



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, October 4th, 2026

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

(The Fifth Sunday in the Season of Creation)

Minister: **The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr**

Director of Music: **Kathleen Howard**

Reader: **Mark Leslie**

Worship Leader this Morning: **Christina Duncan**

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 Children's Message, 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 and stimulating conversation. 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: Janice Walroth Elevator: Bob Walroth

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 at 7 am. and 5:30 pm.

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

NEED A RIDE?

Call Executive Taxi!

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



the people of God gather....

Organ Prelude:

Hymn of Promise

Natalie Sleeth, arr. John Carter

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God:

Christina: Come, let us worship the God who breathes life into all creation.

People: We give thanks for the earth, the waters, the skies, and every living creature.

Christina: Throughout this Season of Creation, we have remembered that the world is God's gift and our calling is to care for it.

People: May we honour the goodness of creation and accept our responsibility as its caretakers.

Christina: The Creator calls us to walk gently upon the earth, to seek justice, and to nurture life in all its abundance.

People: With grateful hearts and willing spirits, let us worship God, the giver of life. Amen.

Opening Hymn # 482:

Christ is made the sure foundation

Words & Music: Public Domain

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.

2. All within that holy city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pour perpetual melody,
God the One-in-Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

3. To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today:
with thy faithful lovingkindness,
hear thy servants as they pray,

and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls alway.

4. Here bestow on all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain,
what they gain from thee forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

5. Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
one in might, and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

Prayer As We Approach God:

Christina: Steadfast God, as the seasons change, we know you to be ever-constant and see that you are still at work in the world, transforming hearts and situations.

People: You have shown us the true face of love in Jesus Christ, reaching out with healing and hope to touch desperate lives.

Christina: We praise you for your love that works for reconciliation among neighbours and nations in this divided world.

People: Renew our hope by the gift of your Spirit at work among us, so that we can live to praise you as one God now and always, with the whole Church that bears Jesus' name. Amen.

The Chancel Choir Introit: Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands

Jane Holstein

Prayer of Confession:

Christina: Confident of your grace and forgiveness, we come to you today to confess our sins:

People: Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbours in needs, wrapped in our own concerns. We fail to condemn evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, forgive who we have been, amend who we are and direct who we shall be through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness:

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

A Message for our Children and Youth: **Sharing the Best Fruit**

Good morning, everyone! Look at this beautiful apple. Imagine you planted a whole garden full of apple trees. You watered them, took care of them, and waited for them to grow. When it is time to harvest, you would expect to get some delicious apples, right?

In today's Bible story, Jesus tells a story about a man who built a beautiful vineyard - which is a big garden for growing juicy grapes. The owner of the vineyard had to go on a trip, so he hired some helpers to take care of his grapes. But these helpers were not very helpful at all! When the owner sent messengers to get some of the fruit, the helpers were mean to them and chased them away. They forgot that the garden did not belong to them - it belonged to the owner! Finally, the owner sent his very own son. He thought, "Surely they will respect my son." But do you know what those mean helpers did? They threw the son out of the vineyard.

Jesus was telling this story to show that **God is the owner**, and we are his helpers. God has given us a beautiful world, and he gives us so many good things. God wants us to share the "fruit" of his love with others. What kind of fruit is God looking for? He is not looking for apples or grapes from us. He is looking for **Kindness** when someone is sad. **Sharing** our toys with our friends. **Obedying** our parents and teachers. **Love** for everyone we meet. Sometimes, we want to be the boss of our own lives and keep all the good things for ourselves. But when we remember that everything we have comes from God, it makes us want to share his love with the whole world!

Prayer with the Children & Youth:

Christina: Let us pray together. Dear God, thank you for giving us so many good things. Help us to be good helpers in your world. Help us to share the fruits of love, kindness, and sharing every single day. Amen.

Hymn # 214:

All glory, laud and honour

Words & Music: Public domain

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

to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

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

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

to hear God's word

Prayer for Insight and Understanding:

Mark: Send us your Spirit of wisdom, O God, so that we may hear your Word speaking through the Scriptures with ears that understand and hearts that respond in love. Amen.

Psalms 80: 7-15 (read responsively)

Mark: Restore us, O God of hosts;

People: let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Mark: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it. It took deep root and filled the land.

People: The mountains were covered with its shade,

Mark: the mighty cedars with its branches;

People: it sent out its branches to the sea,

Mark: and its shoots to the River.

People: Why have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

Mark: Turn again, O God of hosts. Look down from heaven and see.

People: Have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted.

