



## First Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Reader: **Mohammed Idris**

**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 Church School Room off the Church Hall, for a time of fun and faith-centered activities, at the beginning of the service. The children will rejoin their families in time for communion.
- \* **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.
- \* **COFFEE HOUR** - You are invited to join us 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 volunteer to host, bake, or bring food to any coffee hour sign the sheet in the Church Hall or call Tamara Chapman.

### ASSISTING YOU THIS MORNING

Greeter: Pam Dewar      Elevator: Brenda Fisk  
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://www.instagram.com/firstpresbrockville/)

<https://twitter.com/firstkirk>

- \* YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresbyterianchurchbro482/streams>

- \* Cogeco/Channel 10/700 Services every Sunday at 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

**SCENT  
FREE  
ZONE**

Help us keep the air we share  
healthy and fragrance-free

*the people of God gather....*

The Organ Prelude

All Glory, Laud and Honour

*arr. Hal H. Hopson*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

This liturgy was written by the Reverend Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls.

Minister: Jesus enters Jerusalem as a humble king, riding on a donkey.

**All:** The disciples proclaim the one who comes in the name of the Lord,

Minister: but the powers that be see a troublemaker, challenging their authority.

**All:** The prophetic traditions envision the peaceable kingdom,

Minister: but the empire sees a disturber of the peace, so death awaits him.

**All:** Give thanks to God who overcomes all the powers of death!



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 # 214:

All glory, laud and honour

*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. All glory, laud and honour to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal son,  
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed one.

2. All glory, laud and honour to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

3. All glory, laud and honour to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

4. All glory, laud and honour to thee, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

### Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: Holy God, Source, Saviour and Spirit of all life, Holy Three and Holy One, in you, we confront the mystery of mercy and the courage of compassion.

**All:** As we face the cross on which Christ gave himself, we confront your willingness to die for us so that we might find new life.

Minister: As the Spirit speaks to us through the story of your amazing love, shown in Jesus' sacrifice, our hearts are moved to praise you.

**All:** Words cannot express our awe, the grief and the gratitude stirring within us, for all you have given us,

Minister: and for all you will give us through such unspeakable love. We fall silent in wonder and praise, Holy God. Amen.

The Chancel Choir:

Fear Not, Ye People of Zion

*Jon Paige*

### Prayer of Confession

Minister: Merciful God, we are filled with wonder and praise, but we acknowledge to you how often we fall short of your purposes for us.

**All:** We confess it is easier for us to follow the crowd rather than follow Christ. We prefer to avoid conflict rather than stand up for your mercy and understanding. We allow strident voices in our times to drown out your wisdom and truth. Forgive us, O God. Fill us with the courage to take up our cross and follow Jesus, even when the cost to follow is high and reputations are at stake, for we pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

### Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: The Apostle Paul wrote: "This saying is sure and worthy of our full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners". It does not matter how big or how small our sins; God's forgiving love in Jesus Christ can cover them all. Trust that, in Christ, we are forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with each other.

Hymn # 218:

Hosanna, loud hosanna

*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple, the joyful anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had held them close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

2. From Olivet they followed amid a shouting crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving and chanting clear and loud;  
Messiah, God's anointed, rode there in humble state,  
"Hosanna, in the highest!" rang out their praises great.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" that ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of Heaven our King.  
Oh may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,  
and in God's joyful presence eternally rejoice!

*to hear God's word....*

### Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Idris: Let us pray. Gracious God, as we hear the stories of Jesus' final days again, help us listen as if we had never heard them before. By the power of your Spirit, engage us, shock us, and pierce our hearts, so that your undying love fills us with mercy and grace through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

### Psalm 31: 9-16 (read responsively)

Idris: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress. My eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

**All:** For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

Idris: I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances. Those who see me in the street flee from me.

