

# First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 23rd, 2025

The Third Sunday in Lent

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr

Director of Music: Kathleen Howard

Reader: Kade LeBrun

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us from wherever you are! In-person services of worship continue, with online options available 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 The Children are invited to join Denise Kent, our C.E. Coordinator, and volunteers, in the Lower Hall for a time of fun and faith-centered activities following the Children's Message this morning.
- \* <u>HEARING IN THE SANCTUARY</u> 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.
- \* <u>COFFEE HOUR</u> Due to the Sunday Supper today, there is NO COFFEE HOUR this morning. Please join us next Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, in the Church Hall, for coffee, treats and great conversation following worship. To volunteer to host, bake, or bring food to any coffee hour call Tamara Chapman.

#### ASSISTING YOU THIS MORNING

Greeter: Janet LeBrun

Sound and Video Team – Quentin Robinson, Kade LeBrun

Michel LaBonte and Mark Leslie

\* Our website and social media accounts: https://pccweb.ca/firstchurch-brockville/https://www.facebook.com/Firstkirk/www.instagram.com/firstpresbrockville/https://twitter.com/firstkirk

# NEED A RIDE? Call Executive Taxi!

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



- \* YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyterianchurchbro482/streams
- \* Cogeco/Channel 10/700 Services every Sunday at 7 am. and 5:30 pm.
- \* For <u>pastoral care or assistance</u>, 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.

## the people of God gather....

The liturgical colour for this Sunday is Purple.

Purple marks the seasons of penitence and preparation (Advent and Lent).

## The Organ Prelude

#### Bist du Bei mir

J. S. Bach

#### Welcome and Announcements

<u>Call to Worship God</u> This liturgy was written by the Reverend Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls.

Minister: In Lent, we hear Jesus' call to mend our ways:

<u>All</u>: repentance is necessary no matter who we are.

Minister: So we come to listen and respond to Jesus' word of life,

<u>All</u>: for the Holy One will abundantly pardon.

Minister: In returning to the Lord, we trust that mercy will be ours

All: and our lips will again praise the God of life.



When we respond to poverty, hunger and conflict in our global village, we discover God's resurrecting power. The hungry are fed, the vulnerable are cared for, the sick are healed, and the poor are raised up. This Lenten season, let us faithfully respond to Christ's call to serve those in need.

#### Opening Hymn # 366:

<u>Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts</u> Words & Music: Public Domain

- 1. Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount, thou light for all to see: from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled again to thee.
- 2. Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on thee call; to those who seek thee thou art good; to those who find thee, all in all.
- 3. We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still; we drink of thee, the fountainhead, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.
- 4. For thee our restless spirits yearn where'er our changeful lot is cast, glad when thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

5. O Jesus, always with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright; chase the dark night of sin away; shed o'er the world thy holy light.

## Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: God, our Creator and Sustainer, in you we live and move and have our being. In your depths we find meaning; in your heights we find light and joy. You are the source of peace and hope for all who turn to you.

<u>All</u>: You alone have been our help and our guide. You give us strength and courage when we face challenges.

Minister: In you we find rest and welcome along the way. We praise you, O God, for your steadfast love.

<u>All</u>: Draw near to us once more in this time of worship. Reveal your purposes for us and prepare us for the days ahead so that our lives may witness to your mercy and grace as we follow Jesus. Amen.

#### The Chancel Choir

#### O God, Thou Art My God Alone

James Montgomery & Richard Wainwright

# Prayer of Confession

Minister: God of grace and mercy, we confess that our thoughts are so often not your thoughts. Our ways are rarely your ways.

<u>All</u>: Our tempers are short, and we fail to act with kindness. Our confidence is weak, and we treat others without respect. Our faith falters and we lose track of you. Forgive the many ways we fail you and inspire us to follow you more faithfully. Amen.

# Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. By Christ's mercy, we can make a fresh start following him.

## <u>The Children's Message</u> <u>Testing, Testing!</u>

Minister: Good morning, everyone! You are all in school, so I am sure you have taken a quiz or test, yes? Teachers give their students quizzes or tests to see how much the students have learned. When you take a quiz, you prove how much you have learned in a class or about a subject. Not all tests are on paper. For some things, your test might be to do a task

instead of writing an answer. For example, Frankie, you take dancing lessons. Max, you curl. When you want to get your driver's license, you have to take a driving test.

