

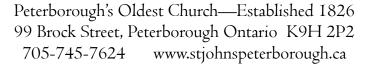
# The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Pride Sunday September 28th, 2025—10:00 a.m.

# 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.









# 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 Concerto Grosso, Op. 6, #8

Arcangelo Corelli

The Congregation stands as the hymn begins.

**Hymn** All the Colours of the Rainbow

Abbot's Leigh

All the colours of the rainbow live unseen in daily light, but their splendours find expression when released to human sight; so the church reveals most beauty where diversity is real: breadth of race and class and gender, room for doubt and space to heal.

All the body's parts are wanted, nor can one despise the rest: head and hand must work together, as must eye and ear and chest; so the church needs all its members for a range of ministries: varied gifts with one great mission, "Do this for the least of these."

Every language gains more music when the words for peace appear: Pax, Salaam, Eirini, Heiwa, Pace, Santi, Frieden, Mir. Though our tongues make sounds that vary all bespeak a common home: longing for the end of conflict and a new life in God's Shalom.

Teach us, God, our need of others; through them help us fully live. Wean us from our selfish habits; let us listen, learn, forgive. May we see your longed-for image in each human heart and face, and behold how those around us can be channels of your grace.

# The Greeting

All

Presider Let us bless our Creator who calls us by name.

People Thanks be to God.

Presider We are the Body of Christ. Baptized in one Spirit; we are members of one body.

Many are varied in gender, colour, sexuality, age, class, and ability,

we are members of Christ's beautiful Body.

Priest None of us can say to another, "I have no need of you."

All For only together can we find wholeness.

Priest None of us can say to another, "I will not care for you."

All For we are connected like muscle and bone.

If one suffers, we all suffer. If one rejoices, we all rejoice.

Priest Thanks be to God, who in Christ has made us one.

All Let us worship God. Alleluia!

## Collect of the Day

Presider

God, when you called each of us into being, you delighted in your works. You gifted us with differences that illuminate the breadth of beauty, wisdom, and practices of love in your creation. In whatever ways we still struggle to accept and celebrate our own unique offerings, free us from narrow thinking that confines, constrains, or condemns your good work in us. This we ask in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

## Collect for the Parish Bicentennial

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

Song of Solomon 2:8-17

Reader A reading from the Song of Solomon.

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain

is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away. O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the covert of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely. Catch us the foxes, the little foxes, that ruin the vineyards—for our vineyards are in blossom.' My beloved is mine and I am his; he pastures his flock among the lilies. Until the day breathes and the shadows flee, turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle or a young stag on the cleft mountains.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

**Psalm** 91:1-6,14-16 *The Cantor sings the verses. The Congregation joins in the Refrain (R).* 



He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, abides under the shadow of the Almighty. He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."  $\bf R$ 

He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter and from the deadly pestilence. He shall cover you with his pinions, and you shall find refuge under his wings; his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler. **R** 

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day; Of the plague that stalks in the darkness, nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day. **R** 

Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my Name.  ${\bf R}$ 

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honour. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation. **R** 

Second Reading Ephesians 3:16-19

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

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth

and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Congregation stands.

**Hymn** God Loves Us In Mysterious Ways

Dundee

God loves us in mysterious ways beyond all sin or shame; rich blessings for our weary days as love dares speak its name.

More light and truth have yet to break from God's eternal Word; sure-hearted and with hope we take new leaps of faith unblurred.

We take a chance on God, and fall to higher depths of love; in faith and flesh we heed God's call to open doors above.

Bind up the wounds of shun and stray for prodigals new found and set us on our homeward way unbullied and unbound.

"Come forth!" from deep, confining tombs of gender, class, and race engendered here: wide open rooms that offer pride of place.

A place where friends are swell and true and lives and loves increased; till all who come are welcomed to the Lamb's own marriage feast.

Gospel Acclamation (sung before and after the Gospel)



Gospel

Luke 4:16-21

Deacon

May God be with you.

People And also with you.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.

Deacon

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

The Gospel of Christ.

People 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**

Presider Let us affirm our faith and renew our baptismal covenant.

All We believe in God, who created, and who still creates.

We believe that every person is God-made and God-blessed.

We believe that all races, all genders, all sexual orientations, all people reflect the creativity and goodness of God.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only child, the redeemer of the world.

We believe that through the Virgin Mary God became human.

We believe that, on earth, the Almighty experienced

human pain and suffering, death and burial, rising on the third day.

We believe that God destroyed the power of death and revealed the eternity of love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the sustainer of life.

We believe that she stays with us to bring comfort, hope, and healing.

We believe in the community of the faithful:

imperfect, holy, Spirit-led, and Spirit-loved.

We believe in God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

God who loves us all. Amen.

## The Prayers of the Community

## **Confession and Absolution**

*Presider* God is love. Whoever does not love does not know God.

Let us confess our failures of love and ask God to heal us. Silence

Loving God,

All who made us in your image:

where we have failed to see your goodness

in ourselves, one another, and the world around us,

forgive us and restore our sight.