**All:** I have passed out of mind like one who is dead. I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many – terror all around! – as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

Idris: But I trust in you, O Lord;

**All:** I say, "You are my God."

Idris: My times are in your hand. Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

**All:** Let your face shine upon your servant. Save me in your steadfast love.

### Reading from Scripture:

### **Philippians 2: 5 - 11**

*New International Version (NIV)*

*®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.*

## Idris: **Imitating Christ's Humility**

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Idris: 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:

**Ain't No Rock Gonna Shout For Me**

*Lloyd Larson*

The Meditation

**Having the Mindset of Christ**

As we gather this Sunday to move ourselves into the holiest of weeks in the Christian calendar, I chose this text from Paul's letter to the church in Philippi because I believe, in this time and place, there is no better scripture for us to reflect upon on this Palm/Passion Sunday. Many scholars believe this passage from the letter to the church in Philippi may have been an early Christian hymn that unfolds the stages of Christ's whole being - from being in the form of God, to becoming human, to being obedient to humiliation and death, and then to ascension back into heaven.

Whether or not Paul composed or just quoted the famous "Christ hymn" in today's Epistle text, he is still telling the story of Jesus' passion and resurrection. While the Gospels provide all the details of Jesus' arrest, the sham trial, and the crucifixion, to **understand the mindset of Christ** - the attitude that determined his actions every day of his life, including the last - see this letter. In this passage, Paul records the coming to earth of Jesus Christ, his hitting "rock bottom" of his crucifixion and death, and God's raising him again so that all creation sees who he is (and has been all along).

The first half of the passage is full of verbs (Jesus emptied himself, took the form of a slave, humbled himself, became obedient). It is important to realize that these were not impulsive actions on Jesus' part. They all arose from the Christ-mind - the way Jesus saw himself in relationship to God and to the world. Jesus gave up his very self to serve God's mission to creation. In the second half of the passage, after his death, Jesus does nothing. The verbs in the second half of the passage all belong to God. This text, in Paul's eyes, is Jesus' birth, passion, ascension narrative all rolled into one. To Paul, Jesus' death is no more spontaneous than anything else that happens in his life. Jesus certainly saw it coming. As

horrible as the manner of his death turned out to be, it was an unsurprising end for one who invested no energy and effort to protect himself, but lived to serve others. Having emptied himself all his life, he emptied himself to the end.

Since “obedience” is of central importance in this passage, it is important that we understand the point Paul is making. There is a strand of theology (with several theories) called *atonement theology*. Atonement theology recognizes that we are alienated from God through our sin, and God is at work to bring us back into relationship with God. One of these theories, the “*ritual*” theory of atonement, takes the view that because of our iniquity, God was angry with us and Jesus died to appease God – that it was God’s will that Jesus should die for our sins. I have never found this theory very persuasive. What kind of God demands the sacrifice of his Son? And what about the use of violence and suffering to achieve salvation? Does it not justify the suffering of all victims? I would not want to follow a God that inflicts pain like Jesus suffered to appease God’s anger – that is **not** a God in which I would want to put my faith and build a relationship!

But Paul does not seem to suggest this was the reason for Jesus’ death. Rather, it was **Jesus’** will to be subject to (to obey) the same kind of death that other people died. Rome had crucified thousands of other people, including many Jews, before the Empire got to Jesus, after all. In many ways, the New International Version translation of this text is preferable here: Jesus “*became obedient to death.*” Since Jesus had already taken the form of a slave, he did not (and could not) ask for a “*get out of jail free card*” from God at the end. He submitted to death the same way he had submitted to everything else that made him fully human. This is why Paul encourages the Philippian church (and us) to “*have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.*” The verbs, the actions, of our lives can flow from this same mindset, this same way of seeing ourselves in relationship to God and to the world.

Sooner or later, we all will be called to be obedient to death. In the meantime, we are as free as Jesus to decide how we will spend our resources and energy: on self-protection or self-donation, on saving ourselves (and our religious preconceptions, traditions and institutions) or giving them up and ourselves away? While we might look at this passage as it applies to our own individual lives, perhaps this Palm/Passion Sunday is a good time to ask – what it might look like for an entire congregation to embody the mindset of Jesus, to (as a whole) empty itself to take the form of a servant to others? What crosses are right in front of this congregation, just waiting to be picked up?

However, we as Christians decide to respond to this Christ hymn, either individually or communally, as I mentioned earlier, the “humanness” of Christ ends at verse 8. After that, God takes over. Jesus does not exalt himself, any more than Jesus raises himself from the dead. For many of us, “therefore” is the most interesting word on the page. If we imitate Christ, therefore we too will be exalted, right? If we humble ourselves, will we too share in the glory of God, right? But it is important to remember, as we journey through Holy Week, that on

Good Friday, when the stone was rolled in front of the tomb, Jesus lay, dead as dead could be - perfectly obedient to death - with no pulse, no thought, no will.

