

First Presbyterian Church

World Refugee Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

Recognition of Minister-In-Association - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard** Reader: **The Reverend Ian Johnston**

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, following the Recognition Service 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, June 29th, 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 Elevator: Francis 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

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 Organ Prelude

Fugue in A Major

Friedrich William Zachau

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

Minister: Let us celebrate the victory of our Lord over all the forces of evil!

<u>All</u>: In the resurrection of Christ, God wrought a mighty victory over death.

Minister: Every entity of evil knows the power of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>All</u>: Let our hearts not be afraid and our faith in Christ remain strong.

Minister: One day every knee will indeed bow before Christ our Lord and Saviour.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Opening Hymn # 685:

How firm a foundation

Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent word! What more can God say than to you hath been said, to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?
- 2. "Fear not, I am with thee; oh be not dismayed!
 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 I'll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."
- 3. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow, for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."
- 4. "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flames shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine."
- 5. "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake, I'll never no, never no, never forsake!"

Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: Lord, we proclaim your rule in a world that struggles to recognize you.

<u>All</u>: We have seen you act in our midst, and we have this testimony to give – that you, O Lord, take the part of the poor, the afflicted and the oppressed.

Minister: In our worship today, and in our daily living, we seek to glorify and emulate you. Fill our hearts with your Spirit.

All: Move among us and inspire us. Bless us in our gathering and in our going. Amen.

The Chancel Choir

Jesus Loves Me

arr. Joel Raney

Prayer of Confession

Minister: Lord, our problems are legion. Our concerns, both spoken and unspoken, mount up in our lives and our hearts.

<u>All</u>: Yet, we continue to rely on our own strength, rather than coming to you for forgiveness and sustenance. The joys you offer are limitless, and the salvation you bring is for everyone. Forgive our lack of faith and trust. Bless us that we might hear and demonstrate action and concern for others out of the great love you have for us. Hear us. Heal us. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: The mercy of our God is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. Give thanks for God's generosity and share it with your neighbours, near and around the world.

Welcoming The Reverend Ian Johnston as Minister-in-Association

Introducing Reverend Ian Johnston

Minister: Many of you already know Reverend Ian Johnston and his wife June. They have been worshipping and serving with us for several years now. But you will see in the bulletin a description of the role of being a Minister-in-Association, a way by which ordained clergy who are not serving a pastoral charge, are able to call a particular congregation their "church home". Reverend Ian and June, we are so thankful that you have chosen to be part of our faith family!

Preamble

Minister: Through the church, God calls some to special tasks in equipping the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, and blesses them with gifts to fulfill this calling. Reverend Ian Johnston is one who has been called to this holy service.

Reverend Ian was ordained as a Minister of World and Sacrament on February 3rd, 1981. He has served congregations in Saskatchewan, Ontario, and New York, been a guest preacher in Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec and Virginia, preached 1,784 sermons, performed 182 baptisms, 126 weddings, and 398 funerals! His specialty has been interim ministry, assisting congregations who have been facing challenges to move forward together and continue their ministries in their communities. Even when he retired from full-time ministry, he continued to be an interim minister and shepherd congregations to find new life, hope and purpose in their callings. We are blessed that Reverend Ian and his wife June have chosen to call First Church their home congregation.

Prayer of Blessing

Minster: I ask that you join me in prayer as we ask for God's blessing and grace as we continue the journey of faith together: let us pray. God, our creator and guide, we marvel that you have made us to be your church, co-workers in your divine purposes and instruments of your gracious love.