Our Bible verse today talks about tests. It says: "God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it." That sounds a little bit scary. What kinds of things might God throw at us that we would think we could not endure? Wow! But even though the verse says that we will experience hard times, it also reassures us. God will not make our challenges so hard that we cannot make it through. He will test us, but only to teach us. That is why our teachers test us, too. They are not giving us tests to punish us - although sometimes it sure feels that way! Instead, they are giving us tests to help measure what we have learned, and to help them know what things we still need to work on. Tests go step by step to make sure we have mastered one lesson before we can move forward to the next lesson.

God does the same things in our lives. When we face difficult choices or challenges, that might be a time when God is testing us. God uses tests to help us learn life lessons - one lesson at a time. Can you think of any lessons that God might be teaching you? God may be teaching you patience. Maybe God is teaching you to share with your friends and family, or maybe he is teaching you how to be a friend to someone else. Whatever the lesson, God teaches each of us at our own speed.

# **Children's Prayer:**

Dear God, we know that you are always encouraging us to learn more about you, and to do that, sometimes you test us. You test us in all kinds of ways. But we know that you test us because you love us and want us to be better people! Amen.

#### Hymn # 569:

# O Jesus I have promised

Words & Music: Public Domain

- 1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; be thou forever near me, my Saviour and my friend: I shall not fear the struggle if thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.
- 2. Oh let me feel thee near me: the world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within, but, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.
- 3. Oh let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still, above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will; oh speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; oh speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee, that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be, and, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; oh give me grace to follow my Saviour and my friend.

#### to hear God's word....

## Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Kade: Let us pray. O God, we turn to the Scripture to seek your wisdom and your truth. Send your Holy Spirit to open our minds and hearts to receive your Word for our lives and our times. Equip us to follow Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

#### Psalm 63: 1-8 (read responsively)

Kade: O God, you are my God, I seek you,

<u>All</u>: my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Kade: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

All: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

Kade: So I will bless you as long as I live;

<u>All</u>: I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Kade: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,

<u>All</u>: and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

Kade: My soul clings to you;

<u>All</u>: your right hand upholds me.

## Reading from Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

New International Version (NIV)

Kade: For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did - and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. We should not test Christ, as some of them did - and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did - and were killed by the destroying angel.

These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you do not fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Kade: 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:

## Have Faith In God, My Heart

Judy Hunnicutt

#### The Meditation

## To the Glory of God

Minister: This week, I am looking at Paul's first letter to the Church in Corinth. 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, our text for today, includes a rather bizarre retelling of Israel's exodus. We hear how Paul relates to the Corinthians of how the often-faithless Israelites were punished during their 40 years in the wilderness, whether by indulging in sexual immorality, by complaining, and/or by putting God to the test. Do not forget, the Church in Corinth was largely Gentile. They did not have the history and background that Paul, as a Pharisee and a devout Jew, would have had of the stories of the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt, or their years of wandering in the wilderness. But the Church in Corinth was in danger of falling prey to the same sins that bedeviled the Israelites; as a people living in uncertain and precarious times - a limbo of sorts between their newfound freedom in Christ and the awaited fulfillment of God's kingdom on earth.

Paul likens the Corinthian church to the Israelites in their exodus from Egypt and their wilderness wanderings. In 10:1, the apostle links the predominantly Gentile church to the people of Israel with the curious phrase "our ancestors" (literally "our fathers"). He proceeds to describe the ancient Hebrews through language which is unexpectedly reminiscent of the church. Like the Corinthian believers, the ancestors underwent a baptism "into Moses," a Christ-like deliverer, and have partaken of spiritual food and drink. The Corinthian church had no more spiritual advantages than the Israelite ancestors. The same Spirit that sustained the people of God in the wilderness period is the Spirit that sustained them as the church. If some of the Israelite ancestors, who experienced God's blessings, God's deliverance, and God's

covenant, could be overcome in the wilderness by their unfaithfulness; it is also true that the Corinthian believers could also be subject to God's frustration and anger because of their lack of faith.

