



# First Presbyterian Church

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

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

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Leader in Music this Morning: **Carolyn Whitley**

Reader: **Mark Leslie**

**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** – Due to the Sunday Supper today, there will be **NO COFFEE HOUR**. The next Coffee Hour will happen on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026. 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: Janet LeBrun      Elevator: Francis LeBrun

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/](http://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....*

Organ Prelude

Air

*Thiman*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

Minister: Let us sing of God's steadfast love.

**All:** We offer our praise in songs of joy.

Minister: God's faithfulness is as vast as the heavens.

**All:** We will proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.

Minister: Let us worship God in our prayers and our praise.

**All:** We will give God glory now and always!

Opening Hymn # 833:

O Canada

*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. O Canada our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all of us command.  
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,  
The True North strong and free!  
From far and wide,  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
God keep our land glorious and free!  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: Holy and Loving Creator, Christ and Spirit, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

**All:** From north and south, from east and west, drawn by your majesty, we come to worship your beauty and holiness.

Minister: For the gift of this new day, fresh from your hand, we rejoice.

**All:** For the renewal we know through friendship with Christ, we praise you.

Minister: For your Spirit's energy, blessing us in each moment, we honour you.

**All:** Accept our praise offered in the songs of our lips and the actions of our hands.

Minister: Guide us always in the truth of your ways

All: as we worship you O God, here and everywhere, now and always.

### Prayer of Confession

Minister: The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

All: God of mercy; as we gather to celebrate your gift of love, we recall with sorrow the times when we forget you and are divided one from the other. How often our thoughts, our words, and our actions, have betrayed the goodness you have shown to us. Forgive us, merciful God. Mend what is broken. Heal the wounded relationships that separate us from you and one another; through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

### Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: Jesus Christ knows we have fallen short of his intentions for us, yet in his great mercy, he welcomes us back into his embrace. Thanks be to God that we are forgiven, refreshed and restored for ministry by God's never-ending grace.

### A Message for our Children and Youth      Finn's First Song by Gerry Daly

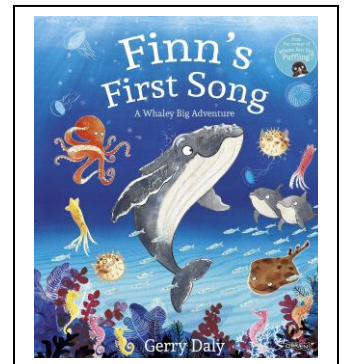
Hymn # 328:                      This is my father's world  
*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. This is my Father's world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings,  
the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world:  
I rest me in the thought;  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas.  
God's hands the wonders wrought.

2. This is my Maker's world;  
the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Maker's world;  
God shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass God's footsteps pass,  
God speaks to me everywhere.



3. This is my Saviour's world;  
O let me not forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Saviour's world;  
the battle is not done;  
Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied,  
and earth and heaven be one.

*to hear God's word...*

### Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Mark: Let us pray. Prepare our hearts and minds, O God, to receive your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may obey your will, and sing your praises, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Psalm (read responsively)

### Psalm 98

Mark: O sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

**All: God's right hand and holy arm have won the victory.**

Mark: The Lord has made known the victory,

**All: and has revealed vindication in the sight of the nations.**

Mark: The Lord has remembered steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**All: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Mark: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

**All: break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Mark: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,

**All: with the lyre and the sound of melody.**

Mark: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

**All: make a joyful noise before the sovereign Lord.**

Mark: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

**All: Let the flood clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, who is coming to judge the earth. The Lord will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

## The Scripture Lesson

## Philippians 4: 4 - 9

*New International Version (NIV)*

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Mark: Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me - put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

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.

## Ministry of Music

## Hymn of Promise

*arr. Carter*

### Hymn # 435:

### All things bright and beautiful

*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours; God made their tiny wings.

2. All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.

The cold wind in the winter; the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them, every one.

3. All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.

The rocky mountain splendour; the haunting curlew's call,  
the great lakes and the prairies, the forests in the fall,

4. All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,

all things wise and wonderful,  
in love God made them all.  
God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
how great is God almighty who has made all things well.