All: We rejoice in the means of grace by which we celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Minister: We thank you for the Spirit who descended at Pentecost to abide in the church forever, filling earthen vessels with heavenly treasures. Hear our prayers for your servant, Reverend Ian Johnston, as in your name we welcome him as Minister-in-Association at First Presbyterian Church. May the truth of your gospel shine forth so that his gifts of service may continue to flourish. Spirit of God, may you continue to bless Reverend Ian as a teacher, leader and guide, both here at First Church and in the wider community, so that his knowledge and experience as an ordained minister may be applied with an understanding, diligence and integrity which is faithful to your gospel. Bless the ministry that Reverend Ian may offer in his role as Minister-in-Association. Spirit of God, enrich Reverend Ian with good health of body, mind and spirit. Continue to endow him with strength and gladness, patience and courage, common sense and laughter as he blesses our congregation with his presence.

<u>All</u>: Living Christ, by the power of your resurrection, may Reverend Ian, and all of us as part of the Body of Christ, be continually renewed to live and work with you for the reconciliation of your world. Amen.

Minister: I now invite you to stand if you are able as we affirm together what we believe in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

<u>All</u>: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the

dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Minister: Reverend Ian, God continues to call you, by the voice of the church to serve Jesus Christ. We welcome you into the faith family of Jesus Christ as a Minister-in-Association, and we extend to you the right hand of fellowship! (Elders come forward to give the right hand of fellowship.)

Hymn # 637: Take my life, and let it be consecrated Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days: let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
- 3. Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
- 4. Take my silver and my gold: not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
- 5. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine; take my heart: it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

to hear God's word....

Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Reverend Ian: God of wisdom, send your Holy Spirit to us as we listen for your Word. Inspire us through what we hear to act with the courage and compassion we meet in Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

<u>Psalm 42</u> (read responsively)

Reverend Ian: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

People: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Reverend Ian: When shall I come and behold the face of God?

<u>People</u>: My tears have been my food day and night, while people sat to me continually, "Where is your God?"

Reverend Ian: These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:

<u>People</u>: how I went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Reverend Ian: Why are you downcast, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

<u>People</u>: Hope in God; for again I shall praise, my help and my God.

Reverend Ian: My soul is cast down within me; therefore, I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

<u>People</u>: Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me. By day the Lord bestows steadfast love, and at night God's song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

Reverend Ian: I say to God, my rock, "Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?"

<u>People</u>: Like a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

Reverend Ian: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

<u>People</u>: Hope in God; for again I shall praise my help and my God.

<u>The Scripture Lesson</u>

<u>Luke 8: 26-39</u>

**New International Version (NIV)

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Reverend Ian: Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time, this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torture me!" For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

"Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. A large herd of pigs was feeding there on

the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

Reverend Ian: 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

Just a Closer Walk

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

The Meditation

"Set Free To Tell The Story"

Have you ever seen a person so transformed it was hard to believe they were the same individual? Maybe someone who battled addiction and found recovery. Maybe someone who once carried deep anger or bitterness and is now peaceful and kind. Maybe even yourself - after encountering Christ in a meaningful way.

In our story today from the gospel of Luke, we meet a man so tormented and broken that society had cast him out. But Jesus does not cast him away - Jesus sets him free. And his story becomes a powerful testimony of transformation. Jesus and his disciples arrive by boat in the region of the Gerasenes - a Gentile area across the lake from Galilee. Immediately, a man meets them, possessed by demons and living among the tombs. He does not wear clothes. He does not live in a home. He is isolated, outcast, and tormented. The townspeople have tried to bind him with chains, but even those could not hold him. This is a man who has lost everything - his identity, his community, his dignity, and even his own voice. This is where Jesus meets him. Right in the middle of his brokenness. Not after he is cleaned up or has gotten better, but at his worst. Jesus goes to the places others avoid and speaks to the people others have given up on.

