

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 19th, 2024 with Communion

Day of Pentecost

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Reader: **Francis LeBrun**

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us from wherever you are! In-person services of worship continue, with any public health protocols required in place. Face coverings and physical distancing, although not required, are still encouraged. Hand sanitizer is available as needed. Online options continue for those who are more comfortable worshipping from home.

Information for In-Person Worship

- * **ACCESSIBLE WASHROOM FACILITIES** for all people are available on the Sanctuary level. These washrooms are found through the doors behind the Choir Loft - right turn - straight ahead. Please feel free to use these washrooms whenever necessary!
- * **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** – Children are invited to go to the Lower Hall for a time of faith-centered activities, at the beginning of the Service this morning. The children will return to the Sanctuary in time to take communion with their families.
- * **HEARING IN THE SANCTUARY** - First Church has available a system of FM RECEIVERS and HEADSETS. They are for use by those who find it difficult to hear in the Sanctuary. If you would like to use one this morning, visit our Sound Technician at the rear of the Sanctuary.
- * **COFFEE HOUR** – You are invited to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Church Hall this morning following worship. To access the Hall, go through the doors behind the choir loft (or use the lift) and down the stairs. Just follow your nose to delicious treats, stimulating conversation and great fellowship. To volunteer to host, bake, or bring food to any coffee hour call Tamara Chapman.

ASSISTING YOU THIS MORNING

Greeters – Pam Dewar

Sound and Video Team – Quentin Robinson and Michel LaBonte

- * Our website and social media accounts:

<https://pccweb.ca/firstchurch-brockville/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Firstkirk/>

www.instagram.com/firstpresbrockville/

<https://twitter.com/firstkirk>

- * YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyterianchurchbro482/streams>

- * Cogeco/Channel 10/700 Services every Sunday 7 am. and 5:30 pm.

- * For pastoral care or assistance, please call the Church Office at 613-345-5014 or 613-340-3310. You may also call or text Reverend Marianne at 613-449-5042.

NEED A RIDE?

Call Executive Taxi!

A free service provided by
your M.O.V.E. Committee



the people of God gather....

The Flute Ensemble

Come Down, O Love Divine

*Ralph Vaughan Williams
arr. Anna Laura Page*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

Minister: Breathe upon us, Holy Spirit,

All: and inspire our worship with your truth.

Minister: Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit,

All: and fill us with your love.

Minister: Strengthen us, Holy Spirit,

All: and move us to act with your power.

Minister: Breathe in us, Holy Spirit,

All: and receive our prayers and praise.

Opening Hymn # 386:

Come down, O love divine

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. Come down, O Love divine, seek now this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardour glowing.
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.
2. Oh let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heart consuming.
And let your glorious light shine ever in my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing.
True lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
and pride in earthly glory scorns with loathing.
4. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far out pass the power of human telling.
For none can guess its grace, till we become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: God of power and possibility, with the flame of your Spirit, you give us energy to move into the world in Jesus' name.

All: With the breath of your Spirit, you refresh us to engage life in its complexity.

Minister: Your Spirit embraces us in the diversity and difference you wove into our creation and unites us in your love.

All: We praise you for your presence with us in every time and place.

Minister: In this time of worship, send us the Holy Spirit once again.

All: Renew us to serve you in the world that aches for the healing and wholeness you offer through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

The Chancel Choir:

Fall On Me

J. Paul Williams & Douglas Nolan

Prayer of Confession

Minister: God of mystery and mercy, we confess we have not always paid attention to the urging of your Spirit to follow your will and your way.

All: Too often we claim to belong to Jesus, yet we ignore his teaching. You created us to love one another, but we resist loving those who differ from us. Stir our hearts with your Holy Spirit. Transform who we are, and direct who we shall become, through Christ's redeeming love. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: These words are worthy of our trust and acceptance - in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another. Thanks be to God for God's steadfast love and mercy. Amen.

