



First Presbyterian Church

Ascension Sunday, May 17th, 2026

The 7th Sunday of Easter

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

Minister in Association: **The Reverend Ian Johnston**

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Reader: **Lorraine Buck**

Welcome to worship!

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** – Following the message for our Children & Youth, the children are invited to join Denise Kent (Church School Coordinator) and Max Chapman (Church School Assistant) for a time of fun, games, and faith-centered activities in the Lower Hall.
- * **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, please speak with our Sound Technician.
- * **COFFEE HOUR** – You are invited to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Church Hall this morning following worship. To access the Hall, go through the doors behind the choir loft (or use the lift) and down the stairs. Just follow your nose to delicious treats, stimulating conversation and great fellowship. To volunteer to host, bake, or bring food to any coffee hour sign the sheet in the Church Hall or call Tamara Chapman.
- * **PLEASE NOTE – DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?** If you do, the Greeters are the appropriate people to go to for ALL questions and assistance with the elevator, water, washrooms, bulletins, etc.

ASSISTING YOU THIS MORNING

Greeter: Annis Moreau Elevator: David Paul

Sound and Video Team – Quentin Robinson, Michel LaBonte
Mark Leslie and 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>

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

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

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

**NEED A RIDE?
Call Executive Taxi!**

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

the people of God gather....

The Organ Prelude

Allegro

John Travers

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

Minister: Let us be joyful before God!

All: We will sing praises to God's holy name.

Minister: Let us lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds,

All: who protects orphans and widows, and gives the desolate a home.

Minister: Sing to God, all nations of the earth.

All: We will sing praises to the Lord, our God!

Opening Hymn # 327: Sing praise to God who reigns above *Words & Music: Public domain*

1. Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation;
with healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

2. The angel host, O king of kings,
your praise forever telling,
in earth and sky all living things
beneath your shadow dwelling,
adore the wisdom which could span,
and power which formed creation's plan:
to God all praise and glory!

3. What God's almighty power has made
in mercy God is keeping,
by morning glow or evening shade,
nor slumbering nor sleeping.
Where'er God rules in sovereign might
there all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glory!

4. Then all my gladsome way along
I sing aloud your praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises:
be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body bear your part:
to God all praise and glory!

5. All you that name Christ's holy name,
give God all praise and glory:
all who confess Christ's power, proclaim
aloud the wondrous story.
Cast every idol from its throne,
for Christ is Lord and Christ alone:
to God all praise and glory!

[Prayer As We Approach God](#)

Minister: God of life, we praise you for your love which fills creation from the beginning,
and which calls all life into being.

All: We worship you for Christ, who reveals your loving purpose for all people.

Minister: We bless you for your Spirit, who guides and inspires us and,

All: who draws us into the circle of your tender love. Amen.

[The Chancel Choir Introit](#)

[People Need the Lord](#)

Nelson & McHugh, arr. Mary McDonald

[Prayer of Confession](#)

Minister: In recalling all that you have done and who you are, we confess what we have
done and who we are:

All: God of mercy, we confess the times when we forget you, and are divided from one
another, and how often our thoughts, words, and actions betray your goodness and our
calling. Forgive us, merciful God. Mend what is broken, heal our wounded relationships and
convert our hearts and minds, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

[Assurance of God's Forgiveness](#)

Minister: While it is true that we have all fallen short in our call to follow Jesus, it is a
greater truth that we are forgiven through his grace. Remember the Good News! In Jesus
Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another. Amen.

[A Message for our Children and Youth](#) Looking Up

Object: A helium balloon (or simply looking upward)

Good morning, everyone! I want you to try something for a moment. Look up! Keep looking up. Now imagine you had been one of Jesus' disciples on Ascension Day. The Bible says Jesus rose up into heaven, and the disciples just stood there looking up into the sky. Can you imagine that? They probably felt confused and sad. Jesus had been their teacher and friend. He helped them when they were afraid. He answered their questions. And now suddenly he was gone.

So, they stood there staring upward. I wonder if any of them said, "Come back, Jesus!" But then, some angels appeared and basically asked them, "Why are you still standing here looking up?" That sounds a little funny, right? But the angels were reminding the disciples of something important: Jesus wanted them to keep going. He wanted them to share love, kindness, forgiveness, and hope with the world. Jesus' followers just could not stand there looking up into the sky forever. They had work to do!

