



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 6th, 2025

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Reader: **Mark Leslie**

Musical Guests: **The First Presbyterian Church Hand Bell Choir**

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.
- * **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 for a light luncheon in the Church Hall this morning following worship. Luncheon will be served followed by a meeting to bring people up-to-date on the Capital Project – complete with motions to consider! 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: Janice Walroth Elevator: Bob Walroth
Sound and Video Team – Quentin Robinson, Kade LeBrun

- * 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 **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.

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 Hand Bell Choir

Jacob's Ladder

arr. Kevin McChesney

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

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

Minister: Anointed before his death by a faithful woman disciple,

All: but betrayed by a self-serving disciple, Jesus confronted death.

Minister: But through his death on the cross and the power of the resurrection,

All: in faith, we believe that Christ has made us his own.

Minister: And so with shouts of joy we declare God's praise

All: for the Lord has done great things for us.



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 # 314: God is love: come heaven, adoring

Words: Timothy Rees ©1997 The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor ©1970 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI License # 20312607/20312614

1. God is love: come heaven, adoring;

God is love: come earth rejoice.

Come creation, voices soaring, sing exalting with one voice.

God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heavens above,

God who breathes through all creation - God is love, eternal love.

2. God is love, whose arms enfolding all the world in one embrace,
with unfailing grasp are holding every child of every race.

And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod,

all the sorrow, all the aching wrings with pain the heart of God.

3. God is love, and though with blindness

sin afflicts all human life, God's eternal loving kindness,
guides us through all earthly strife.

Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain;

God is love: so love forever o'er the universe must reign.

Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life, we come to your presence today with grateful hearts.

All: We praise you for your creation and its reliable rhythms. We praise you, for Christ and his ministry that we seek to continue.

Minister: By the power of your Spirit, lighten our hearts in this time of worship,

All: and help us brighten the lives we touch this week in Jesus' name.

Minister: And so, we praise you, O God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life,

All: and offer you all glory and honour, this day and every day, now and evermore.

The Hand Bell Choir:

Just As I Am

arr. Linda Lamb

Prayer of Confession

Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, we gather in your name today, aware that you keep moving closer and closer to the cross.

All: We confess it is not easy to follow your story. We confess we often struggle to decide what to give and whom to help. We can be critical of those in need and those who help them. Forgive us when we look for reasons not to share our bounty, and fail to act generously, as you did. Show us how to learn from and follow the ways of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us. Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace.

A Message for our Children & Youth

Giving Our Best

Minister: The week before Jesus was crucified, he had a meal with some of his friends. After they had eaten, his friend Mary did something that the others thought was very strange. (Show them a bottle of perfume.) Mary took out a bottle of very expensive perfume and began to rub it on Jesus' feet. Back then, it was a sign of great honour for people to have their feet bathed or perfumed. People walked a great deal, and most of the people only had sandals for shoes. Their feet became very dirty from the travel, so having them cleaned and perfumed was a great luxury.

But some of the people at the dinner were concerned. Not by the fact that Mary was caring for Jesus' feet, but more by the fact that she was using such an expensive perfume to do it. They thought that it was wasteful to use such valuable perfume for such a dirty task.

Jesus told them that they were wrong to think this. Mary loved Jesus enough to give him the best that she had, no matter how much it cost. Jesus was pleased that Mary honoured him so much. Mary knew that Jesus was special, and she wanted to give him her best.

I wonder if we always give Jesus our best. Do we love him enough to make sacrifices for him and for other people? It is not easy to put others first, but Mary did. She shows us that giving Jesus your best is the best thing to do. So, as you look forward to this week, can you think of something you could do to put others first? Maybe let someone else have a bigger piece of cake or more candy? Go out of your way to make friends with someone who is lonely? Or donate some of your allowance to the Food Bank or to the church to help people who are in need? Whatever you think you can do, just remember that, like Mary, we should always try to give our best to Jesus.

Prayer following the Message:

Minister: Thank you, God, for your son, Jesus. Teach us to honour him with our lives and to give him the very best of who we are and what we have. Amen.

Hymn # 198:

I hunger and I thirst

Words & Music: Public domain

1. I hunger and I thirst;
Jesus my manna be:
ye living waters, burst out of the rock for me.
2. Thou bruised and broken bread,
my lifelong wants supply;
as living souls are fed, oh feed me, or I die.
3. Thou true life-giving vine,
let me thy sweetness prove;
renew my life with thine; refresh my soul with love.
4. Since first their course began,
rough paths my feet have trod.
Feed me, thou living bread: help me, thou son of God.
5. For still the desert lies
my thirsting soul before;
O living waters, rise within me evermore.

to hear God's word....

Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Mark: Let us pray. Creator God, you spoke, and light appeared in chaotic nothingness. Your Word became flesh in Jesus Christ and lived among us. Speak again with the power of the Holy Spirit through the Scriptures and transform us so that our lives may more fully conform to your Living Word. Amen.

Psalm 126 (read responsively)

Mark: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

All: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;

Mark: then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

All: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Mark: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

All: May those who sow in tears, reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Reading from Scripture:

John 12: 1 - 8

New International Version (NIV)

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Mark: **Jesus Anointed at Bethany**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume. She poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why was not this perfume sold, and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." Judas did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

Mark: 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 Hand Bell Choir:

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

arr. Lloyd Larson

The Meditation

Extravagant Love

Love is such a pervasive motif in our society, is it not? Think of all the love songs, the books about love, the rom-com movies, and so on! Usually, they focus on romantic love between two people, but there are also ones that focus on the love for friends and family as well. There are so many words for “love” as well – in fact, the Greek language used in the Bible has four words for love:

Eros (ἔρως): romantic or passionate love between two people. While it is not explicitly used in the Bible, the concept of “eros” or romantic love is reflected in the Bible, such as in the Song of Solomon.

Storge (στοργή): refers to familial love, the natural affection between parents and children, as well as between siblings. Again, while the specific term is not used in the New Testament, the concept is evident in passages that emphasize family relationships and responsibilities.

Philia (φιλία): refers to the affectionate regard or friendship between individuals. This type of love refers to the relationships between believers and is what Jesus was referring to when he said *“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”* (John 15:13).

Agapē (ἀγάπη): Agapē is the most frequently used term for ‘love’ in the New Testament and is often associated with the selfless, sacrificial love that God has for humanity. This form of love is unconditional and is characterized by a commitment to the well-being of others, regardless of circumstances. This is the love that is described in John 3:16: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

So, languages have different words for love. Movies, books and songs portray many visual and “aural” images of love. But have you ever thought about how love might smell? I bet that is not a question you have been asked very often! So how do you think love might smell? Maybe the fragrance of that morning cup of coffee, or fresh bread just out of the oven, made with love? A fragrant bouquet of your favourite flowers? Or...how about a house filled with the fragrance of a very expensive perfume? So much so that it settles into every nook and cranny, infusing the carpets with the scent, permeating the curtains and the fabric of every couch and every chair. Maybe too much? Too extravagant?

In our text today, we can see Mary's act as being an act of extravagant love - and it is all in the details. A pound or pint of perfume. Ok, when was the last time you bought that much perfume? That is like half a liter of perfume! Like, I have never bought that much! If you go to your local store, the most you can get in a bottle at a time is like what, 100 ml? And given how many places are scent-free these days, I do not know that I would ever get through that much perfume in my lifetime. And this is costly perfume. No knockoffs from Wal-Mart or Shoppers Drug Mart. This is the expensive stuff. The kind you ask for as a birthday gift, a

Christmas present. The kind you would never buy for yourself. Made of pure nard - meaning, that it was not spliced with something cheaper to make it go farther!

The house was filled with the fragrance. There WAS nowhere you could go without smelling it. It seeps into your clothing, even into your skin. And the perfume costs 300 denarii - almost a year's salary. This is extravagant love. The kind of love that must be shown, not just said. Because too much of our love lands in empty words. If you cannot feel it, smell it, taste it, hear it, and see it, well, then it is not discipleship love. This is what Mary teaches us. This is what we need to know about discipleship today – pure, extravagant love. But be ready. When you start going around and acting out this kind of extravagant love, a love without words, but love that is heard louder than ever - well, expect resistance. Expect suspicion. Expect rejection. Because most people do not know what to do with this kind of love. And Judas proves that theory right.

It is interesting how Judas shows up in the middle of this display of abundant love? It is as if he just cannot stand it. It is as if there is only so much unselfish, agapē love he can take, and I do not think Judas was alone in that feeling at that supper. This is what we do with extravagant love. We think it is untrue. We do not imagine ourselves worthy of such love, and we make excuses that deem us unlovable. Because we think we are unlovable, we then allow ourselves to think that others do not deserve God's love, either. We put boundaries around love. We control and limit love. Confine, contain, and detain love.