Hymn # 277:

On this assembled host

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. On this assembled host, in this accepted hour,
O Spirit, as at Pentecost, descend in grace and power.
2. We meet with one accord in our appointed place,
and wait the promise of our Lord, the Spirit of all grace.
3. Like mighty rushing wind upon the waves beneath,
move with one impulse every mind;
one soul, one spirit breathe.

4. The young, the old inspire with wisdom from above,
and give us hearts and tongues of fire to pray and praise and love.

5. Spirit of light, explore and chase our gloom away,
your splendour shining more and more unto God's perfect day.

to hear God's word....

Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Francis: Holy Spirit, open our ears, our minds and hearts so that we encounter God's Living Word in the Scriptures. May that Word inform and empower all our actions in the example of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 104: 24 – 34 and 35b (read responsively)

Francis: O Lord, how manifold are your works!

People: In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures.

Francis: Yonder is the sea, great and wide.

People: Creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

Francis: There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

People: These all look to you to give them their food in due season. When you give to them, they gather it up. When you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

Francis: When you hide your face, they are dismayed.

People: When you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

Francis: May the glory of the Lord endure forever.

People: May the Lord rejoice in all these works -

Francis: who looks on the earth and it trembles,

People: who touches the mountains and they smoke.

Francis: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live. I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

People: May my meditation be pleasing to the Lord, in whom I rejoice.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!

The Scripture Lesson:

Acts 2: 1 - 21

New International Version (NIV)

Francis: When the day of Pentecost came, the apostles were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: “Are not all these who are speaking, Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs - we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you. Listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It is only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

Francis: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God within us, and for the word of God around us. **People: Thanks be to God.**

The Chancel Choir:

Sing When the Spirit Says Sing

arr. Katy Strand

The Meditation

“In-Spirit-ation”

I am asked from time to time how I find ideas for the messages I preach every Sunday. It is intimidating, from time to time, to have to come up with a 1000+ word essay each week, and hope that I am doing justice to your trust in me! But first, I start with the Scripture texts for the week from the Lectionary. I read through the passage, pray about it, and then let it “percolate”, as I seek inspiration for what God is looking for me to share with all of you.

Sometimes I find that inspiration in nature, perhaps when I am out for a run or a walk. Sometimes I find inspiration in a conversation I have with one of you, a neighbour, or a colleague. I do have lots of resources – commentaries, articles, books, websites, and the like, which I will browse through for inspiration. And then there are times, like today, where I find inspiration in a word - “inspiration” or “inspire”!

I did a dictionary “dive” into the “definition of “inspire”, which is the verb form of “inspiration”. *Thesaurus.com* defines “inspire” as: *to fill with an animating, quickening, or exalting influence: or to animate, as an influence, feeling, thought, or the like.*¹ Looking at the root, or etymology of “inspire”, it does not take much for you and me to figure out, as we hear from the Merriam-Webster dictionary, that:

*This moving little word may be traced back to the Latin inspirare (“to breathe or blow into”), which itself is from the word spirare, meaning “to breathe.” It did not take long to establish itself in a figurative sense, as our earliest written English uses of ‘inspire’ give it the meaning “to influence, move, or guide (as to speech or action) through divine or supernatural agency or power.” Many of the early figurative senses of inspire are religious in nature, so it is not surprising to learn that the word shares a connection with spirit (which comes from the Latin word for “breath,” spiritus, which is also from spirare).*²

You will recall that a few weeks ago, we marked Ascension Sunday, and I shared with you the story of the disciples after Jesus left them and returned to his heavenly Father. That was 40 days after Jesus’ resurrection. Think of everything they had been through in the interim! - they would barely have had time to catch their breath! And now, as they gathered in that room on that Pentecost morning, I am sure they were thinking and worrying about how they were going to fulfill Jesus’ direction to carry on his ministry. What would they do? Where would they find the inspiration?

But before the disciples knew what was happening, out of the blue, they heard a mighty wind heading their way. The wind, the breath, imbued them with a power they did not understand. This power, this breath, this inspiration, swooped into the room and permeated them in a way they could have **never** imagined. They came face to face, lung to lung, with the gift of God's Holy Spirit, God's holy breath.