### The Message

### Sing to the Lord a New Song!

There is something special about a Hymn Sing Sunday. Every Sunday, of course, we sing together as part of worship. But today, singing itself has become the focus of our praise. Today, we are reminded that music is not simply an addition to worship; it is one of the ways God has always invited God's people to pray, to rejoice, and to remember.

Long before many of us could read scripture for ourselves, we learned our faith through hymns. We learned who God is through melodies that stayed with us throughout our lives. We learned stories of Jesus. We learned words of comfort and hope. We learned how to pray. And perhaps some of us can still hear the voices of those who taught us to sing - parents, grandparents, Church School teachers, choir directors, and beloved members of the church who are now part of the great cloud of witnesses. Every time we open a hymn book, we are connected not only to one another, but to generations of faithful people who have sung these words before us. That is exactly the kind of joy we hear in today's Scriptures.

Psalm 98 begins with a simple invitation: "*O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.*" This invitation is not just given not just to Israel, not just to the church, but to all creation. Verse 4 tells us to, "*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.*" I love that phrase: "make a joyful noise". It does not say, "Make a perfect sound." It does not say, "Sing only if you have musical training." It simply says, "Make a joyful noise." There is freedom in those words. God is not waiting for polished performances. God delights in willing hearts. Every voice matters: the strong voices and the soft ones; the confident singers and the shy ones, those voices that have changed over the years, and the voices that occasionally wander off-key. Together, they become something beautiful.

And perhaps that is one of the great gifts of congregational singing in our world today. In so many areas of life, we are spectators. We watch performances. We consume entertainment. We scroll through endless streams of content. But worship is different - it invites participation. No one is an audience member here. We are all part of the choir. The Apostle Paul's words from Philippians remind us why that matters: "*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*" Paul is writing these words from prison, where he faces a bleak and uncertain future. Yet he continues to speak about joy. He reminds us that Christian joy is something deeper than happiness. Happiness often depends upon circumstances. But joy comes from knowing that God is present with us, whatever conditions we face. Paul offers us the key in four simple words: "*The Lord is near.*" The Lord is near when life is going well, and when it is difficult. The Lord is near when our faith feels strong,

and when we are tired and unsure. And every time we sing together, we remind one another of that truth.

One of the hymns we sang today, “**This is my Father’s World**”, beautifully expresses this sense of God’s presence. “*This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears, all nature sings.*” All around us, creation is already singing – the birds, the trees, the wind, the rivers, and even the changing seasons become part of a great choir praising God. Especially at this time of year, we are surrounded by reminders of God’s goodness. Summer invites us to slow down and pay attention – to enjoy the sunshine, appreciate gardens in bloom, to hear the birds sing, and to enjoy the beauty of our rivers and lakes. And to be reminded that “*that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet*”.

That same sense of wonder comes alive in the hymn that is our “anthem” for today - “**All Things Bright and Beautiful**”. The lyrics, “*Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings...*” reminds us to notice what we often overlook. We live in a world that constantly draws our attention to what is wrong. Certainly, we cannot ignore suffering or injustice. There is much work to do in God’s world. But faith invites us to hold both realities together: to see what is broken, and still give thanks, to acknowledge pain, and still rejoice, to work for justice, while still celebrating beauty. Every flower that blooms after a long winter, every sunrise, every act of kindness between neighbours reminds us that God is still at work.

The hymn, “**Like a Mighty River Flowing**”, reminds us that God’s peace is always moving. Rivers are wonderful biblical images because they sustain life and connect communities. They keep flowing onward. Our lives are often like that, too. There are seasons when faith feels energetic and joyful, and there are seasons when we simply trust that God’s current of grace and peace is carrying us onward. Through every season of life, God’s love continues to flow around us and through us, and our songs become one more way of entering into that stream of grace.

And finally, we come to Charles Wesley’s familiar hymn, “**O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**”. Of course, none of us possesses a thousand tongues! But each of us brings one tongue and one voice. Across congregations in Canada and around the world, those voices and tongues become thousands. Across generations, they become millions. And all those voices join a song that began long before us and will continue long afterwards.