Paul hopes that the church will learn from the scriptures, which in 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Paul uses to contrast the unfaithfulness of the ancestors with the faithfulness of God. The Corinthians can learn from scripture that they have been called by a God who demands and enables faithfulness in return. They should avoid idolatry and should avoid causing others in the community to go back to their former idolatrous lives.

Paul's first letter to the Corinthians speaks to us today as well. We are reminded that we are not alone in our battles against temptation. Each of us faces challenges that can feel overwhelming at times. Just speaking for myself, I am tempted to give in to despair and hopelessness when I read the news and see all the pain, suffering and chaos in the world. Your temptations may be different, but no matter what it is, whether it is giving in to unhealthy habits, toxic thoughts, or behaviours that draw us away from our beliefs, Paul reminds us that these feelings are not unique to us. They are common to all people and have been since humankind was created! But Paul reminds us that, because of God's faithfulness, we know that any temptation we face is manageable. He would not allow us to experience something too tough for us to bear without offering a way out.

Temptation is a part of life, and it can lead us to difficult situations. However, 1 Corinthians 10, verse 13 brings us comfort and encouragement, when Paul writes: *No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. God will provide a way for us to endure struggles and temptation. This assurance draws us closer to our faith, nudging us to seek God in times of weakness. Recognizing that we all encounter the same struggles can create a sense of unity and understanding among us, encouraging each other as we strive to live as God calls us, so that we can bring glory to God through our acts and deeds.* 

Today's reading from 1 Corinthians pushes us as individuals to consider a life that goes beyond the realm of our own personal and discrete needs. However, the reading goes further. It also pushes the community beyond its self-centered focus. Just as individuals can become enclosed in their own wants and desires, a community can also become enamored by its own blessedness and vitality. Such a community can become tempted to close itself off from the world, to resist temptation and challenges to its own identity, blessing, and life. Our baptismal vocation pushes us to think about where we stand and where the boundaries of our community are truly located. Our baptismal vocation pushes us through the doors of the church out into the street. A significant part of the Lenten call to reflection should engage us at the level of community life. How does our life and practice facilitate or hinder the broader development of the church's mission? Are we bringing glory to God through our

actions? In our lives as people of faith, whether we are facing temptation or enduring other struggles, and especially now, as we endure tumult and uncertainty around us, we are reminded that God is always gracious and merciful to us as we move through the season of Lent and all the seasons of our lives.

Like their ancestors in the faith, this predominantly Gentile Corinthian church is called to live in a manner that is faithful to the one who is the very source of their life and existence. Living faithfully to this God includes considering their witness to others for whom Christ also died. We are not just living to ourselves, but to those in our faith family and those in the wider community.

For us as the Church today, we are likewise called to resist temptation in all its forms. During this season of Lent, and throughout our lives, let us "lean into" our faith and actively seek God's guidance through prayer, scripture reading, fellowship with each other, and acts of mercy and love. Today's text reminds us that all our life experiences, temptations and actions ultimately shape who we are in Christ. Let us remember today, and every day, that all we do, we do it to the glory of God. Amen.

## Blessing the Word in our Lives

Minister: As we hear the word read and preached today, let our minds be of one mind in Christ Jesus. Let us empty ourselves, and with humility and grace listen as the Spirit speaks to us this day. Amen.

# Hymn # 671:

# I heard the voice of Jesus says

Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast!" I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.
- 2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give the living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink and live!" I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived and now I live in him.
- 3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light; look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright." I looked to Jesus and I found in him my star, my sun, and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.

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

Minister: God of Hope, when the world is confusing and frustrating, you bring light and hope. We give thanks for lessons learned, for changes of heart, for fresh discoveries made, and new paths followed. We pray this day for those who are confused or afraid, for those who feel anger or despair. *(silence)* O God, give us hope in our time.

### People: Turn our hearts to you.

Minister: God of Peace, there is so much conflict, hostility, and antagonism around us and within us. Personal relationships are often tense; the world community is at odds. We pray for understanding to prevail in relationships at home and at work, in our community and our country. Today, we urgently pray for diplomacy to alleviate conflict and threat among nations, especially holding before you, praying especially for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine, Gaza, Yemen, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar and Haiti. O God, give us peace in our time.