What would Jesus do when one of his friends wants to say, "I love you"? What would Jesus do if one of his disciples said, "Jesus, you have shown me so much love, please let me love you." Look at Jesus in this story. What does he do? He does not say, "No, really Mary. You should not." He does not stop her. He receives her love. Because he loves her. This is what true, mutual love looks like. And Jesus received her love because maybe, just maybe, he needed it. Think about the context in which this is taking place. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. We are coming to Holy Week, to the end of Jesus' life. The hour is coming - the Last Supper and then his arrest in the garden. If there was ever a time Jesus needed to know he was loved, it was right then and there.

He rebukes Judas for his stingy response to Mary's extravagant love when he says "*It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me*". Jesus knows what is coming. And I think Jesus' gratitude for Mary's love likely matches the fragrance that filled the room. And Jesus' gratitude and love will then be the same for his disciples. Because in the very next chapter, he washes his disciples' feet, showing them the kind of love that Mary showed him. This is what happens when extravagant love is let loose. This is what happens when you experience a kind of love, an amount of love that you could never have imagined. You cannot **not** do the same.

Mary's extravagant act of love does not make sense to the disciples. It is outlandish and out of the norm. But on a human level, Mary expressed what is paramount in this life: to hold onto what is life-giving and true and beautiful, and let go of the rest.

Many of you will be familiar with the 1970s hit "What the world needs now". The first line of the chorus goes like this "*What the world needs now is love, sweet love, it's the only thing that there's just too little of.*" In today's world, it seems like there is less and less love. Less love for the poor and marginalized. Less love for BIPOC people, for refugees, for LGBTQ2S+ people, for the elderly, the sick, those struggling with addictions and mental health, for children. There seems to be a lot of love for billionaires, for people who already have so much and, like Judas, want to control love. To confine, contain, detain, and deport love, to stoke fear and hatred instead. There seems to be a lot of **that** around right now! But we are Jesus' people. We are different, because our example, our Way-shower is different. We are called to an extravagant love that lays down one's life for one's friends. An abundant love expressed in nothing less than the taste of the best wine. The smell of the bread of life. Seeing for the very first time the world God created for us. Hearing your name called when no one else seems to care. Because we are Jesus' people. And we know that Jesus' extravagant love for us wins. Love always wins. Amen.

Blessing the Word in our Lives

Minister: Oh creating God, the universe proclaims your truth, and your knowledge flows night and day! Through the Spirit, open our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, our hearts to receive, and our hands and feet to serve. Amen.

Hymn # 588:

A prophet-woman broke a jar

Words: Brian A. Wren, copyright 1993 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: Walter K. Stanton, copyright Oxford University Press, CCLI license 20312607/20312614

1. A prophet-woman broke a jar by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing for Christ's dying.
2. A faithful woman left a tomb by Love's divine commission.
She saw, she heard, she preached the Word, arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb, with resurrection gospel;
she saw, she heard, she preached the Word, apostle to the apostles.
3. Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten and unheard, derided and forbidden,

the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.

4. The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls, from women, men and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

Responding in love with thanksgiving

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

Minister: O God in whom we live and move and have our being, we come to you in prayer, trusting that you are with us in the ups and downs, the joys and sorrows of these challenging days. We give you thanks for every sign of your presence with us, for every unexpected kindness, every word of comfort or encouragement, every sign of courage in the face of injustice, every hopeful step towards reconciliation amid conflict, and healing in the face of disease or danger. Loving Creator,

People: thank you for your presence in all things.

Minister: In this unpredictable world, we pray for those whose lives are caught up in reckless terror or planned oppression, and for those living in places where they are afraid to walk freely. We remember all who find the uncertainty of our times overwhelming and discouraging. We pray especially for the people of Afghanistan, Gaza, Ukraine, Syria, Sudan, Yemen, Venezuela, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Haiti. Give those living in fear the courage to go on in your company. Loving Creator,

People: thank you for your presence in all things.

Minister: As the stories of Jesus turn us toward the cross, O God, we pray for those who also walk the road of suffering. We remember before you those whose lives have been plunged into sorrow or despair through tragic death, critical illness or chronic pain. We pray for those who are dealing with natural disasters or crises brought about by climate change and especially pray for all those affected by the devastating earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand. May all these know your comfort and compassion. Loving Creator,

People: thank you for your presence in all things.