Once the disciples realized they could breathe again, they found themselves speaking of God's deeds in their lives. They all burst out in languages they did not even know they could speak-telling the story of how they once were no people, but now they were **God's people**. They once had no name, no faith, and no future, but now, they were God's own children, given the breath of faith, glimpsing a future in which they were received back to God's own self. These timid, stressed-out disciples breathed in, were “in-spirit-ed”, and found themselves

¹ [65 Synonyms & Antonyms for INSPIRE | Thesaurus.com](#), Sourced on May 15, 2024

² [The Origins of 'Inspire' | Merriam-Webster](#), Sourced on May 15, 2024

preaching, testifying, to who God was and what God had done in their lives. And the people listened!

God's Spirit still works this way. The Holy Spirit, the breath of God, is at work, here and now. Through Scripture and prayers, through music and proclamation, through experience and relationships, God's holy breath challenges us, comforts us, scares us, and inspires us. The story of Pentecost tells us if we are open to breathing it in, if we dare to pray "Come Holy Spirit," we will find our own lungs filled with a courage, a reserve of strength, a passion of faith we did not even know we had. As people of Pentecost, God invites us to experience the fullness of life which God intends with God's holy breath. We are invited to breathe deeply and consciously in every moment of our lives. Breathing, expecting to be filled with God's Spirit, God's holy breath. Expecting to be changed by it as it fills our lungs. Expecting that we might be "in-spirit-ed" to imagine seeing or speaking things we did not think we had the courage to say.

Now, we all are not going to be "in-spirit-ed" by the Holy Spirit in the same way as the disciples were in our text for today! I can tell you that I have never been "in-spirit-ed" in that way! My inspiration comes in much smaller ways. But our story in Acts promises that, like those disciples, each of us are Pentecost people, and God's Spirit, God's breath is still at work around, among, and in us. It is a breath of life, of courage, and of proclamation that can fill our lungs to overflowing, "in-spirit-ing" us to live each day, to share our faith, to reach out in love to others, to make a difference where we are, right here and now. We do not have to go out and preach in different languages, of course! Our work can be done in ways big and small, through the "in-spirit-ation" of the Holy Breath in each of us.

I know this is a long answer to the question of where I find the inspiration for my weekly messages! Like the disciples on that Pentecost Sunday so long ago, I find the "breath" of the Holy Spirit guides me, helping me to see biblical texts, our church, and our world in a new light. This same Holy Spirit is in each of you, too. So, take a deep breath and find the "in-spirit-ation" to do the ministry Christ calls each of us and this congregation to do here and now! Amen.

Blessing the Word in our Lives

Minister: God of Love, do not let us grow weary of living our lives according to the example of your child, Jesus. Pour out upon us your Spirit, who reminds us that we bear Jesus' love and life within our very being - a powerful gift for our world. Out of this gift, may we bear the fruit of love. Amen.

Hymn # 396:

As comes the breath of spring

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. As comes the breath of spring, with light and mirth and song,
so does your Spirit bring new days, brave free and strong.

You come with thrill of life to chase hence winter's breath,
to hush to peace the strife of sin that ends in death.

2. You come like dawning day, with flaming truth and love,
to chase all glooms away, to brace our wills to prove
how wise, how good to choose the truth and its brave fight.
To prize it, win or lose, and live on God's delight.

3. You come like songs at morn that fill the earth with joy,
till we in Christ new-born new strength in praise employ.
You come to rouse the heart from drifting to despair,
through high hope to impart life with an ampler air.

4. You breathe, and there is health. You move, and there is power.
You whisper, there is wealth of love, your richest dower.
Your presence is to us like summer in the soul.
Your joy shines forth, and then life blossoms to its goal.

Responding in love with thanksgiving

Prayers of the People, the Lord's Prayer and Choral Amen

Minister: Wind of the Spirit, blow through your whole church on this day of Pentecost.
Blow through us and renew our faith. Re-awaken our love for God. Let the flames of your
love warm our hearts with trust in Jesus Christ. Dare us to do great things in his name. Wind
of the Spirit, blow through us,

People: and renew our faith and hope.