In his commentary on Philippians, the late American preacher and theologian Fred Craddock says, “*The grave of Christ was a cave, not a tunnel. Christ acted on our behalf without view of gain. That is precisely what God has exalted and vindicated: self-denying service for others to the point of death with no claim of return, no eye upon a reward*”<sup>1</sup>. Christ was not concerned with status or with a view to his own gain but humbled himself. On this Palm/Passion Sunday, we do not focus on what we believe about Jesus, and how we can exalt and glorify ourselves. Instead, we focus on what Jesus did, and what we are able to do because he did. Let us seek to have the mindset of Christ. 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 # 220:

### My song is love unknown

*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.  
Oh who am I that for my sake my Lord should take  
frail flesh and die?

2. He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow,  
but we made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.  
But oh, my Friend, my Friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend.

3. Sometimes they strew his way and his sweet praises sing,  
resounding all the day hosannas to their King;  
then “Crucify” is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.

4. Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.

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<sup>1</sup> 1. Fred Craddock, *Philippians*, Interpretation series (Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1985), 42.

## *Responding in love with thanksgiving*

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

Minister: Almighty God, Christ came into the world in humility, reaching out to all your little ones with mercy and compassion. You ask us to do the same. So today we pray for all those who find themselves in humble circumstances: for those who have inadequate shelter in our community and in this country; for the poor, refugees, asylum seekers, all who find themselves without sufficient resources to cope and flourish; for those who live in isolation and loneliness. Strengthen them in your mercy, and humble us, lest we forget how much we have to be grateful for. God of humility,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Minister: God of care and compassion, we pray for all those who have been humbled by life's unexpected turns. We remember before you those who face illness, pain or injury; those who have known death or adversity, fear or failure; and all who struggle with anxiety and uncertainty. We pray for those who are fleeing violence and oppression in their homelands or are unable to leave and seek safety, thinking of the people of Afghanistan, Gaza, Ukraine, Syria, Sudan, Yemen, Venezuela, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Haiti. Support all those who are working to bring about a just and lasting peace in so many areas of the world. God of humility,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Minister: We pray for victims of crime and injustice in our own country, those whose voices are suppressed or overlooked by the power structures in our society, especially thinking of our indigenous siblings, BIPOC and LGBTQ2S+ people, people with disabilities, and people in poverty. We also pray for those who suffer through the poor judgement or mistakes of others. And we pray for those who suffer because of the consequences of their own actions and choices. Embrace them in your mercy, and humble us, lest we imagine we can live lives untouched by trouble. God of humility,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Minister: God of power and might, hear us as we pray for those who have not learned the lessons of humility yet: for those who live carelessly or drive recklessly, endangering themselves and others; for those who abuse the trust and power in their positions, betraying those whose interests are in their hands. We pray for those who mislead others for gain or indulge their fame with no thought for the example they set. Humble them in your mercy and humble us if we are tempted to ignore the consequences of our own actions. God of humility,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Minister: We pray for those in government, whether local, provincial or federal, and for those running in the upcoming Canadian election. Give them wisdom to serve faithfully and be with us when we exercise our right to vote, being open to your guidance as we seek to do what is best for everyone in our nation, not just ourselves. Help us work to heal the divisiveness and polarization that has troubled our civic and political discourse, realizing that our society benefits when we all work together for the common good. God of humility,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Minister: God of grace and transformation, hear us now as we speak to you of people and places near and dear to our hearts, whose comforts are few and struggles too many... and now we gather our prayers into one voice and pray as Jesus taught:

**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

### Invitation to the Offering

Minister: Let us honour Christ and bring our offerings of praise to him. Let us now present to God our gifts and offerings for the transformation of this world.

You can give.....

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

\* by **e-transfer** to [firstkirk@truespeed.ca](mailto:firstkirk@truespeed.ca)

\* 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: In glad thanksgiving for all the blessings we know in this life, we give you our praise. We thank you for the gifts of music, art, poetry and science and for all the ways you reveal your wisdom to us. Accept our offerings and use them and us for the building of your kingdom in this world. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### The Invitation

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord is coming to be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: People of God, lay down your coats and lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the One who comes in God's name.**

Minister: Let us praise God for the mighty works we have witnessed.