Minister: O God, the stories of Jesus show us that he faced the clamour of many demands and the pressure of many critics. We pray for all those who are exhausted these days, juggling more demands and fewer resources in their work or at home, for those who cannot seem to get it right, whatever they do, and for all those facing unfair criticism and expectations in the responsibilities they bear on behalf of others. Loving Creator,

People: thank you for your presence in all things.

Minister: We also 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, remembering especially those whose voices are often not heard in our society. Loving Creator,

People: thank you for your presence in all things.

Minister: O God, we need the embrace of your presence, each in our own way. Anoint us with your Spirit of healing and hope, and bring peace to our lives and this world you love for the sake of Christ Jesus who taught us to pray together:

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: At the dinner party for Jesus in Bethany, Mary anointed Christ with expensive perfume, pouring out her love and devotion. Jesus accepted Mary's gift gladly and graciously. Trust that Christ will never reject our gifts, presented with love and devotion, so let us present our offering with glad and generous hearts.

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

* 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: Gracious God, even as Mary poured out her love for Jesus, he was preparing to pour out his life on the cross for her and for us all. We are grateful for such love, given and received, then given again. Accept the gifts we bring and anoint them with your Spirit so that they will flow into the world, refreshing others with your mercy and love. Amen.

[Sending Hymn # 205:](#)

[O love how deep](#)

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
how passing thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake.
2. For us baptized, for us he bore
his holy fast and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharp he knew, for us the tempter overthrew.
3. For us he prayed; for us he taught;
for us his daily works he wrought:
by words and signs and actions, thus still seeking not himself, but us.
4. For us to wicked hands betrayed,
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death, for us gave up his dying breath.
5. For us he rose from death again;
for us he went on high to reign;
for us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
6. All glory to our Lord and God
for love so deep, so high, so broad,
the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

[Benediction](#)

Minister: As we continue our Lenten journey, remember the words of St Paul: that “suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.” And so may God’s anointing love strengthen your endurance, Christ’s loving mercy perfect your character, and the Spirit’s grace and power enliven your hope this day, and in every day to come. 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 Hand Bell Choir](#)

[Let There Be Peace on Earth](#)

arr. Arnold B. Sherman



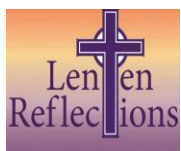
PWS&D works with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana to advocate for the rights and inclusion of individuals with disabilities. The Garu Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Centre offers life and vocational skills training. Tilata Mahama, a 40-year-old, shares her experience: "I could not move due to my disability. The CBR program, supported by PWS&D, came to my aid with a tricycle and trained me in simple trading skills and the capital to start a business.

Now, I can go to church to worship God with the aid of the tricycle. I also own and run a shop where I sell confectionaries and other items to support myself and my children. I am so grateful to the CBR and PWS&D for coming to my aid."

A Mission Moment from The PCC



Today, April 6th is **LOAVES & FISHES Sunday** - Our Church supports the work of this restaurant with our donations of money and time. This ministry assists so many and we are thankful to be a part of it. Donations of food can be left in the basket at the rear of the Sanctuary or delivered to the Church Office (macaroni type pasta and coffee are great choices) during the week. Donations of money are welcome in your regular offering envelopes or online donations. Please mark all envelopes clearly. Thanks.



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

Meeting weekly on successive Wednesdays at 12 noon until April 16th.

Services are followed by a light soup

lunch at 12:30 pm. Services will be in-person and on Facebook. **Apr. 9th** – Rev. Wendy McLean

Apr. 16th – Reverend Catherine Oxenford-Grant



Office Hours – April 7th to 11th

Monday, April 7th – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Tuesday, April 8th – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 9th – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Thurs., April 10th – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Friday, April 11th – 10 am. to 1:30 pm.

Copies of the **APRIL PRAYER CALENDAR** are available this morning on the table at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Copies of the **LENT/EASTER EDITION** of the **CHALLENGE** will be available in the Church Office during Coffee Hour.

First Presbyterian Church

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 – 4th Sunday of each month – Church Hall

Happy Birthday to:
(April 7th to 12th)

MARIE MUJAHID – March 30th

LINDA OSMOND – April 7th

IAN STEPHENSON – April 8th

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

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

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

- April 06 **MORNING WORSHIP (Fifth Sunday in Lent)** - 11 am. in the Sanctuary.
A light luncheon, following worship, in the Church Hall with congregational meeting.
- April 09 **Meeting of the SESSION** - 7 pm. in the Red Room.
- April 11 **P.A. DAY CAMP** - 9 am. – 3 pm. in the 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
Coffee Hour, following worship, in the Church Hall.
Reverend Marianne leads worship at the Wedgewood.