The Scripture Lesson:

Matthew 21: 33-46

New International Version (NIV)

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

The Parable of the Tenants

Mark: Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and take his inheritance.’ So, they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants? “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Therefore I tell you, that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.’”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

Mark: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God within us, and for the word of God around us.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Chancel Choir Anthem:

Truly God is Good

Michael Barrett

The Message:

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

The story I told the children this morning was the PG rated version of the Parable of the Wicked Tenants. We are going to hear the real version!

The heat of the Judean sun baked the terraced hillsides, but inside the stone courtyard of the temple, the air was thick with a different kind of heat. The atmosphere in Jerusalem was a powder keg, and Jesus of Nazareth had just struck another match. Standing before a crowd of merchants, Roman sympathizers, and common seekers, Jesus locked eyes with the chief priests and elders. They had just challenged his authority. In response, he did not offer a legal defense but told a story that dug deep into the very roots of their national identity.

“Listen to another parable,” Jesus began, his voice cutting through the ambient hum of the courtyard. “There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place.”

To the men listening, the imagery was instantly familiar. The vineyard was Israel. The landowner was God. For generations, they had sung the words of **Psalm 80**, a communal lament that remembered how God had passionately established this nation. Every priest in the courtyard knew the song by heart: “*You transplanted a vine from Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it, and it took root and filled the land. The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.*”

In Jesus’s story, the landowner was that same God of the Exodus. He had not just handed over a patch of dirt; he had painstakingly prepared a fully equipped estate. The wall offered protection from wild animals and thieves. The winepress stood ready to process the abundance. The watchtower allowed the tenants to guard their livelihood. He gave them everything required to succeed, trusting them to manage it with integrity while he was away in a far country. For a time, the arrangement worked. The vines grew heavy with grapes. The tenants lived off the land, enjoying the shade of the watchtower and the safety of the wall. But ownership breeds a dangerous illusion.

The longer the landowner was gone, the more the tenants forgot the signature on the deed. They began to look at the soil, the press, and the grapes and think, *This is ours. We sweated for this.* They forgot that they were just stewards of a vine they did not create. They forgot the desperate plea of their ancestors in **Psalm 80:12**: “*Why have you broken down its walls so that all who pass by pick its fruit? Boars from the forest ravage it, and the creatures of the field feed on it.*”

The ancient psalm had been a cry for God to restore his broken vineyard after years of foreign oppression. But now, Jesus was turning that psalm on its head. The walls were not broken because God was unfaithful; the vineyard was ruined because the tenants inside had turned corrupt. They had become the wild beasts devouring the harvest.

“When the harvest time approached,” Jesus continued, his gaze shifting directly to the religious authorities, “the landowner sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.” It was a standard contractual agreement. The landowner was not asking for everything - only the portion that belonged to him. But the request was met with sudden, explosive violence. “The tenants seized his servants,” Jesus said. “They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third.”

Murmurs rippled through the temple crowd. To the listeners, the audacity of the tenants was shocking. But to the chief priests, the metaphor was beginning to sting. These “servants” were the prophets of old - Elijah, Jeremiah, Isaiah. For centuries, God had sent messengers to Israel, asking for the fruits of righteousness, justice, and mercy. And for

centuries, the rulers of Israel had beaten, exiled, and murdered them. The tenants did not want to hand over the fruit because doing so required acknowledging that they were not the masters of the vineyard. But the landowner's response was even more shocking than the tenants' cruelty. Instead of sending an army to wipe them out, he showed a baffling, agonizing patience. "Then he sent other servants to them," Jesus said, "more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way."

The crowd listened in silence. Why would a powerful landowner subject more of his people to such brutality? It was a portrait of God's relentless grace, giving the tenants chance after chance to repent, to swallow their pride, and to honour the covenant. Yet, each act of mercy was met with greater defiance. The tenants mistook the landowner's patience for weakness. They assumed that because judgment was delayed, it would never come.

Then came the turning point of the story. The landowner had one final card to play. He remembered the ancient, aching prayer written in **Psalms 80 (14–15)**: *"Return to us, God Almighty! Look down from heaven and see! Watch over this vine, the root your right hand has planted, the son you have raised up for yourself."*

For centuries, Israel had begged God to visit his vine and protect "the son" raised up for his glory. Now, Jesus was standing in front of them, revealing that God had finally answered that exact prayer. But the reality was a tragedy. "Last of all," Jesus said, in a solemn voice, "he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said." This was the climax of the tragedy. The landowner did not send a stronger servant or a magistrate; he sent his heart. He sent the heir. Surely, the tenants would see the family resemblance. Surely, the dignity of the son would shatter their arrogance and bring them to their knees.