Sometimes we do that too. Sometimes we get stuck or worried about what comes next. We are afraid of what might happen. But even when we cannot see Jesus with our eyes, Jesus is still with us. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would help guide them - and guide us too. So instead of being stuck looking up, we are called to look around: Who needs kindness? Who needs a friend? Who needs encouragement? That is how we follow Jesus today.

[Prayer with the Children & Youth:](#)

Dear God, thank you that Jesus is always with us, even when life changes. Help us not to be afraid of new things. Help us to share your love with others every day. Amen.

[Hymn # 270:](#)

The head that once was crowned

Words & Music: Public domain

1. The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty Victor's brow.
2. The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings, and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light;
3. the joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below
to whom he manifests his love
and grants his name to know.

4. To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace, is given,
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.

5. They suffer with their Lord below;
they reign with him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.

6. The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him,
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

to hear God's word....

Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Lorraine: Let us pray. God of Wisdom, send your Holy Spirit to give us fresh understanding of your Word in Scripture. Inspire us to respond with renewed commitment, to follow Christ Jesus, your Living Word. Amen.

The Psalm (read responsively)

Psalm 24

Lorraine: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

All: for God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Lorraine: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in God's holy place?

All: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

Lorraine: They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from the God of their salvation.

All: Such is the company of those who seek the Lord, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lorraine: Lift up your heads, O gates!

All: And be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

Lorraine: Who is the King of glory?

All: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

Lorraine: Lift up your heads, O gates!

All: and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

Lorraine: Who is this King of glory?

All: The Lord of hosts, the Lord is the King of glory!

[The Scripture Lesson](#)

Acts 1: 1 - 11

New International Version (NIV)

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Lorraine: **Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven**

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

Jesus said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Lorraine: 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 Anthem](#)

There Is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Howard Helvey

[The Message](#)

Everything Changed

I have a question for you. How many of you rushed to church this Sunday, excited because the preacher will preach on Jesus’ Ascension? You MUST have been thinking about Ascension all week long, right? Not likely!! Most people have had bigger fish to fry this week. Trying to pay the bills. Worrying about a loved one. Wondering about test results. Anxious about the future. Trying to hold things together at home or at work.

It is unlikely many people woke up this morning saying, “I just cannot wait to hear a sermon about the Ascension!” And honestly, I understand that. Ascension Day does not carry the emotional pull of Christmas. It does not have the heartbreak of Good Friday. It does not have the joy and excitement of Easter morning. Ascension Day actually occurred last Thursday. Did you get a “Happy Ascension Day” card?? Probably not!!

Our text from Acts describes what happened that day, when Jesus returned to heaven. It seems such a strange and distant story - Jesus rising into the clouds while the disciples stand there staring upward. You may ask yourself, “why did the church put this story on the calendar and decide that every year we should read it and talk about it?”

Well, it is because Ascension marks one of the greatest turning points in the Christian story, revealing a whole new way of seeing God, ourselves, and the world. You may have heard of the word “paradigm”, which comes from the Greek word παράδειγμα (paradeigma), meaning a “*pattern, model, precedent*”. The Ascension required the disciples, and all of Jesus’ followers ever since, to change our patterns of thinking about everything. In other words, the Ascension was a “paradigm shift”. We all know that transitions are hard. Change is hard. What do some people say? “Change is a four-letter word”! But Jesus had been preparing his disciples for this moment for months. He had repeatedly told them that he would leave them and return to the Father. But you may also recall from our Gospel lesson from last Sunday that Jesus said, “*I will not leave you orphaned.*”

Jesus loved these people deeply. He knew them one by one. For over three years, they had walked dusty roads together, shared meals, argued, laughed, learned, failed, and began again. They had become family. They had grieved Jesus’s crucifixion on Good Friday and rejoiced at his resurrection on Easter Sunday. They hoped that now Jesus would stay with them. But in our text today, Jesus is preparing them for his departure.