Minister: Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and give us energy to serve you as the body
of Christ working in the world. Open our eyes to recognize needs for ministry and mission
around us. Open our hearts to welcome newcomers and meet those we do not yet know. Open
our hands to share in tasks that need doing, and open our lips in prayer and praise. Wind of
the Spirit, blow through us,

People: and renew our faith and hope.

Minister: Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and give us understanding for all those whose
lives seem so different from ours; for those facing situations we have never encountered; for
those with whom we have disagreed; for problems and challenges we face at home, at work,
and in the world facing so much turmoil, praying especially for the people of Gaza, Ukraine,
Sudan, Afghanistan, and Syria. Wind of the Spirit, blow through us,

People: and renew our faith and hope.

Minister: Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and bring healing for all who face pain or illness, discouragement, or disappointment; for all who know sorrow, sadness or grief; for those who feel pressure in these uncertain times. Wind of the Spirit, blow through us,

People: and renew our faith and hope.

Minister: Wind of the Spirit, blow through us and bring us the compassion we see in Christ Jesus to serve the world you love in his name. Blow through us and refresh us as his faithful followers. Unite us across our differences as together, we pray the words he taught 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The People's Offering for the Work of Christ's Church

Minister: At Pentecost, God poured out gifts of the Spirit upon the Church, to equip Christ's followers to bear witness to him throughout the world. We offer our gifts and our lives to God, so that the witness of the Church will continue with the blessing of the Holy Spirit in this generation and beyond.

You can give.....

* by pre-authorized remittance (P.A.R.) (<https://presbyterian.ca/plannedgiving/pre-authorized-remittance-par-program/>). Contact the Church Office.

* by **mail** to First Presbyterian Church, P.O.Box 885, 10 Church Street, Brockville, Ont., K6V 5W1

* by **e-transfer** to firstkirk@truespeed.ca

Offering Praise Song

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

Minister: Spirit of grace and power, bless the gifts we offer so that they may accomplish surprising things in Jesus' name. Bless our lives, too, so that our words and actions bear witness to Jesus' love and mercy each and every day. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation

Minister: Here is the table of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are gathered at his invitation to join him for this meal, a foretaste of things eternal. Come all of you, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: and also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Minister: God our Creator, your Holy Spirit swept over the face of the waters like a mighty wind, and the world was born, full of mystery and wonder. You breathed on the dust and humankind sprang to life, made in your image to share in community with you and one another. By your Spirit, you gave us breath and speech to sing your praise with all living things. So now, with all your creatures great and small, with your saints before us, beside us and beyond us, we lift our voices to echo the song of creation:

People: Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Minister: God our Companion, in Jesus Christ, we have seen your loving face smiling at those on the edge of the crowd, weeping with friends in the depths of despair, inviting little children to draw nearer, offering new possibilities for each precious soul. In this bread and this cup, you hold out new possibilities for each of us, precious as we are. Send down your Holy Spirit with power and grace upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine. With the flame of your Spirit, let us taste the passion of Jesus Christ, baked into this bread, and be moved to act with compassion in his name. With the wind of your Spirit, let us taste the renewing love of Jesus Christ that refreshes us from this cup, and be moved to greet each day with fresh hope. As we eat and drink together today, make us one with Christ and one with each other, so that our unity and our diversity at this table may be signs of your promise that all things will be reconciled to each other through your love. Whenever we gather at this table, we hear the story of how God's love set this table for us, to heal our past and set us free for the future.

On the night on which his friends betrayed him, Jesus came to the table with those very friends. He took bread and blessed it, broke the bread and said: "Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body given for you. Do this to remember me." When the supper was ended, he took a cup of wine and passed it among his friends and said: "This is the cup of the new covenant, sealed in my blood for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

So now we do as Jesus did, as we take this bread and this wine. In these, Jesus has promised to be present. Through these, Christ can make us whole. And as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, let us also bless God for what we are about to receive.