Jesus speaks not first to the man, but to the evil within him. "What is your name?" he asks. "Legion," the demons reply - because they are many. There is a battle here - not just for the man's sanity but for his soul. And Jesus confronts the forces that have bound this man and commands them to leave. The demons beg Jesus not to send them into the abyss, and Jesus

allows them to enter a herd of pigs. The pigs rush down the steep bank and drown in the lake. To us, this may seem a very strange part of the story. But it is a clear message: the man's life is worth more than a whole herd of livestock. Jesus values people over property, and freedom over fear. When the townspeople come out to see what had happened, they were shocked. There was the man - clothed, in his right mind, sitting at Jesus' feet. This is more than physical healing. This is *transformation*. Jesus has restored the man's humanity, his peace, his connection. No longer out of control, no longer shunned - he is now a disciple, listening and learning from the Lord. But instead of rejoicing, the people are afraid. They ask Jesus to leave. Why? Because transformation disrupts the status quo. Jesus' power challenges our control. His presence disturbs systems that are built on exclusion and fear.

Sometimes we are more comfortable with brokenness we can explain than with healing that surprises us. The man wants to follow Jesus - to go with him in the boat. But Jesus says, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he does. The man who had no name, who lived among tombs, becomes the first missionary to the Gentiles. His story becomes the first sermon in that region. He does not need formal training. He does not need to quote Scripture. He does not need to! All he needs is his story: "This is what Jesus did for me."

Maybe you have not lived among tombs, but perhaps you have been bound by patterns, habits or pain that isolate you. Many people are bound by addictions—to alcohol, drugs, food, and gambling—usually to suppress the pain of trauma. Others may be bound by economic challenges—they cannot make enough money to support themselves or their families. or are burdened by debts they cannot repay. But our gospel story reminds us that Jesus is in the business of transformation. Jesus transformed the life of the man in the tombs. Jesus met that man where he was, and Jesus meets us where we are—and offers us new life. And when we have been transformed, we have a story to tell. You do not need to have all the answers. You don't need to be perfect. You simply need to be willing to say: "Let me tell you what Jesus has done for me." That story can change someone else's life.

The demon-possessed man was set free and sent out to tell what Jesus did for him. We are as well. Jesus transforms our lives not only for our own sake, but so that others might hear and believe. May we be people like the ones who sit at Jesus' feet, who are set free by God's grace, and who go out to declare how much God has done for us. Amen.

Blessing the Word in our Lives

Minister: Through the power of your Holy Spirit, and the inspiration of your Word, continue to work in us and through us. Transform us into your image. Make us signs of grace and hospitality to the world around us, so that your kingdom would come, and your will would be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen.

Hymn # 451:

Dear Father, Lord of humankind

Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. Dear Father, Lord of humankind, forgive our foolish ways; reclothe us in our rightful mind; in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence praise.
- 2. In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word rise up and follow thee.
- 3. O sabbath rest by Galilee, O calm of hills above, where Jesus knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity, interpreted by love.
- 4. With that deep hush subduing all our words and works that drown the tender whisper of thy call as noiseless let thy blessing fall as fell thy manna down.
- 5. Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.
- 6. Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm.

Responding in love with thanksgiving

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

Minister: God of the earth and all its peoples, in Jesus Christ, you proclaimed the good news that true life and peace are found in you. Guide your church to proclaim this good news, not in ways that merely please people or don't ruffle feathers, but in ways that bring Christ's reconciling love to divided communities and lives out of joint with each other. Shine your light into the world's hidden corners, exposing violence, exploitation, bigotry. Reveal what dehumanizes the vulnerable and degrades your creation. God of the earth and all its peoples, **People:** Let your light shine!

Minister: God of healing and hope, we pray for all those who are ill or in pain, for the anxious and discouraged, for those facing death or the loss of someone dearly beloved, and for those struggling to make ends meet in these uncertain times. We also pray for all those who are victims of violence, abuse, and exploitation. Help us to advocate for the voiceless and the powerless in our communities. God of the earth and all its peoples,

People: Let your light shine!