Luke tells us in Acts 1 that after the resurrection, Jesus spent forty days appearing to the disciples and speaking about the kingdom of God. Then finally, on a hillside outside Jerusalem, he tells them that the Holy Spirit will come upon them and they will be his witnesses “*in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*” And then he leaves. He rises upward, beyond their sight. And the disciples stand there shielding their eyes, staring into the sky. Can you blame them? They are stunned. Confused. Afraid. What happens now? How do they move forward without Jesus physically beside them?

Until this point, the disciples’ faith had depended on Jesus being present right there in front of them. When they had questions, they asked Jesus. When they were afraid, they ran to Jesus. When crowds became overwhelming, Jesus took charge. When storms threatened the boat, Jesus calmed the sea. Jesus was right there. But now everything has changed.

The Ascension forces the disciples to stop clinging to the old ways and begin trusting God in a new reality. That is the paradigm shift. And paradigm shifts are unsettling. We like familiarity. We like routines. We like certainty. We like knowing where Jesus is standing.

But life changes. Children grow up and leave home. Grandchildren arrive. Retirement arrives. Our health changes. Friendships shift. Communities change. Churches change. The world we knew disappears before we are ready. And when that happens, we often respond exactly like the disciples - standing still, looking around, wondering what happened. Maybe that is why Ascension matters more than we realize. Because Ascension reminds us that faith is not about holding onto the past. It is about trusting Christ in the middle of change.

I want to point out something important here: Jesus does not leave the disciples with all the answers. In fact, they are still asking practical and political questions: “*Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?*” They still want certainty. They still want a timetable. And Jesus gently redirects them. “*It is not for you to know the times or periods...*” In other words: “You do not need to know or control the future.” “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.*” The disciples are slowly discovering, slowly learning that Jesus will no longer be limited to one place or one body walking the roads of Galilee. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ will be **everywhere**. The Ascension is not about absence. It is about a new kind of presence.

Our responsive Psalm for today, Psalm 24 asks: “*Who is the King of glory?*” And the answer comes: “*The Lord, strong and mighty.*” The disciples may have felt abandoned standing on that hillside, but the Ascension declares that Jesus is reigning — not defeated, not gone forever, but exalted. The crucified and risen Christ now rules over all things as the King of Glory. Jesus is no longer merely beside them. Now Christ will live within them. The frightened disciples who stand staring into the sky in Acts 1 will soon become courageous witnesses in Acts 2. Peter, who once denied Jesus beside a charcoal fire, will preach boldly in Jerusalem. Ordinary people will carry the Gospel across boundaries, cultures, and nations. The Church itself is born out of this transition. Everything changed. Ascension still calls the Church into that same paradigm shift today because too many churches spend their time looking backward. We remember “the good old days.” We long for full pews, busy Church schools, and familiar routines. We wish things could stay the same forever.

But Ascension reminds us that Jesus is always leading us forward. The disciples could not remain on that hillside forever. And neither can we. The story of the Ascension changes how we face uncertainty. Like those disciples so long ago, we are not abandoned people trying to survive on our own. We belong to the risen and ascended Christ who entrusted his earthly ministry to a bunch of ragtag, misfit disciples, and who still entrusts us, a bunch of flawed, fearful, all-too-human people, with the treasure of the Good News!

In today’s passage, angels ask the disciples: “*Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?*” In other words, why are you still standing here? Why are you frozen in place when God is already preparing the next chapter?” The disciples had work to do. There was good news to share. There were hurting people who needed hope. There was a world waiting to hear that death does not have the final say.

Our world is no different today. There are still people waiting for hope, full of anxiety and loneliness. People are carrying grief and exhaustion. Many feel uncertain about the future.

In the face of all the uncertainty around us, the Church is not called simply to stare into the heavens. We are called to live as witnesses. To share the Good News! To offer encouragement and dreams to people that the world has marginalized and stripped of dignity. That is the paradigm shift of Ascension. Faith is not about keeping Jesus safely in the past. Faith is about becoming the Body of Christ in the present.

The disciples thought the story was ending. But in truth, it was just beginning. And maybe that is true for us too. Sometimes what feels like an ending may actually be the beginning of something new that God is doing among us. The Ascension reminds us that Christ still reigns. Still guides. Still empowers. Still calls the church forward - even in all of life's changes. Even when the future feels uncertain. The disciples once stood looking upward asking, "What now?" And eventually, through the power of the Holy Spirit, they discovered the answer.