Prayer after Communion

Minister: Spirit of God, blow through this world and our lives like the wind, to surround us with your presence and give us the energy to go where you need us to be. Push us to move like the wind and make a difference in the lives we touch. Spirit of God, surround all your people with love and courage to face tomorrow, and make us good friends in Christ, offering our support to each other in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sending Hymn # 376:

Shine, Jesus, shine

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick

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1. Lord, the light of your life is shining in the midst of the darkness, shining.

Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us.

Set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me. Shine on me.

Refrain

Shine, Jesus shine. Fill this land with the Father's glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!

2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance.

By your blood I may enter your brightness.

Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.

Shine on me. Shine on me. Refrain

3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.

Shine on me. Shine on me. Refrain

The Benediction and Choral Amen

Minister: On this Pentecost day, go in the strength of the spirit to serve with renewed energy wherever the Spirit moves you. And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, and the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Organ Postlude:

Voluntary in G Major

Francis Linley



Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing support international partners through leadership development grants. In 2023, the National Council for Higher Education recommended that the position of Assistant Librarian at Zomba Theological University in Malawi should require at least a bachelor's degree. So, the Rev. Dr. Takuze Chitsulo, Vice Chancellor, requested support from the PCC for Assistant Librarian Jane Mwalabu Makupete to upgrade her Diploma in Library Information to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Records Management. Jane was ecstatic and very grateful when she heard of the PCC's support.

A Mission Moment from The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Happy Anniversary to: (May 19th to 25th)
ROGER & BONNIE BURKE – May 20th
JIM & BARB BARBOUR – May 21st



First Presbyterian Church **MAY CALENDAR**

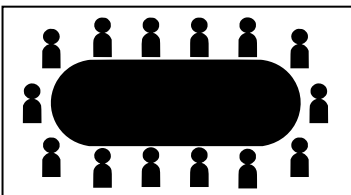
- LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY** - 1st Sunday of each month
- CRAFT & CHAT** - Tuesday afternoons- Parlour – 1 to 4 pm.
- FPC HAND BELL CHOIR** - Thursday Afternoons at 4 pm.
- FPC CHANCEL CHOIR** – Thurs. Afternoons - 3 pm. – Choir Rm; Sun. Mornings - 9:30 am. - Choir Rm
- SUNDAY SUPPER MINISTRY** – 4th Sunday of each month – Church Hall

ONGOING PROJECTS: Grocery Bags, Egg Cartons, Breakfast Bags (Food Bank), Pop Cans for Maintenance, Breakfast Bags (Food Bank), Sunday Supper Ministry, NIV Pew Bibles - Sanctuary

COMMUNITY GROUPS using the Church Building:

- EMBERS/GUIDES – Monday Evenings at 5:30 pm. in the Church Hall
- BGH GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – Monday Afternoons in Parlour.
- BGH DAY HOSPICE – Wednesday Mornings & Afternoons in Parlour and Church Hall.

- May 19 **Pentecost Sunday with Communion** – 11 am. – Coffee Hour
 Reverend Marianne leads worship at the Wedgewood in the afternoon.
- May 21 Meeting of Seaway/Glengarry Presbytery – St. Andrew's PC in Prescott
- May 25 Men's Breakfast – 8:15 am in the Church Hall.
- May 26 **Trinity Sunday** – 11 am. – No Coffee Hour
 Sunday Supper Ministry
- May 31 P. A. Day Camp – Church Hall – 9 am to 3 pm.



There will be a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, June 2nd starting at 12:15 pm. The meeting is to consider motions to enable the Future Capital Project to move forward. Information is on the web site under "*What's going on at First Church*", and proposed motions, will be available on May 26th.