# People: Turn our hearts to you.

Minister: God of Joy, we give you thanks for moments of joy and celebration in our lives, for small pleasures given and received through times of isolation. We remember those who feel left out or lonely, those who are anxious or in distress. We pray for those who face loss and hardship in these uncertain times, and all who know sorrow and suffering, naming before you those on our hearts this day. (Silence) O God, give us joy in our time.

# People: Turn our hearts to you.

Minister: God of community and compassion, we thank you for your steadfast presence in the face of all that brings uncertainty and worry these days. Bless our congregation; inspire us to consider renewed ministry and mission. Reawaken our love for one another and our desire to worship and serve together in Jesus' name. Sustain leaders who feel exhausted by the challenges they've faced and renew our stewardship with gratitude for your love. O God, give us strength in our service.

# People: Turn our hearts to you.

Minister: God of grace, receive these prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts. Deepen our trust in you for the days ahead, for we offer ourselves as Jesus' friends and followers in the words he taught us:

<u>All</u>: 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

## Invitation to the Offering

Minister: God has given us life and breath and created a world of beauty and order. In Christ we know God's generous mercy. Our gifts are tokens of gratitude for all that we have received in Christ and in creation. May our gifts speak for our thankful hearts this day.

You can give.....

- \* by pre-authorized remittance (**P.A.R.**) (<u>https://presbyterian.ca/plannedgiving/pre-authorized-remittance-par-program/</u>). Contact the Church Office.
- \* by e-transfer to <a href="mailto:firstkirk@truespeed.ca">firstkirk@truespeed.ca</a>
- \* by mail to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 885, 10 Church Street, Brockville, Ont., K6V 5W1

## Offering Praise Song # 830

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: Generous God, we thank you for all the goodness we receive in Christ and in creation. Consecrate the gifts we offer to share in the work of the kingdom that Jesus has declared and bless our lives so that we may display Christ-like love and mercy to others. Amen.

# Sending Hymn # 411: Stand up and bless the Lord Words & Music: Public domain

1. Stand up and bless the Lord;

God's people now rejoice;

stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice.

- 2. Though high above all praise,
- above all blessing high,

who would not fear God's holy name and praise and magnify?

3. Oh for the living flame

from God's own altar brought,

to touch our lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heaven our thought.

4. God is our strength and song;

now is salvation ours.

God's love in Christ we now proclaim with all our ransomed powers.



5. Stand up and bless the Lord; the Lord your God adore; stand up and bless God's glorious name henceforth forevermore.

#### Benediction

Minister: As you go forth from here, may you go forth with the heart of the Christ, in humility, seeking the will of the Lord in all you do, and in confidence, knowing that the Lord is our sure foundation. And may the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you this day and forevermore. Amen.

Choral Amen

Words & Music: Douglas Nolan

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Tender Shepherd, gently lead us, guide us as we go our way. Gentle Lamb, protect and keep us safe within your heart to stay. Amen.

The Organ Postlude

**Mercy** 

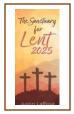
Georg Philip Telemann



Five years after getting married, Cristina's husband emigrated to the United States from Guatemala, leaving her in debt. Unable to pay off the debt, she lost the land her husband had left as collateral, an inheritance from her parents. She struggled to earn enough daily to feed her young children and repay the debt and interest. Things got a little easier when her children turned 18, emigrated to the United States and sent money. She also received support from Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas,

PWS&D's local partner. She was trained in managing her cornfields, family gardens, backyard animals, and in topics related to healthy and nutritional diets.

A Mission Moment from The PCC



The Sanctuary for Lent 2025 contains brief readings for each day in Lent, from Ash Wednesday through Easter Day, including a suggested Scripture, a short devotion, and a short prayer or practice - all based on the Revised Common Lectionary. This annual favourite will help you faithfully journey through Lent as you prepare to experience the joy of the Resurrection. Copies available on the table at the rear of the Sanctuary or in the Church Office.