Paul concludes his passage in Philippians by saying, “*Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable... think about these things.*” Hymn singing helps us do exactly that. For a little while, we intentionally fill our hearts and minds with goodness, beauty, and praise. And perhaps that is one of the greatest gifts of a Hymn Sing Sunday – faith is not just something we believe. Faith is something we sing. So today, may we rejoice because the Lord is near. May we delight in the beauty of God’s creation. And may our voices become one small part of that great eternal song that creation continues to offer back to its Creator. Psalm 98

reminds us to “*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.*” And we do! Amen.

### Blessing the Word in our Lives

Minister: As we hear your Word proclaimed today, help us never to depend upon our own might or power, but always upon your Spirit. May you, the God of all hope, fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in you, and in your holy Son, the Lord Jesus, Messiah of all people. Amen.

### Hymn # 741:

### Like a mighty river flowing

*Words: Michael Perry*

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1. Like a mighty river flowing,  
like a flower in beauty growing,  
far beyond all human knowing  
is the perfect peace of God.
2. Like the hills serene and even,  
like the coursing clouds of heaven,  
like the heart that's been forgiven  
is the perfect peace of God.
3. Like the summer breezes playing,  
like the tall trees softly swaying,  
like the lips of silent praying  
is the perfect peace of God.
4. Like the morning sun ascended,  
like the scents of evening blended,  
like a friendship never ended  
is the perfect peace of God.
5. Like the azure ocean swelling,  
like the jewel all-excelling,  
far beyond our human telling  
is the perfect peace of God.

### *Responding in love with thanksgiving*

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

Minister: Almighty God of heaven and earth, with joy and thanksgiving we sing your praises, for you create, sustain, and redeem all things. For making us in your image to love one another and to care for your creation, we give you thanks. For the gift of your Son whose

life is the pattern for our lives and learning, we give you thanks. For the energy of your Spirit to inspire us in times of challenge and change, we give you thanks. Strengthen us in these challenging times to show your love to others, as we pray for the Church and those who lead it to find new ways of reaching out in a culture with changing values;

**People:** O God, hear our prayer.

Minister: For creation, that we may continue to work to respect and care for the Earth and all life on it;

**People:** O God, hear our prayer.

Minister: For those who lead the nations of the world, that they may work for the wellbeing of the most vulnerable and seek peace together. We especially pray for the government of Canada, as well as our provincial and municipal governments, that they serve to honour the values we all share, and protect the institutions of democracy that respect all residents of Canada, especially our Indigenous siblings;

**People:** O God, hear our prayer.

Minister: For those who make decisions about health care, education and social services in these times when there are many demands in every area;

**People:** O God, hear our prayer.

Minister: For the poor, the hungry and those struggling to find affordable housing when prices for everything seem to rise each day, and for those who struggle with illness, addiction, disability or despair;

**People:** O God, hear our prayer.

Minister: For the powerless and the oppressed, wherever they live, and for those who work to defend them, praying especially for those fleeing because of violence, conflict, and climate changes caused by global warming;

**People:** O God, hear our prayer.

Minister: Hear us now as we pray in silence for situations on our hearts this day (silent prayer). Eternal God, thank you for listening to us in every situation. Keep our eyes open for your Spirit at work among us. Equip us to respond to someone else's prayer as your servants, for we offer ourselves to you in the words Jesus taught us:

**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: Jesus teaches that the gift of a simple cup of water is a gift worthy of his disciples. Friends, whatever we give to God this day can bless the world in Jesus' name. So, give with confidence that your gift matters.

You can give.....

- \* by pre-authorized remittance (P.A.R.) (<https://presbyterian.ca/plannedgiving/pre-authorized-remittance-par-program/>). Contact the Church Office.
- \* by e-transfer to [firstkirk@truespeed.ca](mailto:firstkirk@truespeed.ca)
- \* by 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: Generous God, what we return to you today has first come to us from you. Bless what we offer so that those in need may taste your abundance which we know already in Christ, our Living Lord. Amen.