We will talk about that next Sunday – stay tuned!! In the meantime, now we trust. We move forward. We witness. We live differently because the risen and ascended Christ lives within us. Ascension means everything changed. And thanks be to God; Christ continues to lead us through every transition, every paradigm shift, into new life. Amen.

[Blessing the Word in our Lives](#)

Minister: Embracing God, through your Word read and proclaimed, draw us today into fresh encounters with Jesus. Make us servants of your love, so that others may know how much you love them, and we may know how much you love us. Amen.

[Hymn # 275:](#) **Jesus shall reign where're the sun** *Words & Music: Public domain*

1. **Jesus shall reign where're the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**
2. **For him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like fragrance sweet shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.**
3. **People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**

4. Blessings abound where' re he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring
the honours due our glorious King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long Amen.

Responding in love with thanksgiving

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

Minister: God of the generations in time and eternity, we turn to you in these quiet moments to offer you our thanks and our hopes for our lives. Today, we give you thanks for all those people who have shown us your face and taught us to follow you through the loving example of their living faith. We are grateful for their wisdom and courage which continue to inspire us.

Thank you for our life together in your church and the saints we have known here. May the light of Christ shine through our lives, too, so that we offer light for the world you love as witnesses to your purposes.

Christ of Compassion in action, in you, we receive our call to live with purpose. From you, we learn how to love those around us. With you, we find strength to face each new day. So today, we offer our prayers for those facing challenges and seek your guidance to respond to their cries. We pray for those brought to mind by news headlines this week for situations of violence, corruption and deprivation, danger and devastation: the people of Ukraine, Lebanon, Iran, Gaza and the West Bank, Sudan, Yemen, and Myanmar... (*silence*).

We pray for families going through difficult times, for all who are sick or in sorrow, for all who are lonely or despairing...(*silence*). We pray for those who are agonizing over important decisions and responsibilities, for those in leadership roles and for those who care for the most vulnerable...(*silence*).

Creator, Christ and Spirit, move with us into the week ahead, remind us each day to live according to your will and purposes in all our relationships and to live lives of meaning so that we bear witness to the love we meet in 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: This Sunday brings the season of Easter to a close. Yet we will continue to receive the blessings God pours out for us in Christ and in creation, for God is so good to us. We offer to God our thanks for such goodness in our tithes and offering.

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 drop off through the mail slot in the Church Street Door.

* by mail to: First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 885, Brockville, Ontario, K6V 5W1.

[Offering Praise Song # 79](#)

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: Eternal and ever-present God, we offer you these gifts in thanksgiving for the work of Christ in our lives. Bless them and us with the power of the Spirit, enlisting all our gifts for the work of reconciliation Christ has given us to do in the world you love. Amen.

[to go out with joy and serve...](#)

[Sending Hymn # 274:](#)

[Crown him with many crowns](#)

Words & Music Public domain

1. **Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne:
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!**

**Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died to be
your Saviour and your matchless King through all eternity.**

2. **Crown him the Son of God, before the worlds began;
let all who tread where he has trod, crown him the Son of Man,
who every grief has known that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.**

3. **Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.**

**His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.**

4. Crown him the Lord of peace whose kingdom is at hand;
from pole to pole let warfare cease and Christ rule every land!
A city stands on high; Christ's glory it displays,
and there the nations 'Holy' cry in joyful hymns of praise.

5. Crown him the Lord of years, the Source, the End of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres in majesty sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail, for you have died for me;
your praise shall never, never fail through all eternity!

[The Benediction and Choral Amen](#)

Minister: Go as witnesses to our Lord Jesus, risen and ascended, and bear his love and mercy wherever you go. Trust that the Holy Spirit is your companion. And may the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you a spirit of wisdom and fill you with the hope to which you are called as God's beloved. Amen.

[The Organ Postlude](#)

[The Festive Trumpet](#)

Bryan Glyncannon



Your **M.O.V.E. Committee** needs your support with the following projects.