Minister: On this National Indigenous People's Sunday, we pray for indigenous communities across this land. Grant them wisdom and healing as they address the needs of their people. Bring healing to those who remember painful experiences and build bridges of understanding among us all. On this World Refugee Day, we pray for Presbyterian World Service & Development and its partners as they work to bring healing and hope to so many places of strife and deprivation. We pray for your peace and love to permeate our world, remembering especially the people of Ukraine, Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Gaza, Yemen, Sudan, Haiti, Myanmar, and all places in our world where innocent people suffer because of conflict and persecution. May the mission we share in Jesus' name shine the light of your love into desperate lives. God of the earth and all its peoples,

People: Let your light shine!

Minister: God of the faithful future, bless this community of faith and guide us as we plan for the future in these uncertain times. Bless students and teachers as another challenging school year ends and lift the stress from their lives in this coming vacation season. Give us a time of rest and enjoyment in the summer months and restore our hope and our energy to serve in your world. God of the earth and all its peoples,

People: Let your light shine!

Minister: We offer all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to say together:

<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's Spirit equips Jesus' followers to bring healing and hope to the world God loves. The gifts we offer God are tangible signs of that healing and hope at work in us and through us, for the sake of Christ our Lord.

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

Offering Praise Song

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

Minister: Generous God, we offer our gifts with thankful hearts, grateful for your patience with us as your purposes unfold. Bless these gifts to accomplish your purposes throughout the world you love in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn # 746:

What a friend we have in Jesus

Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer. Oh what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.
- 2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness: take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3. Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Saviour, still our refuge: take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer. in his arms he'll take and shield thee. Thou wilt find a solace there.

The Benediction and Choral Amen

Minister: Go now, proclaiming to all how much Jesus has done for you. Be as one with each other in Christ. Wait for the Lord, and be ready to hear God's voice, even in the sounds of sheer silence. And may God be your fortress; may Christ Jesus release you from all that torments you; and may the Holy Spirit give you light and truth to sustain you day and night. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

All: in the name of Christ. Amen.

The Organ Postlude

Concerto No. 2 in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach



As the cost of living continues to rise across Saskatchewan, many individuals and families are finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry (SNCM) recognizes that, in these challenging times, people need both physical and spiritual care. In addition to offering counseling and spiritual guidance, SNCM provides a safe space for those seeking comfort and direction. Through its drop-in centre, SNCM serves warm meals and offers a range of programs, including a mid-week worship service, an arts program, and both crisis and spiritual counseling.

Rooted in First Nations traditions and gospel teachings, the ministry offers prayer, friendship, and hospitality to those in need. Over time, SNCM has flourished, not only in the number of people it serves but also in the depth of spiritual connections and the strength of the community bonds it fosters. SNCM receives support from Presbyterians Sharing.

A Mission Moment from The PCC

Available this morning on the tables at the rear of the Sanctuary

Copies of "Our Daily Bread" June, July and August

Copies of the Summer Edition of the

PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTION

Look especially at pages 20-23 & 34 for pictures of events in the life of our congregation! Thanks to Reverend Marianne for sending the pictures and articles to the Connection.

You are welcome to take either or both with you – no charge!

First Presbyterian Church IUNE CALENDAR

LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY

- 1st Sunday of each month

CRAFT & CHAT – summer break

FPC HAND BELL CHOIR - summer break

FPC CHANCEL CHOIR - Sun. Mornings -

9:30 am. - Choir Rm **SUNDAY SUPPER MINISTRY -** 4th Sunday

of each month

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 6 pm. in the Hall DSLG Cooking Class - Thursday am & pm

Happy Birthday to: (June 15th to June 21st)

BARBARA BARBOUR – June 19th SCARLETT DUNCAN – June 20th

Happy Anniversary to:

ANDREW & LAURA VILLENEUVE – June 16th
CLIFF & DOROTHY LEAN – June 19th
ANDREW & KIM DUNCAN – June 21st



Office Hours – June 23rd to 27th

Manday, June 23rd 10 am to

Monday, June 23^{rd} – 10 am. to 11:30 & 1 pm. to 4:30 pm. Tuesday, June 24^{th} – Off (at Craft & Chat luncheon) Wednesday, June 25^{th} – 10 am. to 4:30 pm. Thursday, June 26^{th} – 10 am to 11:30 & 1 pm. to 4:30 pm. Friday, June 27^{th} – 10 am. to 1:30 pm.