# Meeting of the Congregation

On Sunday, April 6th, following the Service of

Worship there will be a **Meeting of the Congregation**. It will be a meeting to bring people up to date on the Capital Project. AND ..... there may be some motions to consider!



# Journey through Lent with Reverend Marianne

Reverend Marianne will be recording and posting short Lenten services weekly through Lent. The services can be accessed on the Church YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyterianchurchbro482

# Copies of the Spring edition of the **PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTION**

are available on the table at the rear of the Sanctuary. Look especially, at pages 31 and 33, to see pictures of our Sunday Supper Ministry, the children's PWS&D project and P.A. Day Camps held here at First Church.

presbyterian.ca > presbyterian-connection

Happy Birthday to: (Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>)

LISA SIZEMAN – March 17<sup>th</sup>
DEBBIE LABONTE – March 23<sup>rd</sup>
LORRAINE BUCK – March 23<sup>rd</sup>
JANICE PAUL – March 26<sup>th</sup>

# First Presbyterian Church MARCH/APRIL CALENDAR

#### LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY

1st Sunday of each month

**CRAFT & CHAT** Tues. afternoons - Parlour – 1 to 4 pm. **FPC HAND BELL CHOIR** 

Thursday Afternoons at 4:30 – Red Room

**FPC CHANCEL CHOIR** – Thurs. Afternoons - 3 pm. – Choir

Rm; Sun. Mornings - 9:30 am. - Choir Rm

**SUNDAY SUPPER MINISTRY** – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month

Church Hall

Office Hours – March 24th to 28th

Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – 10 am. to 11:30 & 1 pm. to 4:30 pm.

Tuesday, March 25th – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Wednesday, March 26th – 11:15 am. to 4:30 pm.

Thurs., March 27th - 1 pm. to 4:30 pm

Friday, March 28th - 10 am. to 1:30 pm.

#### Dates for Your Calendar

The Season of Lent began on Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, continues for five Sundays, then Holy Week begins.

Palm Sunday with Communion – April 13<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday with Communion

April 17<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm.

Good Friday Walk of the Cross – April 18<sup>th</sup> starting at the Court House at 9:30 am.

Ecumenical Good Friday Worship –April 18<sup>th</sup> at Wall Street United Church at 11 am.

Easter Sunday – April 20<sup>th</sup> – 11 am.

### **MEN' BREAKFAST!**

Saturday, APRIL 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

at Stacked Restaurant Email Quentin at

thesesssion@truespeed.ca

if you will attend.

ONGOING PROJECTS: Grocery Bags, Egg Cartons,

Pop Cans (Maintenance), Breakfast Bags (Food Bank), Sunday Supper Ministry

#### **COMMUNITY GROUPS** using the Church Building:

EMBERS/GUIDES - Monday Evenings at 6 pm. in the Church Hall

DSLG Cooking Class - Thursday mornings - Thursday afternoons; DSLG Cricut Group - Tuesday afternoons BGH DAY HOSPICE - Wednesday Mornings & Afternoons in the Parlour and Church Hall.

Mar 23 MORNING WORSHIP (Third Sunday in Lent) - 11 am. in the Sanctuary

No Coffee Hour - Sunday Supper Ministry in the Church Hall.

\* Reverend Marianne leads worship at the Wedgewood.

Mar 30 MORNING WORSHIP (Fourth Sunday in Lent) - 11 am. in the Sanctuary - The Sacrament

of Baptism - Guest Speaker: Mark Hamilton, Managing Director - Gracefield Camp

Coffee Hour, following worship, in the Church Hall.

April 02 Meeting of the M.O.V.E. Committee – 10 am. in the Church Hall.

April 05 Men's Breakfast - at Stacked Restaurant at 8:15 am.

April 06 MORNING WORSHIP (Fifth Sunday in Lent) - 11 am. in the Sanctuary

Guest Musicians - First Presbyterian Church Hand Bell Choir

Coffee Hour, following worship, in the Church Hall.

In Memoriam

We extend our love and sympathy to the Ball Family on the death of **CATHERINE BALL** on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Kingston. The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr will conduct the funeral service for Catherine Ball on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

at 1 pm. in the Chapel of the Barclay Funeral Home. Arrangements are entrusted to the Barclay Funeral Home. Please remember Catherine's family in your prayers.



