



Evensong—The Feast of St Francis of Assisi October 5th, 2025—4:00 p.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



Preludes	Three St Francis Legends 1. St Francis Divests Himself of All Worldly Wealth 2. St Francis and the Sermon to the Birds 3. St Francis and the wolf of Gubbio “Aubade” from <i>Diptych for New Life</i> (“Brother Sun, who brings the day...”)	Carson Cooman Carson Cooman
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All stand for the hymn.

Hymn	Make Me A Channel of Your Peace	Channel of Peace
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**Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.**

Refrain: **O Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace:
where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there’s sadness, ever joy. *Refrain***

**Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.**

The Sentence

<i>Officiant</i>	May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.	<i>Galatians 6.14</i>
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Preces and Responses

<i>Officiant</i>	O Lord, open thou our lips;
<i>People</i>	And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
<i>Officiant</i>	O God, make speed to save us;
<i>People</i>	O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
People **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Officiant Praise ye the Lord;
People **The Lord's Name be praised.**

The Congregation sits; the Choir remains standing.

Psalm 148; W. Parratt

Choir O praise the LORD from the heavens: / praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all ye angels of his: / praise him, all his host.
Praise him, sun and moon: / praise him, all ye stars of light.
Praise him, all ye heavens, / and ye waters that are above the heavens.
Let them praise the Name of the LORD; / for he commanded and they were created.
He hath made them fast for ever and ever: /
 he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.
Praise the LORD from the earth, / ye dragons and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and vapour, / wind and storm, fulfilling his word;
Mountains and all hills; / fruitful trees and all cedars;
Beasts and all cattle; / creeping things and feathered fowls;
Kings of the earth, and all peoples; / princes and all judges of the world;
Young men and maidens together; / old men and children;
Let them praise the Name of the LORD; /
 for his Name only is excellent, and his glory above heaven and earth.
He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him: /
 even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

First Lesson Galatians 6:14-18

Reader The First Lesson is written in the Epistle of St Paul to the Galatians, in the sixth chapter, beginning at the fourteenth verse.

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

The Congregation stands.

Magnificat

George Dyson in C Minor

Choir My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel;
As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Congregation sits.

Second Lesson

Matthew 11:25-30

Reader The Second Lesson is written in the Gospel according to St Matthew, in the eleventh chapter, beginning at the twenty-fifth verse.

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

The Congregation stands.

Nunc Dimittis

George Dyson in C Minor

Choir Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant I believe in God,
All **the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church;
the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

The Kyrie and Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The Congregation sits.

Officiant Lord, have mercy upon us.
All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Officiant Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,**
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Suffrages

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
People **And grant us thy salvation.**

Officiant O Lord, save the King;
People **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
People **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Officiant O Lord, save thy people;
People **And bless thine inheritance.**

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord;
People **And evermore mightily defend us.**

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us;
People **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

The Collect of the Day

Officiant Grant us, Almighty God, after the example of thy holy servant Francis, to do what thou wouldst have us do, and always to desire what is pleasing in thy sight; that, cleansed by thy love, enlightened by thy truth, and kindled with the fire of thy Holy Spirit, we may follow in the footsteps of thy beloved Son and make our way to thee, O God Most High; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for the Parish Bicentennial

Officiant God of life and love, who didst put into the hearts of our ancestors in faith the building of a church in this place: we give thee thanks and praise for thy 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 thy kingdom. In our bicentennial year, renew in us our zeal for thy 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 thy love to all who see it. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

All **Amen.**

The Second Collect, for Peace

Officiant O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils

Officiant Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Anthem "Prayer of St Francis" Peter A. Togni
Choir *Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
 where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, put faith; where there is despair, hope;
 where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.
 Oh, divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
 to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love.
 It is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
 it is in dying, that we are born to eternal life.* (Text attributed to St. Francis of Assisi)

Prayers

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom

Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that where two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this work knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

All **Amen.**

The Grace

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

The Congregation stands.

Hymn Creating God, Your Fingers Trace Creation

**Creating God, your fingers trace
 the bold designs of farthest space;
 let sun and moon and stars and light
 and what lies hidden praise your might.**

**Sustaining God, your hands uphold
 earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
 let waters fragile blend with air,
 enabling life, proclaim your care.**

**Redeeming God, your arms embrace
 all now despised for creed or race;
 let peace, descending like a dove,
 make known on earth your healing love.**

**Indwelling God, your gospel claims
one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace
until we praise you face to face.**

Postlude “Toccata” from *Dptych for New Life*
 (“He is beautiful and radiant in all his splendour!”)

Carson Cooman

Acknowledgements

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TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDE: This afternoon we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone (c. 1181 – 3 October 1226), and known as Francis of Assisi, he was an Italian mystic, poet and Catholic friar who founded the religious order of the Franciscans. Inspired to lead a Christian life of poverty, he became a beggar and an itinerant preacher. One of the most venerated figures in Christianity, Francis was canonized by Pope Gregory IX on 16 July 1228. He is commonly portrayed wearing a brown habit with a rope tied around his waist, featuring three knots symbolizing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

American composer and organist-recitalist **Carson Cooman** (b. 1982) wrote a collection of works in 2017 entitled the “St. Francis Organbook”. This afternoon you will hear five of the seven pieces, beginning with his “Three St. Francis Legends”. These three pieces were inspired by stories about St. Francis found in the *Fioretti di San Francesco* (little Flowers of St. Francis), a classic collection of popular legends about the life of Francis of Assisi and his early companions.