P. A. DAY CAMP – MAY 31st

The Mission Project for this Camp is in support of *First Presbyterian Church's Breakfast Bags* program. First Presbyterian Church regularly makes up individual bags of nutritious breakfast items (that do not require cutlery) for clients of the Brockville and Area Food Bank, particularly those who are unhoused. The Camp will be collecting items for the Breakfast Bags, including juice boxes, prepackaged

muffins, protein bars/shakes, dried fruit, and treats (such as small candy bars or small prepackaged bags of cookies). The items will be used by the Church to help keep hungry people fed, especially during the summer months when many programs are **closed**. **If you would prefer to make a financial donation, please make out your cheque payable** to First Presbyterian Church or etransfer to firstkirk@truespeed.ca. Please mark your donations "Breakfast Bags" and provide a full name and address so the church can issue you a tax receipt for your donation. Thank you! Registration forms are available on the church website or from the church office.



First Presbyterian Church is taking part in the **BIG GIVE** (a nation-wide opportunity for congregations to bless their communities with extravagant giving) on June 1st, 2024. The M.O.V.E. Committee is planning a garage/yard "sale" and

will also be handing out snack bags of cookies. When you are doing your spring cleaning or downsizing, please set aside gently used household items, books, games, puzzles, pots, pans, dishes, and clothing. Volunteers will be needed to help with sorting, set-up, and cleanup. We are also looking for donations of packaged snack bags of homemade cookies (nut-free, please!) to give out on the day. Items can be dropped off at the church (just ring the bell) and left on the table under the picture board in the church hall.

The summer issue of the **CHALLENGE** is almost right around the corner. It is time to write those stories about church life, find poems of inspiration, dream (in writing) about summer plans, find jokes and humorous articles and stories. Send your submissions to rev.marianne@myhighspeed.ca

uplift

JULY 3-7, 2024

YOUTH STREAM:
14-18 YEARS OLD

YOUNG ADULT STREAM:
18-25 YEARS OLD

LEADERSHIP STREAM:
CHURCH LEADERS 18+

BROCK UNIVERSITY
ST. CATHARINES

REGISTER
APRIL 15-MAY 31

Partnering with the
United Church of Canada
to offer this event
highlighting
Audacious Hope

Scan for more info uplift@presbyterian.ca

Audacious Hope
Reaching for a better world.

Garage, Plant & Bake Sale

Saturday, May 25, 9:00am-noon

St. Paul's Church Caintown
14 Caintown Rd north of Mallorytown

Perennial plants and bulbs,
kitchen items, dishes,
toys, children's and adult books,
homemade pies, tarts, cookies, etc.

Poster by C.A.T.

What is uplift?

As in the past with previous Canada Youth (now known as **uplift**) gatherings, there will be three streams at the conference: Youth (ages 14-18), Young Adults (ages 18-25) and Leadership (ages 18+).

Each stream will focus on that group's unique needs and faith expression, exploring *Audacious Hope* through activities, learning, worship, prayer, relationship building and fun. The whole gathering will worship, play, and dine together. Please contact Reverend Marianne for more information.

The Brockville Community Choir

Madelyn Mensen *Artistic Director*
Donna Matheson *Collaborative Artist*

Harmonies of Hope A Spectrum in Sound

Eve Rachel McLeod Matthew Larkin
Foxwood String Quartet
David Miles James MacKenzie

Sunday May 26th 3:00pm

St. Lawrence Anglican Church 80 Pine St. Brockville

Admission \$25 Adult \$10 Student FREE Children 12 & Under



TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CHOIR MEMBERS &
A LIMITED NUMBER AT THE DOOR OR ONLINE



www.brockvillechoir.ca

Tickets available from:

**KAREN MAHON
REVEREND MARIANNE**

Home
hardware
building centre



2024 ROTARY

GOLF TOURNAMENT



**FRIDAY, JUNE 7TH - 1:00PM SHOTGUN START
@PRESCOTT GOLF CLUB**

Take Advantage of Early Bird Pricing Until May 15

Includes: Golf and Cart, Scotch Tasting, Wine & Cheese, Food stations,
Auctions, Tax and Gratuity.

