Hoult
No volunteers scheduled
Walter Howell

*The flowers in the Church are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Wayne Smart
from Brenda and family*

Acknowledgements

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To the right are some commonly
hesitate to ask one of the greeters



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 Armour Room 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.