1) Cakes are needed for the Sunday Supper on Sunday, May 24th. First Church is responsible to prepare the meal that will be served on that day. Cakes can be dropped off at the church during the week (including Saturday) and left in the main kitchen.

2) Volunteering:

- * At the P. A. Day Camp on Friday, May 29th.
- * At the Big Give on Friday, June 5th to sort and set up; then at the event on Saturday, June 6th.
- * To help prepare the food for the Sunday Supper - Saturday, May 23rd.

Any time you can give would be most appreciated. Call Janet LeBrun for more information and to volunteer at 613-342-3137.



First Church is hosting the last P.A. Day Camp of the 2025-26 school year on May 29th in the Church Hall. 20 + children will be joining us for a day of fun, games, crafts, and activities. Our Mission Project for this P.A. Day Camp is in support of the Brockville & Area Food Bank. Summer is a difficult time for the Food Bank. Donations decline but the need continues to grow. The Food Bank is especially in need of the following staples:

* Cereal (any kind) and oatmeal * Kraft dinner/macaroni & cheese * Stove Top stuffing mix and instant pasta side dishes * Canned tomatoes (any kind) * Evaporated milk and * Crackers and cookies (any kind).

If you would prefer to make a financial donation, please make out your cheque to First Presbyterian Church (or include cash donations in an envelope. Please mark your donations "Brockville & Area Food Bank" and provide a full name and address so the Church may issue you a tax receipt for your donation. Thank you!

In Memoriam

We extend our love and sympathy to Joan Davison on the death of her husband **TOM DAVISON**, on Tuesday, May 12th, 2026, in Florida. Tom Davison is the son-in-law of Pam & Garry Dewar of our congregation. No arrangements are available at this time. Please remember Joan, Pam and the family in your prayers.



We are called to serve God with our many gifts. We belong to a denomination that is connected by faith, governance, history and mission. Presbyterians Sharing is one of the ways that Presbyterians across Canada work together to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, sharing God's love and hope in our communities, in Canada and around the world. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing help build strong congregations, serve vulnerable people, walk with Indigenous people, seek justice and share God's love.

When we work together, we can accomplish so much more than we can on our own.

A Mission Moment from The PCC

First Presbyterian Church

MAY CALENDAR

LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY - 1st Sunday monthly

CRAFT & CHAT - Each Tuesday - 1 pm. in the Parlour

HAND BELL CHOIR - Thursday Afternoons @ 4:30

CHANCEL CHOIR - Thurs. Afternoons - 3 pm. - Choir Room; Sun. Mornings - 9:30 am. - Choir Rm

SUNDAY SUPPER - 4th Sunday of each month.

ONGOING PROJECTS: **Grocery Bags** (Food Bank), **Egg Cartons**, **Survival Kits** (Food Bank), **Pop Cans for Maintenance**, **Breakfast Bags** (Food Bank), **Sunday Supper Ministry**, **Socks-Hats-Gloves/Mittens** - **Coats** for distribution at Sunday Suppers.

COMMUNITY GROUPS using the Church Building:

AA - Monday Evenings 7 pm. in the Red Room

EMBERS/GUIDES - Mon. Evenings - 6 pm - Hall

BGH DAY HOSPICE - Every Wed. - Hall and Parlour

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES COOKING CLASSES - Thurs. mornings and afternoons in the Kitchen/Hall

May 17 **MORNING WORSHIP (7th Sunday of Easter)**

11 am. in the Sanctuary

Church School, Coffee Hour in the Church Hall.

May 24 **PENTECOST SUNDAY with Communion**

11 am. in the Sanctuary - Church School, NO Coffee Hour, Sunday Supper Ministry

May 29 **P. A. Day Camp** - 9 am. to 3 pm. in the Church Hall.

May 30 **Men's Breakfast** - 8:15 am. at Stacked Restaurant.

May 31 **TRINITY SUNDAY - Healing & Recognition**

11 am. in the Sanctuary

Church School, Coffee Hour, in the Church Hall.