**People: It is right that we praise our God.**

Minister: It is our highest joy to praise you, God of enduring love. All that is good and beautiful, all that is just and true, is your doing. Morning by morning, you whispered your dreams and hopes into our hearts. But we chose to listen to different voices, turning our backs on you in rebellion and sin. You sent the prophets to waken our ears to your songs of grace, but we rejected them as adversaries to our desires. Yet you would not turn your face from us, and sent to us the One who is named Salvation. Therefore, we join our voices in thanksgiving, with those in this place, and in every place, with those in every moment, and in this moment, singing with all creation to your glory:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, God of palms and passion. All creation proclaims your coming towards us. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest!**

Minister: Holy are you, God of goodness, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who comes in your name. When he could have remained with you, he poured himself into the emptiness of our souls; casting aside his unity with you, he gathered up our brokenness to make us whole; proclaimed by the choirs of heaven, he humbled himself as a servant, so we might be raised to glory; faithful to the point of death, even to the shameful death on a cross, you exalted him to new life so we might stand with him in eternity with you. Remembering the One who came for us, remembering the words he taught, remembering his passion and his resurrection, we proclaim the One who is the Bread of Life:

**All: Christ came in triumph, only to be rejected by us; Christ died in sorrow, only to be raised by you; Christ will come again, only to bring us to you.**

Minister: Holy Spirit, as we come to this Table, bless the gifts of the bread and the cup that they might be the sustenance of grace. Sustain us with the Bread of life, so we would not turn our backs on those who hunger; nourish us with the Cup of hope, so we might encourage the

weary; so fill us with the good news, that we dare not remain silent, but must shout out God's desire of justice and peace for all people. And when days of triumph and tragedy are done, when we are gathered in your righteousness, we will join with all your people, of every time and place, who forever sing your praises for all eternity, God in Community, Holy in One.

### Prayer after Communion

Minister: O God of Light and Love, we come before you, remembering him who was proclaimed king on that first Palm Sunday.

**All:** We would make him king of all things in our lives as we declare our loyalty to him by the receiving of the bread and cup. We renew our pledge to serve him by serving one another. May we not join the crowd which crowned him and then crucified him.

Minister: Let our lives be a constant confession of abiding allegiance to Jesus, the Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### Sending Hymn # 217:

### Ride on, ride on, in majesty

*Words & Music: Public Domain*

1. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
hark all the tribes Hosanna cry.  
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strewn.

2. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
in lowly pomp ride on to die.  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
the angel hosts beyond the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.

4. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
the last and fiercest strife is nigh.  
Thy Father on the sapphire throne  
expects thee, loved, anointed son.

5. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
in lowly pomp ride on to die.  
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain;  
then take, O God, thy power and reign.

## Benediction

Minister: Go with courage to face the days ahead as we enter this Holy Week. And may the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road. May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve. May the Christ who lives with a wounded heart open your hearts to love. May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you. 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

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*arr. Hal H. Hopson*

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The beautiful Mum Plants in the Chancel this morning  
are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of

**GREG MOREAU**

by Annis and Spencer Moreau.

&

**KEVIN MUNRO**

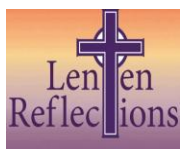
by Marianne, Patrick and Elizabeth.

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Dhane BK, now in his senior years, lives with his close-knit family in Nepal. Seven years ago, Dhane completed treatment for leprosy, marking a significant milestone in his journey to overcome the disease. However, his struggle did not end there. Recently, he faced a new challenge when he developed a skin ulcer. Recognizing the severity of the situation, he was admitted for specialized care to the Shining Hospital, supported by PWS&D. His treatment regimen included daily ulcer dressings and comprehensive education on self-care practices. He learned the importance of inspecting, cleansing, protecting and caring for the ulcer—practices that promote healing and empower him to take an active role in his recovery. Today, Dhane continues to improve, with the ulcer showing significant signs of healing.