*to go out with joy and serve...*

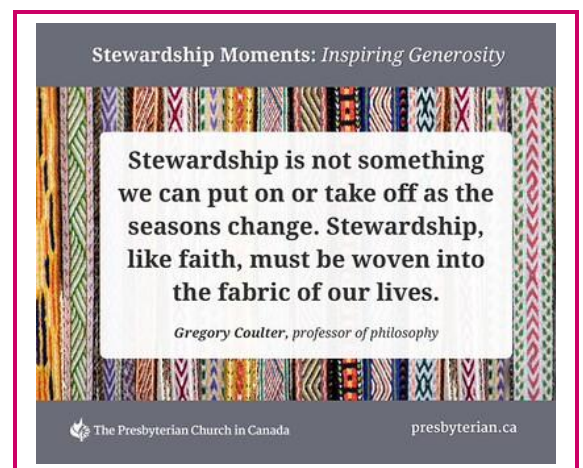
## Sending Hymn # 374:

O for a thousand tongues to sing

*Words & Music: Public domain*

1. Oh for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of God's grace.
4. Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,  
your tongues again employ;  
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,  
and leap, you lame, for joy!
5. My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
and spread through all the earth abroad  
the honours of thy name.

## The Benediction and Choral Amen



Minister: Keep your eyes open as you walk in God's beautiful world, alert for occasions to share God's love. And may the God who made us, the Christ who mends us, and the Spirit who gives us life fill you with songs of joy and hope every day! Amen.

### Organ Postlude

### Trumpet Tune

*Purcell*



In Karkhola, India, 18-year-old Raunak Khatun experienced early difficulties. After her mother died, she was raised by her grandmother, but they were eventually forced out of their home when her father remarried. Without any support, they built a hut on government land, surviving by begging and farm work. Then Raunak learned about vocational training for out-of-school girls and enrolled in a tailoring course. When she finished it, she began sewing clothes for her village. However, she faced a major obstacle - she did not have her own sewing machine. The Karuna Project supported her to buy one. Raunak is now able to take care of herself and her grandmother. She is also training two other girls from her community, passing on the skills she learned. This project is supported by PWS&D through Duncan Hospital.

*A Mission Moment from The PCC*

## First Presbyterian Church

### **LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday monthly

**SUNDAY SUPPER** – 4<sup>th</sup> 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 – Spring Coats** for distribution at Sunday Suppers.

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

AA – Mon. Evenings 7 pm. in the Red Rm  
BGH DAY HOSPICE - Every Wednesday Hall and Parlour  
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES COOKING CLASSES - Thurs. mornings and afternoons in the Kitchen/Hall

#### Office Hours – July and August

**Mondays – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.**

**Tuesdays – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.**

**Wednesdays – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.**

**Thursdays – 10 am. to 4:30 pm.**

**Fridays – 10 am. to 1:30 pm.**

It is a good idea to call the office to make sure Office Marianne is not at an appointment.

#### Happy Birthday (during July) to:

**BRENDA FISK** – July 1<sup>st</sup>

**SUSAN CLARKE** – July 3<sup>rd</sup>

**RYAN PERKINS** – July 6<sup>th</sup>

**JESSICA PERKINS** – July 8<sup>th</sup>

**JIM BARBOUR** – July 9<sup>th</sup>

**JASPER ROSS** – July 10<sup>th</sup>

**TAMARA CHAPMAN** – July 14<sup>th</sup>

**FINLEY VILLENEUVE** – July 17<sup>th</sup>

**BETTY McNAIR** – July 19<sup>th</sup>

**MARIANNE EMIG CARR** – July 21<sup>st</sup>

**JONATHAN KRAMARIC** – July 21<sup>st</sup>

**ANNIS MOREAU** – July 24<sup>th</sup>

**ANDREW DUNCAN** – July 31<sup>st</sup>

#### Happy Anniversary (during July) to:

**IAN & MARY ELLEN STEPHENSON** – July 1<sup>st</sup>

#### **A FINAL REQUEST**

#### **CAKES or CUPCAKES**

are needed for the Sunday Supper, on **Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**. Donations can be delivered to the church office during the week before, or to the church kitchen on **Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup>**.