Prescott Golf Club Members \$110 Non-PGC Member \$150

After May 15, \$135/\$175 Respectively - Dinner only - \$60



TO REGISTER SCAN
THE QR CODE

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THE BROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND

presents a



at 2 pm. - Tickets available from
MICHEL LABONTE KAREN MAHON

PENTECOST

(Pentecost from Greek *pentecostē*, “50th day”), is celebrated on the Sunday that falls on the 50th day of Easter. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and other disciples following the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ (Acts:2), and it marks the beginning of the Christian church’s mission to the world. The Jewish feast of Pentecost (Shavuot) was primarily a thanksgiving for the firstfruits of the wheat harvest, but it was later associated with a remembrance of the Law given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. The church’s transformation of the Jewish feast to a Christian festival was thus related to the belief that the gift of the Holy Spirit to

the followers of Jesus was the firstfruits of a new dispensation that fulfilled and succeeded the old dispensation of the Law. When the festival was first celebrated in the Christian church is not known, but it was mentioned in a work from the Eastern church, the *Epistola Apostolorum*, in the 2nd century. In the 3rd century it was mentioned by Origen, theologian and head of the catechetical school in Alexandria, and by Tertullian, Christian priest and writer of Carthage.

In the early church, Christians often referred to the entire 50-day period beginning with Easter as Pentecost. Baptism was administered both at the beginning (Easter) and end (the day of Pentecost) of the Paschal season. Eventually, Pentecost became a more popular time for baptism than Easter in northern Europe, and in England the feast was commonly called White Sunday (Whitsunday) for the special white garments worn by the newly baptized. In *The First Prayer Book of Edward VI* (1549), the feast was officially called Whitsunday, and this name has continued in Anglican churches. In Catholic and other Western churches, clergy often wear red vestments during Pentecost to symbolize the “tongues of fire” that descended on the disciples from the Holy Spirit; members of the congregation also wear red in some traditions, and the altar/communion table is commonly dressed in a red covering.



Fleeing Home: Am Salama's Journey

Am Salama fondly reminisces about the life she and her family led before the war struck. Earlier in 2023, a political crisis unfolded in Sudan, and tensions flared, triggering a widespread exodus of people toward South

Sudan and neighbouring countries. Many families were forced to abandon their once-thriving lives in pursuit of safety. At 35 years old, Am Salama and her husband were thriving as farmers who also owned a small restaurant in Fudain, East Darfur. In their bustling town, the restaurant generated enough income to support their six children.

However, when the war erupted, their lives took a drastic turn. Fearing for the safety of herself and her children, Am Salama made the difficult decision to flee to South Sudan. Her husband had to remain behind to care for his blind mother, resulting in the separation of the entire family.

The journey to safety was full of challenges for Am Salama. Along the way, she was robbed of the little money and clothing she had managed to take during their escape. Additionally, she encountered numerous hardships, including frequent illness, making the already strenuous journey even more overwhelming.

Am Salama and her children found safety at the Wedwil Refugee Camp, where the family received food assistance, provided by Canadian Foodgrains Bank members, with support from PWS&D. She shares that her family would not have survived without the food assistance. In addition to food assistance, shelter, education, and health care, there remain pressing needs in the camps. Your support

is ensuring that the many people who call the camps home will be able to access these essential resources.



We are Song

SPRING
CONCERT



Spencerville's Village Voices Chamber Choir
& Malala Women's Choir



Sunday, June 2, 7:00 pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
23 Bennett St, Spencerville

Monday, June 3, 7:00 pm

St. Paul's Anglican Church
12 Pine St., Brockville

Concert

Admission ...

Goodwill offering in support of Palliative Care and
Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan, CW4WAFGHAN



A Reminder!

In the church parking lot, spots along the fence (north side) are assigned to specific people. Spots 2 through 8 are reserved weekdays (Monday to Friday), 6 am. to 6 pm. These spots may be used by others on the weekends and evenings. Spots 1, 9 and 10 are reserved 24/7 for staff and tenants. Parking is always open in the centre rows.

Thanks for your cooperation!