Happy Birthday to (May 17th to 23rd):

SPENCER MOREAU - May 18th

ADA KRAMARIC - May 19th

DAVID CHAPMAN - May 23rd

Happy Anniversary to:

ROGER & BONNIE BURKE - May 20th

JIM & BARBARA BARBOUR - May 21st

Office Hours - May 18th to 22nd

Monday, May 18th - Victoria Day Stat Holiday

Tuesday, May 19th - 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Wednesday, May 20th - 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Thursday, May 21st - 10 am. to 4:30 pm.

Friday, May 22nd - 10 am. to 1:30 pm.



Copies of OUR DAILY BREAD (June-July-August) are available - free of charge - on the table at the rear of the Sanctuary.



First Presbyterian Church is taking part in the **BIG GIVE** (a nation-wide opportunity for congregations to bless their communities with extravagant giving) on next Saturday, June 6th, 2026. The M.O.V.E. Committee is planning a garage/yard “sale” and will also be handing out snack bags of cookies. Please set aside gently used household items, books, games, puzzles,

pots, pans, dishes, and clothing (clean and smoke-free). Volunteers will be needed to help with sorting, set-up, and cleanup. We are also looking for donations of packaged snack bags of homemade cookies (nut-free, please!) to give out on the day. Items can be dropped off at the church (just ring the bell) and left in the Lower Hall.



The 151st General Assembly will meet at York University (Keele Campus) from Sunday, June 7th until Thursday, June 11th, 2026 in the main conference room in the Second Student Centre at York University.

The General Assembly is the highest decision-making body of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, attended by an equal number of ministers and elders who are commissioned by presbyteries. The Assembly votes on matters of theology and polity that affect the whole denomination. It receives, discusses, and makes decisions on reports from committees, petitions, overtures, references, and appeals. Its decisions are made carefully. Some issues require study over several years. The General Assembly elects a moderator - a minister or elder - who presides over the Assembly and continues in an inspirational and ceremonial role for a year, until the next General Assembly.

Info visit - <https://presbyterian.ca/gao/ga2026/>



ONTARIO HEALTH AT HOME PRESENTS:

PLACEMENT IN LONG-TERM CARE HOMES

Wall Street United Church

Monday June 1st, 2026

1.30-2.30PM in the Living Room

Moving from your family home to a long-term care setting can be a challenging transition for anyone. Ontario Health at Home is committed to making the process as easy as possible by helping you and your family understand the available options and make the right decisions.

To register for this event, click on the QR code below. A sign up link will also be provided in the newsletter from next week. Contact Karen or Mandy in the church office if you need assistance to sign up.



Organised by your Parish Nurse, Anne-Marie Mohler. Contact Anne-Marie at: (613) 342 5401 ext. 40 or parishnurse@wallstreetchurch.com



LOAVES & FISHES
MORE THAN JUST A MEAL

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
(AGM) & VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION EVENT

DATE: May 27, 2026
TIME: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
LOCATION: The Pier Church,
806 Chelsea St

Refreshments will be served,
featuring a special secret ingredient.



Voices Up!
Songs of Canada
SUNDAY MAY 24, 2026 2 P.M.

MADelyn MENSEN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
ABE TeGROtENHUIS COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

with: JESSICA WILLIAMS - acoustic guitar JOHN REVELL - bass guitar
JAMES MACKENZIE - percussion WENDY SCHMIDT - violin/fiddle

ADULTS \$25
STUDENTS \$10
CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

ST. LAWRENCE ANGLICAN CHURCH
80 PINE STREET, BROCKVILLE

 **THE BROCKVILLE COMMUNITY CHOIR**
Celebrating 40 Years!

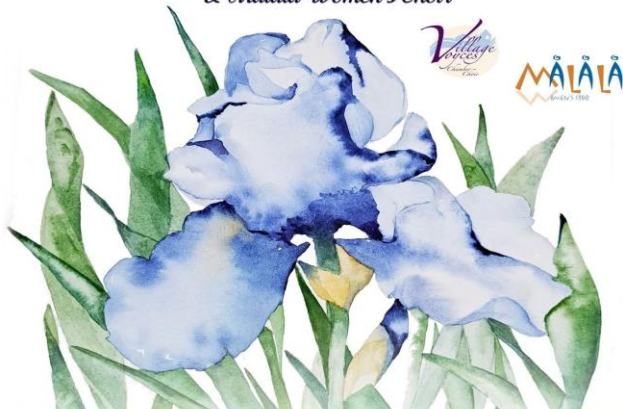
 **TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CHOIR MEMBERS**
a LIMITED NUMBER AT THE DOOR
ONLINE* at BrockvilleChoir.ca
*service fees will be applied