DSLG Cricut Group - Tuesday afternoons BGH DAY HOSPICE – Wednesday Mornings & Afternoons in the Parlour and Church Hall.

June 22 MORNING WORSHIP – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

11 am. in the Sanctuary - No Coffee Hour - Sunday Supper Ministry Reverend Marianne leads afternoon worship at the Wedgewood.

- June 23 Reverend Marianne leads worship at Rosedale and Sherwood Park Manor.
- June 24 CRAFT & CHAT POTLUCK LUNCH at the home of Brenda Fisk.
- June 25 The **SESSION** meets at the home of Brenda Fisk
- June 29 MORNING WORSHIP 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Reverend Marianne leads afternoon worship at Half Moon Bay in the afternoon.

SERVICES of WORSHIP in the Summer Months

Sundays, July 6th, 13th ,20th, 27th

Minister: The Reverend John Wilderspin First Baptist Church

at First Baptist Church - 10 am.

Sundays, August 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr First Presbyterian Church

at First Presbyterian Church - 11 am.

Rally Sunday, September 7th at St. Lawrence Park - 11 am.

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr

During the month of July, the congregations of First Baptist Church and First Presbyterian Church will come together to worship at First Baptist Church at 10 am. For this month, First Baptist will produce the order of service each Sunday morning, as well as provide music and musical guests, readers and greeters. This provides the many volunteers from First Church, who provide this support each Sunday morning during the year, with the opportunity to have a break and worship with their families. In August, First Church will provide the volunteers and produce the bulletin, outreach deliveries, and the prayer calendar. During July, you are encouraged to pray for the health and safety of friends and family and for the care and well-being of all those in need in our community and around the world. A note about givings: During July, envelopes from First Church folks should be placed on the offering plates each Sunday morning. The envelopes will be

collected at the end of each service and brought back to First Church for banking. The loose collection at services in July will remain with First Baptist Church. The loose collection in August will remain with First Presbyterian Church. Etransfers will be available as usual, and envelopes can be left at the church office during the week.



HALF MOON BAY (Gananoque)

See the tallest cathedral ceiling at Historic Half Moon Bay during the Sunday, June 29th Service of Worship.

Minister: The Reverend MARIANNE EMIG CARR

Everyone is Welcome!

About Half Moon Bay

Half Moon Bay is a natural rock bay formation on Bostwick Island that has been transformed into a summer place of worship for all.

Half Moon Bay is at the southeast end of Bostwick Island about three km. southwest of Gananoque. On

Sunday afternoons during the summer, worshippers who come to Half Moon Bay, remain in their boats to sing hymns, listen to guest speakers and participate in a non-denominational Christian service. The "Cathedral" is inspirational, humbling and natural. Services are at 4 p.m. and there is pick up by our **free ferry service** at the PUC docks at 3 p.m.

Schedule of Ministers visit https://www.halfmoonbay.site/ In the event of inclement weather, the services are held at the Thousand Island Boat Museum.





Welcome to Reverend Ian Johnston as a Minister-in-Association! What is a "Minister-in-Association"

Not all Presbyterian ministers serve pastoral charges. Some, like Reverend Ian, are retired from congregational ministry. Others are studying, serving as institutional chaplains or teachers, and are without a pastoral charge between calls. Ministers are <u>members</u> of the Presbytery in which they reside. But according to Presbyterian Church in Canada rules, ministers cannot be **members** of a congregation.