Church School will not be offered in July or August or the first Sunday in September. Church School will resume on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Reverend Marianne is on holiday for the month of July. For pastoral care or assistance, please call 613-345-5014 or 613-340-3310  
Email [firstkirk@truespeed.ca](mailto:firstkirk@truespeed.ca) Office Marianne will help you find the person to assist you with pastoral care needs.

### SERVICES of WORSHIP in the Summer Months

**Sundays, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Minister: The Reverend John Wilderspin  
First Baptist Church  
at First Baptist Church - 10 am.**

**Sundays, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr  
First Presbyterian Church  
at First Presbyterian Church - 11 am.**

**Rally Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**

**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.

### CHURCH SCHOOL MISSION PROJECT!

The Church School Children have been selling crafts (hand-made by the children) for a donation, at Coffee Hours since the beginning of June. The money raised will be used to support a project of the children's choosing from the PWS&D's Gifts of Change Catalogue including: \* **Sowing the seeds of Food Security** \* **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene** \* **Education for Every Child** \* **Planting Trees** \* **Sending Sick Children to Camp** \* **Empowered to Prosper**. By giving a Gift of Change, the children will be helping to make a difference in the lives of people in Canada and around the world. **GOOD NEWS!! As of Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, the children have raised \$361.50.** Thanks to all of the Church School Children and Youth for their hard work and for the continued support of the congregation. Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> is the final day to contribute to the project by e-transfer or in your church envelope.

### HALF MOON BAY (Gananoque)

See the tallest cathedral ceiling at Historic Half Moon Bay during the **Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> Service of Worship.**

**Minister: The Reverend MARIANNE EMIG CARR**

#### About Half Moon Bay

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. Services are at 4 p.m. and there is pick up by our **free ferry service** at the PUC docks at 3 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the services are held at the 1000 Island Boat Museum.

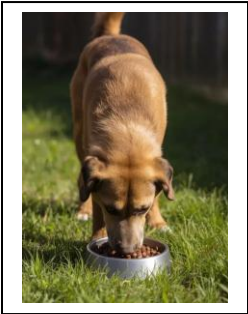




### Call for Photos!

We are looking for photos (with captions) from congregations for use in our 2026 resources to help tell the PCC's story. These resources include bulletin covers,

videos, posters, our annual wall calendar, the website and more. We rely on photos from congregations to help us showcase their good work as they live out their faith in action. Learn more and submit photos to <https://presbyterian.ca/2026/03/25/call-for-photos-2/>



*I hope this story reminds you to always do what you can to make this world a better place. God bless you always.*

It was a hot summer's afternoon several years ago. I was sitting at my kitchen table addressing a letter when I saw a stray dog wander into my backyard. He was a reddish mix of several breeds and was severely underweight. I could see the ribs and backbone sticking out of his skin. He looked like he had not eaten anything in weeks. I walked outside and tried to call him over. He approached me shaking with fear. I spoke calmly to him and then went inside and filled a bowl with dog food and another with water. When I came back outside I set the bowls down and backed away. He smelled the food and devoured it with joy. Then he started to down the water with the same gusto. I gently reached over and petted his head for a while. I went back inside to grab a leash and hopefully bring him into the house. I planned to give him a bath and then take him to the vet. But in the minute it took me to grab the leash he was gone. I gave myself a hard time about that for a long while. I went over what I did wrong and wondered if I should have tried to leash him first and feed him second, or if I should have spent more time winning his trust before going in for the leash. In the end, though, I had to accept that the dog was gone and no amount of regret was going to bring him back.

God did teach me one thing, however, from what happened that day: "You cannot save everyone." All you can do is your best. Sometimes the dog will run away. Sometimes the person will reject or ignore your act of kindness. But that does not mean you stop loving, giving, sharing, or being kind. That is what God put us here to do.

Sometimes in this life all you get to do is give a single bowl of dog food to a stray dog, or share a single act of kindness with a stranger. But it is enough. Each act of Love is priceless in God's eyes. And in the end all of those acts add up to make your life. Make it a beautiful one!

## HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER



Sing to 'Dock of the Bay'  
by Otis Redding/Gordon Lightfoot.