Heal our hearts and minds

that we may love and be loved as your beloved children

now and forever more. Amen.

The Presider pronounces the absolution, to which all answer, "Amen."

#### The Peace

*Presider* 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.

# **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

**Hymn** Let Us Build A House Where Love Can Dwell

All Are Welcome

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet. here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space, as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

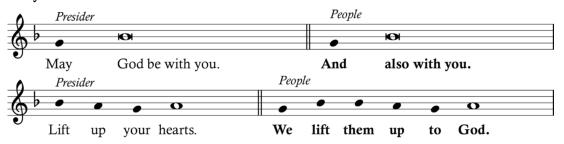
## Prayer over the Gifts

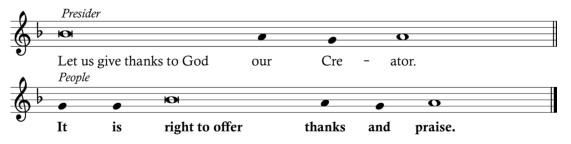
Presider

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.

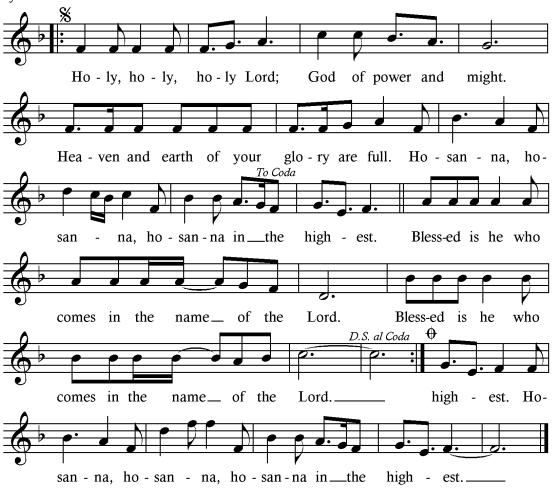
## **Eucharistic Prayer**





Presider

O Holy God of wonder, you created light that shines with the splendour of your glory. Through Noah you made your promise to love all humanity no matter what by revealing the breadth of your compassion in all the colours of the rainbow. Therefore, in union with all you have created under heaven, we raise our voices in this unending hymn:



Presider

Holy One, through your people you revealed your will that loving you alone leads us to love our neighbours. When your people were rejected and neglected you sent prophets to call them back to you and to welcome all at tables where bread, wine, and friendship were blessed. In Jesus of Nazareth, you embraced all persons in their human dignity, and you forgave us for our failure to see your image in all genders, all sexualities, and in the beautiful diversity in which you fashioned us. Through your beloved and chosen One you suffered in solidarity with the rejected, and you inspire us, in this moment, to celebrate love in all its wonderful forms, filling us with pride and gratitude for being born as we are, and for being made new in your endless grace.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me." As we are made one body in you, so we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Presider

All

All

Send now your life-giving Spirit upon this gathering of queer and straight, wondering and wonderful. Shine in us and reveal the arc of your love in the colours of our varied lives. Sanctify this bread and wine so that, as we are blessed in Christ here and now, we may have the courage and strength to reach out to those feeling unloved, to advocate for those still facing rejection and to seek justice, reconciliation, and healing for all. Unite us at this table of grace, so that each of us knows that we are cherished by you, and called to love each of your beloved. God of diversity, receive our offering as Jesus received each of us, with gratitude and joy. Feed us with hope that we may continue our journey of loving whom we love and seeking your justice until all creation shines with your praise. Creator of all, we pray to you through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All Amen.

# A Paraphrase of The Lord's Prayer

Presider Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.

Amen.

## Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

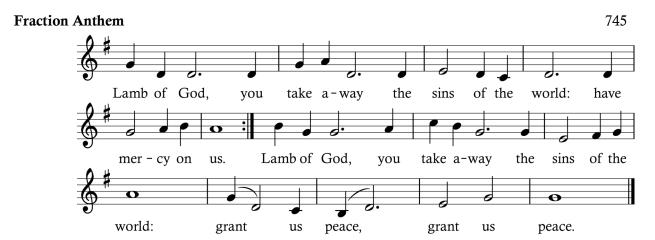
All We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

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.



The Congregation sits.

## Communion

For those who are present in person, all baptised persons may receive Communion. Please come forward via the centre aisle to take a place along the front of the Chancel step to receive in one or both kinds 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.

God of many faces, we offer our praise, singing your glory through all of our days. Hear ever growing voices, once fragile, now strong, carrying melodies in expansive new songs.

God of many genders, our world reflects you, sunrise and sunset uniting our hues, woven into a city with jewels of all shades, houses of ruby and walls rowed with jade.

God of many names, we invite you to show us the new names that reflect our true souls. Breathe with your Holy Spirit to give us the Word that will in-dwell dry bones, granting new life once heard.

God of many bodies, abide within ours, shifting more each day through time and through scars. Come sanctify our bodies, all fashioned by you, holier every day, still becoming more true.