Spring Tonic

A CHORAL CONCERT

with Spencerville's Village Voyces Chamber Choir
& Malala Women's Choir



Painting by Georgia Angell

Sunday, May 31, 3:00 pm

St. Andrew's-Knox Presbyterian Church
23 Bennett St. Spencerville

Monday, June 1, 7:00 pm

St. John's United Church
400 Prescott St, Kemptville

Concert Admission: Goodwill offering in support of Palliative Care and Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan CW4WAfghan

St. Paul's Church Caintown

14 Caintown Rd north of Mallorytown

Saturday, May 30th - 9 am to Noon

Garage, Plant & Bake

SALE



Perennials, herbs, house plants,
kitchen items, dishes,
toys, children's and adult books,
homemade pies, tarts, cookies, etc.

Poster by C.A.T.



SHOP THE STREET

A Springtime Stroll

LOCAL SHOPPING. LIVE MUSIC. ACTIVITIES.
ENTERTAINMENT. & MORE!

10AM - 3PM

SAT.
MAY 23RD



Bloom, Browse, & Buy!

KING ST. FROM PERTH ST. - BETHUNE ST.
DOWNTOWN BROCKVILLE



www.downtownbrockville.com



AGAPE BROCKVILLE REFUGEE MINISTRY
PRESENTS A

REFUGEE SUPPORT LUNCHEON

INTERNATIONAL & CANADIAN CUISINE

WITH

GUEST SPEAKER - BISHOP WILLIAM CLIFF

SUNDAY 14 JUNE 2026

12:30 PM

St. Lawrence Anglican Church

80 Pine Street - Brockville

TICKETS \$25

available at

St. Lawrence Church Office 613.345.5717

St. Paul's Church Office 613.342.5865

The summer issue of the **CHALLENGE** is almost right around the corner! Along with our regular articles, this issue will focus on your TRAVELS within Ontario, Canada, and wherever in the world you have travelled! Please send your stories and pictures to firstkirk@truespeed.ca or leave them at the Church Office. Thanks!



May 29, 2026

PA DAY CAMP!

First Presbyterian Church
9 am. to 3 pm.

Open to Children 4 to 12 yrs.

Music, Crafts,
Playtime, Bible
Stories, Mission
Project, Games and
Much More!!

Cost: \$10.00/child
or \$20.00/family

Campers to bring
their own lunch,
snacks, and
refillable water
bottle

High School Student
Community Service
Hours Opportunity!!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10 Church Street
Brockville, Ont., K6V 3X4

pcweb.ca/firstchurch-
brockville/

firstkirk@truespeed.ca
613-345-5014

Spring Fling with BHL Big Band

Saturday, May 23rd, 2026

7 p.m.

Arts Hub Brockville - 32 Park Street

The BHL Big Band was formed in 2025, its name being derived from 3 local musicians (Bruce Alexander, Howard Alexander and Lance Besharah) who were all a huge part of Brockville's musical community. The 18-piece band specializes in jazz and swing music and is co-directed by Christopher Coyea and Judy Quick.

admission by donation to
the Brockville & Area Food Bank.



GOOD MORNING
BEAUTIFUL FRIENDS

In case no one told
you today..

You're beautiful.
You're loved. You're
needed. You're
alive for a reason.
You're truly

amazing!

HAVE A REALLY
AWESOME DAY!

Impactus GUYS NIGHT

C*ROAD CHURCH

AN ONLINE EVENT FOR THE MEN OF YOUR CHURCH

FRIDAY, MAY 22
7:00PM | BOULEVARD

Free to attend | Optional \$5 donation for the Food Bank
Includes Light Refreshments

Event Details: www.impactus.org/events/guys-night/

C* Road Church 3646 County Road 27, Lyn ON



MEN'S BREAKFAST!

Saturday, May 30th, 2026

at **Stacked Restaurant**

Email Quentin at thesession@truespeed.ca
if you will attend.