*A Mission Moment from The PCC*



**Lenten Noon Hour Mid-Week  
Services 2025 at Wall Street 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.

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



# First Presbyterian Church

## APRIL CALENDAR

### **LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY**

- 1<sup>st</sup> 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

**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

DSLGC Cooking Class - Thursday mornings – Thursday afternoons; DSLGC Cricut Group - Tuesday afternoons

BGH DAY HOSPICE – Wednesday Mornings & Afternoons in the Parlour and Church Hall.

- April 13 **MORNING WORSHIP (Palm Sunday) - with Communion** - 11 am. in the Sanctuary  
Coffee Hour, following worship, in the Church Hall.  
Christina Duncan leads worship at St. Lawrence Lodge.
- April 17 **EVENING WORSHIP (Maundy Thursday) - with Communion** - 7 pm. in the Sanctuary
- April 18 **GOOD FRIDAY WALK of the CROSS** - 9:30 am. on the steps of the Court House.  
**ECUMENICAL WORSHIP** - 11 am. at Wall Street United Church.
- April 20 **EASTER SUNDAY** - 11 am. in the Sanctuary  
Coffee Hour, following worship, in the Church Hall.
- April 26 **Brockville Community Cleanup** - 9 am. at George Street Park  
Hot Chocolate and Cookies following the cleanup, in the Church Hall.
- April 27 **MORNING WORSHIP (Mission Awareness Sunday)** - 11 am. in the Sanctuary - Baptism  
Coffee Hour, following worship, in the Church Hall.  
Reverend Marianne leads worship at the Wedgewood.

### Office Hours – April 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>

Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – 10 am. to 11:30 and 1 pm. to 4:30 pm

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Thurs., April 10<sup>th</sup> – 10 am. to 11:45 and 1:15 pm. to 4:30 pm

Good Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> – Office closed

### Dates for Your Calendar

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

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.

### Happy Birthday to:

(April 13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>)

**CAROL BOURETT** – April 16<sup>th</sup>  
**ELEANOR BINGLEY** – April 19<sup>th</sup>



*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.*

## An Inspiration for Change

In the quiet village of Chigwere in northern Malawi, 18-year-old Agnes Bambi found a sense of belonging and purpose as a member of the in-school youth club.

Supervised by two knowledgeable volunteer leaders trained by the “Every Youth Empowered Project” of the Livingstonia Synod AIDS Project, the youth club became a platform for empowerment and education. Working with both boys and girls, the club challenges social norms that favour men and boys and addresses the systemic marginalization of women and girls, which are especially challenging around issues of sexual and reproductive health.

Through the youth club, Agnes discovered the importance of staying in school and actively engaged in discussions about sexual reproductive health. Equipped with knowledge, she took it upon herself to become an agent of change in her community, teaching her friends about the critical aspects of staying in school and making informed decisions for their futures.

*This Lenten season, faithfully respond to Christ's call to ensure youth are empowered with the knowledge they need to make informed choices.*

### A Special Opportunity to Give this Easter

Each box of Church Envelopes contains a special one marked “Easter Offering”. This year, donations received in that special envelope will be given in support of **PRESBYTERIAN WORLD SERVICE & DEVELOPMENT (PWS&D)**.

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, PWS&D envisions a sustainable, compassionate and just world. PWS&D's key values are: **Compassion** - walking with distressed and marginalized people, listening carefully to their stories and responding effectively. **Justice** - PWS&D works for equality, empowerment, human dignity, peace and stewardship of creation. In solidarity, PWS&D affirms that all people are entitled to know their rights, to receive equal protection, and to have access to and control over resources. **Partnership** - PWS&D believes in dynamic relationships that involve mutual learning, trust and shared vision. Healthy partnerships are accountable, ethical, equitable, flexible and respectful.

For those of you who do not have envelopes, please use a Visitor's Envelope found in your pew if you are attending a service of worship in-person OR give using any of our online options. However you choose to give, please include your full name and address and clearly write “My Easter Offering”. If you prefer your Easter gift be used to support the ongoing expenses of the Church, include your gift in your regular givings.

### **Brockville Community – Wide Clean Up**

First Presbyterian Church has registered to clean up **GEORGE STREET PARK** on **Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 9 am. to 12 noon** and we are looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to help with the clean up. Gloves, garbage bags, recycling bags and paper bags are supplied. Rakes are needed. If you can volunteer, please meet at the park (on George Street) at 9 am. with your rake if you have one. There are lots of jobs to do even without a rake! Cookies and hot chocolate will be served afterwards at the church. Please join in the fun if you have a few hours to spare. Thanks.