#### Anthem

"There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

Maurice Bevan

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in His justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement giv'n. For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderful kind. But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he will not own. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss. If our love were but more simple, we should take Him at His word; and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Words: F. W Faber

# **COMMISSIONING AND SENDING**

#### Announcements

The Congregation stands at the invitation of the Presider.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Presider All All your works praise you, O Lord, 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** The Love That Goes Unspoken

Aurelia

The love that goes unspoken, that fears would force to hide, still blooms in closet spaces, too strong to be denied. The Spirit's wind blows freely to open bolted doors, and beckon into daylight a love that hate deplores.

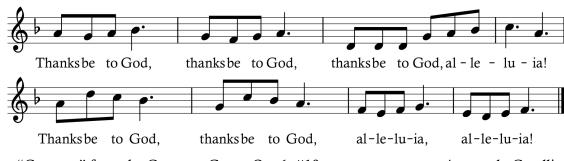
As poets and musicians, in Pietàs of grace, the outcast of our churches cast light on Myst'ry's face. They translate for our witness the gifts the gospel brings, and celebrate God's grandeur in rare and dappled things.

In varied forms of fam'ly in unions yet unblessed, as sisters and as brothers and kin with earth's oppressed, all dwell within God's household, yet some bear insults hurled to chide the so-called "barren" whose children are the world's.

Christ loves without distinction, both joys and sorrows borne, and welcomes open-hearted the ones whom others scorn. We shall not, then, be shackled by needless guilt or shame. In Christ, the love unspoken now dares to speak its name.

## **Dismissal**

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



**Postlude** 

"Corrente" from the Concerto Gross, Op. 6, #10

Arcangelo Corelli

## **TODAY'S MUSIC**

**PRELUDE:** The great Italian Baroque composer Arcangelo Corelli is now thought by scholars to have been part of the LGBTQ+ community. Corelli (1653-1713) was never married and lived closely with many male friends throughout his life. He was a widely admired composer and violinist in his day, his trio sonatas and concerti grossi being imitated all over Europe. The concerto grosso is a form of baroque music in which the musical material is passed between a small group of soloists and full orchestra. Corelli composed a group of twelve Concerti Grossi, his Op. 6, probably in the 1680's but not prepared for publication until 1714. They are among the finest and first examples of concerti grossi. Today's organ arrangement was made by the Italian composer Luigi Rago (b. 1987). The full orchestra is represented by the fuller organ sound, while the small group of soloists are represented by softer flutes and string stops. Nicknamed the "Christmas Concerto", the work bears the inscription, "Fatto per la notte di Natale" ("made for the night of Christmas"). Its composition date is uncertain, but there is a record of Corelli having performed a Christmas concerto in 1690.

**ANTHEM:** The distinguished English baritone and composer Maurice Bevan (1921-2006) wrote an original tune to F.W. Faber's words "There's a wideness in God's mercy" as a hymn-tune in 1990. He later extended it into today's anthem version. Bevan was for more than 40 years, a member of the Deller Consort, a small a cappella choir, whose members prided themselves in their historically accurate interpretations of early music. Even though the words were written in the 1800's, the sentiment that God's love is "broader than the measure of man's mind" rings true today. The text also states that we have made God's love too narrow by our own impressions of what love should be – a seemingly fitting text for today's service.

**POSTLUDE:** "Corrente" is the Italian version of the French courante, a lively triple-meter dance from the late Renaissance and Baroque periods, known for its rapid tempo and small, running steps. While the French courante was more stately, the Italian corrente was a fast, energetic dance, often found as a movement in a Baroque dance suite. This "Corrente" is from Corelli's Concerto Grosso #10 in C Major, Op. 6. It is the fourth movement of a six-movement concerto grosso. Today's arrangement for solo organ was made by Arthur B. Plant, a Victorian-era British organist, known for his organ arrangements of orchestral and chamber works.

## **Liturgical Ministers**

Presider
Preacher
Deacon
Organist
Tower Chimes
Greeters
Readers
Cantor
Intercessor
Sacrist

Servers Chalice Administrators Chancel

Refreshments Hosts A/V

Crucifer

The Rev. Canon Brad Smith Lucas Paradis The Rev. Deb Wilson Robert Grandy Julie Deck Cathy Brunger and Alice Marshall Angela Slater and Lucas Paradis Alex Meinhardt Ellen Seddon The Rev. Deb Wilson Cathy Brunger Lucas Paradis and Lucas Rumble The Rev. Deb Wilson and Barb Smith Betty Hinton and Sandy Hoult Pat Passmore and Marian Olson Walter Howell

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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

The Rev. Deb Wilson Deacon

Mr. Robert Grandy Director of Music

Ms. Jennifer Passmore Dr. Andrew Vreugdenhil Churchwardens

Colin Walsh Deputy Churchwarden

stjohnspeterborough.ca

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Instagram @stjohnspeterborough

# 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.

# **Assistive Hearing Devices**

Headsets to assist you to hear the service are available. Please ask a Greeter or Sidesperson (usher) to bring you one.

## 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.