#### Lenten Noon Hour Mid-Week Services 2025 at Wall Street United Church

Meeting weekly on successive Wednesdays at 12 noon until April 16<sup>th</sup>. Services are followed by a light soup lunch at 12:30 pm. Services will be in-person and on Facebook live.

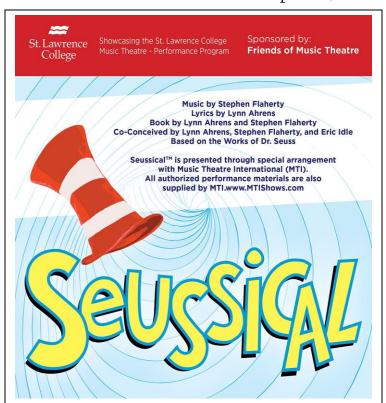
Mar. 26<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Catherine Cavanaugh

Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Rev. Donald Wachenschwanz Apr. 9<sup>th</sup> – Reverend Wendy McLean

Apr. 16<sup>th</sup> – Reverend Catherine Oxenford-Grant

# Alice Embraces New Techniques

In Malawi, Alice has struggled with food insecurity for many years. Due to frequent dry spells and unpredictable rains caused by climate change, her family was harvesting little. She knew something had to change. Alice attended a community gathering organized by PWS&D's partner Churches Action in Relief in Development, where she was introduced to a project focusing on



Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:30 pm Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 2 pm. Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:30 pm Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 2 pm. Brockville Arts Centre innovative and sustainable farming techniques. "They explained importance of conserving the environment amidst effects of climate change, which impacted negatively agriculture have production, including our area," Alice recalled. She hoped that participating would change her situation by reducing soil erosion and minimizing water needs, two crucial problems they were facing. Alice embraced conservation agriculture practices, transitioning away from the less productive methods she had been using. The shift yielded remarkable results, as she doubled her harvest on the same plot of land.

This Lenten season, faithfully respond to Christ's call to help farmers learn to improve crops and conserve resources - providing food for today and an income for the future.





#### THE BROCKVILLE PRESBYTERIAL OF THE WMS 2024 AGM

Tuesday, 1st April, 2025 9.30 am to 3 pm

#### SIGNS OF HOPE IN NEPAL

**Knox Morrisburg Presbyterian Church** 10 First Street Morrisburg, ON

Guest Speakers: Rev. Sarah Kim, Cathy Reid, Janet Brewer and Deb Stimphil

Lunch \$12.00

Worship \* Prayer \* Guest Speakers \* Study

Please preregister by 25th March with Janet Jones at 1-613-803-8663 or janet.i.jones@outlook.com

We welcome all!

# SUNODICAL OF QUEBEC AND EASTERN ONTARIO

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY APRIL 25TH 9:30-3pm ST PAULS PRESBUTERIAN CHURCH KEMPTVILLE

(319 Prescott Street)

LUNCH \$15



THEME: RESILIENCE

SPEAKER DIANA KEMP ON CUBA

To Register: email Judy Messenger jamessenger93@gmail.com

Call: 613-258-5538 by April 17th (to book lunch)

# The Brockville Community Choir

Madelyn Mensen Artistic Director Abe TeGrotenhuis

Collaborative Artist





Featuring Stroope's Hodie and works by Willan Barber Forrest Whittaker Vaughan-Williams

The Herald Brass Ensemble Heather Istead Oboe Ange-Gabriel Treble Chorus

Wendy Schmidt Fiddle James MacKenzie Percussion

# Sunday May 4th 2:00pm

St. Lawrence Anglican Church 80 Pine Street Brockville

ADMISSION Adult \$25 Student \$10 Children Under 12 FREE



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

BrockvilleChoir.ca







Highly populated WiFi environments: Isn't that an interesting phrase? Guess what, with all the "wireless" mics, page turners, tablets and other equipment in the

sanctuary, this has become a "highly populated WIFI environment". Add to that everyone who walks in with a cell phone, and we have a problem maintaining connections. You can help by turning off any cell phone, Bluetooth or other WiFi device you have in the sanctuary if possible. (Not just muting but actually turning off). Thank you.