### **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>

## The Brockville Community Choir

Madelyn Mensen Artistic Director  
Abe TeGrotenhuis Collaborative Artist

# This Day



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



## GRACEFIELD CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

<https://gracefieldcamp.ca/beavertales-newsletter/>

Check out the latest edition of the Camp Newsletter – BEAVERTAILS. It is full of information about the 2025 season. Summer registration for camp is now open! More information about Gracefield and the summer camping schedule is available in the CHALLENGE or visit <https://gracefieldcamp.ca/>. First Presbyterian Church will sponsor campers again this summer for a wonderful experience in God's great outdoors. **Would you like to sponsor a child to camp?** Would you like to donate to the sponsorship fund? *Please contact the church office for more information and ways to donate.*

## MUSIC FESTIVAL ENTRIES

**Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Brockville Arts Hub @ St. John's Church

7:30 pm – Marianne Emig Carr – Folk Songs

7:55 pm – Marianne Emig Carr – Sacred Music

8:30 pm – Marianne Emig Carr – Stage & Film

**Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Band Workshop**

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

280 Ormond Street

7 pm – Brockville Concert Band

*(Michel LaBonte is part of the band!)*

**Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Brockville Arts Hub @ St. John's Church

10:35 am – Zoey Burke – Baroque Repertoire

*(Zoey is a student of Kathleen Howard!)*

*She is also granddaughter of Roger & Bonnie Burke.)*

**Please attend their classes and support our musicians!**

## CELTIC CONCERT

April 14, 2025

7pm

Doors open at 6:30pm



St. Paul's Anglican Church  
12 Pine Street  
Brockville

Admission by cash donation (suggested \$25)

Enquiries: 613 345 2793

## TO BE GIVEN AWAY!!

(Owners moving to a new home)

**IKEA Captain's Bed with base,  
drawers and a new mattress**

**Side Tables**

**Ceiling, table and desk Lighting Units**

**Rugs**

**Kitchen Accessories (including a bread maker)**

If you are interested in any of these items,  
please call the Church Office 613-345-5014.

## Presbyterian Connection Submission Deadline: April 17<sup>th</sup>

Does your congregation have a special event, celebration, milestone or other activity to share with the broader denomination through the popular Presbyterian Connection newspaper? Please send it in to [connection@presbyterian.ca](mailto:connection@presbyterian.ca) by April 17<sup>th</sup>. To read past issues, subscribe or find upcoming deadlines, visit [presbyterian.ca/connection](http://presbyterian.ca/connection).



Presenter: Dr. Leora Gansworth

## Every Day is Earth Day

Learning about the impacts of environmental change on Indigenous people and all our relations.

**Register today!**

**Tuesday, April 23**

**1:00 - 2:00 p.m. (Eastern)**



This one-hour webinar will explore insights about how ongoing land and water changes uniquely impact Indigenous peoples' inter-generational lives and "all our relations," including birds, fish, plants and others. Questions of climate justice are about living well together, and Dr. Leora Gansworth will share some examples of how faith and action might work together to pursue mino-bimadiziwin. This

Anishinabe concept talks about seeking a good and balanced life. Dr. Gansworth is Anishinabe-kwe, a community-engaged scholar and Anishinabe geographer. Her professional work draws from Anishinabe legal traditions, including relationships and water-related responsibilities.

To register visit - <https://presbyterian.ca/webinars/every-day-is-earth-day/>

## Myanmar Earthquake Response



On March 28<sup>th</sup>, Myanmar and Thailand were struck by a devastating earthquake measuring 7.7 in magnitude. While the current death toll is already over 1,700, the final number is projected to be well over 10,000. More than 3,400 people are injured,

and over 300 individuals are still reported missing. Entire communities have been destroyed, leaving thousands of people homeless. Exacerbating the issue in Myanmar, communities hit by the earthquake were already hosting over 1.6 million people displaced from elsewhere in the country. PWS&D is able to respond through our ecumenical networks and coalitions, including ACT Alliance.

**Please keep the people of Myanmar and Thailand in your prayers and support our response by clicking the link below, calling the office at 1-800-619-7301 x291 or donating through your congregation. Indicate the gift is for "Myanmar Relief."**