Dates for Your Calendar

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

Palm Sunday with Communion – April 13th

Maundy Thursday with Communion
April 17th – 7 pm.

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

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

Easter Sunday – April 20th – 11 am.



P.A. DAY CAMP

Friday, April 11th, 2025

Our Mission Project for this P.A. Day Camp is in support of **QueenCare** in Brockville.

QueenCare is a charity that equips birthing women, and their families, by providing education, in-home support, and community connections. Items that are needed on an ongoing basis include diapers (size 4, 5, & 6), baby wipes, and adult size M, LG and XL disposable underwear. If you would prefer to make a financial contribution, please bring your donation in an envelope with your name and address on it. Mark it “**QueenCare**” and the Church will make sure it is forwarded to Interval

House. Thank you for your support!! Spaces are still available for more campers. Email firstkirk@truespeed.ca for a registration form or to submit a form. The cost of the day is \$10/camper or \$20/family. Campers bring their own lunch and are prepared with clothing to keep warm outside.

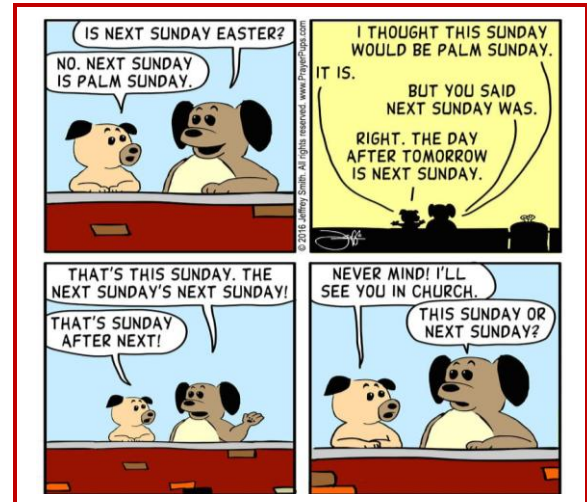


Highly populated WiFi environments: Isn't that an interesting phrase? Guess what, with all the "wireless" mics, page turners, tablets and other equipment in the sanctuary, this has become a "highly populated WIFI environment". Add to that everyone who walks in with a cell phone, and we have a problem 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.

Lilawati Stands Against Child Marriage

Sixteen-year-old Lilawati Kumari is an active participant in the Adolescent Girls Group classes in her village. Facilitated by the Duncan Hospital in northern India, these sessions explore crucial gender justice issues. In one class, Lilawati learned about early marriage, its effects, prevention, and the helpline number people could call for help. At the same time, her parents were considering arranging her marriage. When Lilawati found out, she stood her ground, "I aspire to pursue my education and fulfill my dreams, not to have my life predetermined in this way." Through conversations with her parents about child marriage, the laws against it, and its effects on girls, Lilawati helped them understand the negative impact of early marriage on a child's life, and on the broader society. They are now supportive of Lilawati as she pursues her education. "I have taken the first step in my family and will be a role model to other girls so that they can take a stand against child marriage in their homes and work towards fulfilling their dreams," she shares.

This Lenten season, faithfully respond to Christ's call to raise awareness on gender issues and create a more equitable and just world for girls.



Showing the St. Lawrence College Music Theatre - Performance Program
Sponsored by: Friends of Music Theatre

Music by Stephen Flaherty
Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens
Book by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty
Co-Conceived by Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty, and Eric Idle
Based on the Works of Dr. Seuss

Seussical™ is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

Seussical

Friday, April 11th, 2025 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 12th, 2025 at 2 pm.
Saturday, April 12th, 2025 at 7:30 pm
Sunday, April 13th, 2025 at 2 pm.
Brockville Arts Centre

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/@firstpresbyteria_nchurchbro482

**SYNODICAL
OF
QUEBEC AND EASTERN ONTARIO
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

FRIDAY APRIL 25TH 9:30-3pm
**ST PAULS
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
KEMPTVILLE
(319 Prescott Street)**

LUNCH \$15

THEME: RESILIENCE
SPEAKER DIANA KEMP ON CUBA

To Register: email Judy Messenger
jamessenger93@gmail.com
or
Call: 613-258-5538 by April 17th
(to book lunch)