In 1978 the General Assembly approved a statement that urges ministers, like these, to be <u>associated</u> with a congregation as opposed to not attending

anywhere or wandering about nomadically. The minister, by associating with a particular congregation, is encouraged to be a helpful resource for both the congregation and the incumbent minister. The congregation, in turn, is encouraged to treat the associating minister like it would any other member of the congregation: the minister may be added to the membership roll of the congregation and afforded all the privileges and responsibilities of membership. Such a minister is called a **minister-in-association**.

Reverend Ian, the Session, and Reverend Marianne have entered into a short **minister-in-association** agreement, which sets out what Reverend Ian might offer on a <u>volunteer</u> basis, such as pastoral visits, participating in worship or leading a Bible or book study. But the agreement is very flexible depending on the needs of the church and Reverend Ian's time commitments. The minister-in-association agreement has been approved by the Presbytery.

We are thankful for Reverend Ian's gifts and welcome him as the Minister-in-Association at First Presbyterian Church!!



As violence continues in Gaza and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, humanitarian needs on the ground only increase, while the ability to deliver aid is blocked by Israeli government forces. With thousands of families displaced, schools and hospitals bombed, thousands of children killed, and an emerging famine, our impetus to act is greater than ever - your support will make a difference.

Despite the challenges, PWS&D is responding through our ecumenical networks and partnerships at ACT Alliance and Canadian Foodgrains Bank to provide food and other humanitarian assistance where and whenever possible. **The scale of need is immense, and we need your help to respond.** With your gifts, PWS&D and our partners will be able to provide cash and food assistance, access to water and sanitation services, shelter, primary health care and mental health support.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada asks that people pray for an end to violence and a just peace in the land of Christ's birth.

God of truth, mercy and peace, God of life and reconciliation, we mourn the suffering and murder of your people and we pray for a just peace and reconciliation for the people of Palestine and Israel who have endured the burden of violence and conflict for so long. Console those who grieve, heal the injured, comfort those who are alone and afraid, protect those who are held hostage, and restrain those who would cause more violence or act cynically for political gain and power.

We join with communities around the world calling for an end to the violence.



Canada marks World Refugee Day with Solidarity Statement - Ottawa, June 20, 2025

The Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, the Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Honourable Randeep Sarai, Secretary of State (International Development), today issued the following statement:

"On <u>World Refugee Day</u>, Canada reaffirms its commitment to meet humanitarian needs, address the root causes of forced displacement and find lasting solutions for refugees and other displaced people. We honour their strength and resilience and recognize the important contributions they make in the communities that welcome them.

In 2024, the number of people forcibly displaced due to escalating conflicts, emerging crises, persecution and the effects of climate change rose to 123.2 million—the highest number ever recorded. Canada welcomed more than 49,000 refugees in 2024 through resettlement programs, including government-assisted, privately sponsored and blended support.

We work with experienced and trusted international partners like the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration to prioritize support for the most vulnerable forcibly displaced populations. From 2024 to 2026, under the government-assisted refugees' program, Canada will resettle 12,000 refugees from Africa, the Middle East and Asia, 4,000 from the Americas and 4,000 from Sudan. This includes women and girls, LGBTQI+ people, religious minorities and those affected by conflict or displacement.

Canada announced \$50.4 million in flexible, multi-year funding to UNHCR over the next four years. This complements Canada's ongoing humanitarian assistance to UNHCR, which provides immediate, life-saving support to refugees and other displaced populations worldwide, addressing their urgent humanitarian and protection needs.

Canada continues to support those affected by conflict, including in Sudan. In February 2025, Canada expanded its immigration measures to resettle up to 4,000 Sudanese government-assisted refugees by 2026 and an additional 700 refugees through private sponsorship. We are also increasing family-based permanent residence spaces from 3,250 to over 5,000 applications. These efforts will help about 10,000 individuals find safety and opportunity in Canada.

By welcoming refugees, we reaffirm Canada's values of compassion, human rights and inclusion. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient country—one where everyone can thrive in safety and peace."

From: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