Cooman’s first musical legend is entitled *St. Francis Divests Himself of All Worldly Wealth*. Francis was born into a prosperous merchant family. However a serious illness led him to a spiritual crisis that caused him to divest himself of all of his possessions and to live a life of poverty. Cooman sets this legend using an original “Chorale” or hymn-tune. The “hymn” is played five times, each time gradually divesting itself of rich harmony and volume, concluding simply and quietly

The second, entitled *St. Francis and the Sermon to the Birds*, describes when Francis came across a flock of birds who did not fly away as he approached them. He then preached a sermon to them, blessed them, and they flew away. Here Cooman used a “Passacaglia”, which is a work having usually a repeating bass line. The steady exhorting words of St. Francis are illustrated by the long held chords. The songs of the birds are illustrated by higher-pitched stops on the organ, the birds flying upward and away at the end.

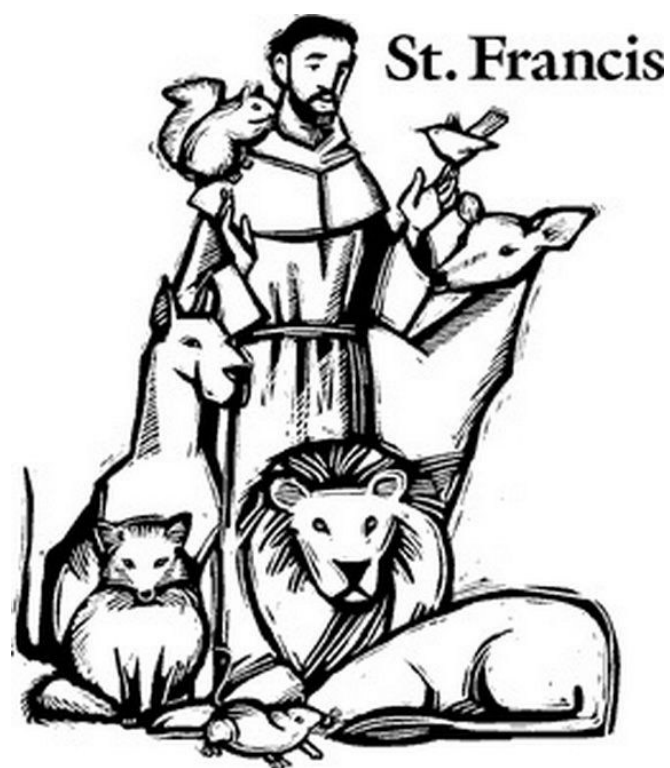
The third legend is entitled *St. Francis and the Wolf of Gubbio*. A fierce wolf was terrorizing the villagers and livestock of Gubbio, Italy. Eventually the villagers had to remain inside the town’s walls. Francis met the wolf, commanded it to cease its attacks and made a pact with it that if it stopped terrorizing the town, Francis would see that it was fed. When the wolf eventually died, the story says that the people of Gubbio built the Church of St. Francis of the Peace on the site of the wolf’s grave. Cooman uses a “Rondino” form, where the wolf’s strong and rhythmically jagged music alternates with Francis’ calm discussions. In the final section, the wolf’s music has been transformed from minor to major, and Gubbio’s bells ring out in the last several bars.

The Canticle of the Sun, also known as Canticle of the Creatures and Laudes Creaturarum (Praise of the Creatures), is a religious song composed by Saint Francis. It was written in an Umbrian dialect of Italian but has since been translated into many languages. It is believed to be the first work of literature written in the Italian language with a known author. Cooman wrote a *Diptych for New Life*, inspired from lines about the sun in the song. The two sections of the Diptych are both

optimistic in their emotional state and they share musical material. The manners of expression however are contrasting. The quote “Brother Sun, who brings the day” is an “Aubade”, a song of the dawn, gentle and lyrical: the coming of the new day. (See the **Postlude** paragraph for a description of the second movement)

ANTHEM: Canadian composer, organist, recitalist and radio broadcaster **Peter Togni** (b. 1959) set the famous prayer of St. Francis for three-part choir and keyboard. The lovely melody and flowing accompaniment provide the perfect marriage for the text. Togni is the son of the late cathedral organist Victor Togni. For over twenty years, Togni has also been a broadcaster, hosting radio programs for CBC Radio 2, including *That Time of the Night*, *Stereo Morning*, *Weekender* and *Choral Concert*. He currently resides in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

POSTLUDE: The second part of Cooman’s “Diptych was inspired by the quote, “He is beautiful and radiant in all his splendour.” Here Cooman uses the well-known organ “Toccata” form. The music is fast, exciting and joyous: the brightness of mid-day.



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

Mr. Colin Walsh
Dr. Andrew Vreugdenhil
Churchwardens

Deputy Churchwarden

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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 \$20 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.