Jesus continued the story "But when the tenants saw the son," "they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and take his inheritance.' So, they took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him." The courtyard grew deathly quiet. The madness of the tenants was complete. Their logic was entirely warped by greed: they believed that if the heir was dead, the land would become unclaimed property, and they could legally claim it as their own. They did not just want the fruit anymore; they wanted so much more ...they wanted the throne.

Jesus paused. The silence in the temple was suffocating. He was now at the present moment. **He was the Son** whom God had raised up for himself, the protector of the vine mentioned in Psalm 80. He was standing in the vineyard of Jerusalem, and the men plotting his death were sitting in the front row. They were already whispering in dark corners about how to rid themselves of this Galilean disruptor. Jesus looked at the chief priests and asked a sharp, direct question: "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" The priests and elders, caught up in the moral outrage of the story, answered without thinking. "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they declared

righteously, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” They had just pronounced their own judgment.

Jesus nodded, letting their own words echo in the stone courtyard. Then, he drove the point home with scripture they knew by heart. “Have you never read in the Scriptures,” Jesus asked, His voice ringing with divine authority: *‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?* He was quoting Psalm 118. The image shifted from agriculture to architecture.

The “builders” were the religious experts - the architects of Israel’s spiritual life. They looked at a specific stone, measured it against their own political ambitions and theological frameworks, and deemed it worthless. They threw it in the scrap heap. But Jesus warned them that God’s blueprint is sovereign. The very stone they threw away, God would lift up and place as the foundational anchor of the entire spiritual universe.

**Everything built upon him would stand;
everything built apart from him would collapse.**

Then came the devastating conclusion. Jesus looked at the men who held the spiritual keys to the nation and said, “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.” The truth of these words stung as the chief priests and the Pharisees looked at each other, their faces flushing with anger as the realization hit them like a physical blow. **They just realized he was talking about *them*.**

The ancient prayer of **Psalm 80:7**—“*Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved*”—was standing right in front of them in human form. But instead of welcoming his light, they preferred the darkness of their own control. He had exposed their hearts to the public. He had revealed that their devotion to God, **was a sham**, their leadership was an exercise in self-preservation, and their ultimate desire was to kill the Son to keep control of the vineyard. They wanted to arrest him on the spot. They wanted to drag Jesus out of the temple and silence him forever.

But they looked around the courtyard, they saw the eyes of the crowd. The people were hanging on his every word, holding him to be a prophet. The leaders could not risk a riot - not with the Roman guards watching from the nearby Fortress of Antonia. So, they backed away, retreating into the shadows of the temple chambers to fine-tune their conspiracy. They would wait for a darker hour, a quieter place, and a betrayer. They would go on to fulfill the very prophecy Jesus had just spoken - throwing the Son out of the vineyard of Jerusalem to be crucified on a hill called Golgotha.

But as Jesus watched them walk away, the warning remained hanging in the heavy air. The vineyard would not remain empty. The fruit would be gathered. God’s kingdom would move forward, passing into the hands of those - regardless of status or lineage - who would

offer it back to the Landowner with humble, thankful hearts. Let us reflect that the Landowner is God who graciously provides life, creation and blessing, making us his stewards, ... he has provided us with so much, we own nothing, - but are entrusted with what God has given us and he reminds us not to be greedy and keep the good things for ourselves but to share them with the world! Amen.

Blessing the Word in our Lives:

Chrisina: Let us be doers of the word, and not hearers only. Let us present ourselves to God as disciples of Christ, that we may be approved by the Holy Spirit, and share God's word of truth with the world.

Hymn # 479:

The church's one foundation

Words & Music: Public domain

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, our Lord;
we are his new creation by water and the word;
from heaven he came and sought us that we might ever be
his living servant people by his own death set free.
2. Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
our charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth,
one holy name professing and at one table fed,
to one hope we are pressing, by Christ's own spirit led.
3. Though with a scornful wonder the world sees us oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
But soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
4. 'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of our war,
we wait the consummation of peace forevermore,
till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
5. We now on earth have union with God, the Three-in-One,
and share, through faith, communion with those whose rest is won –
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Responding in love with thanksgiving

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

Christina: Loving God, in Jesus Christ, you teach us to pray and to present our petitions to you in his name. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit, so that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love and purposes for all. We give you thanks for all the blessings and mercies we know in this life: for the beauty of creation, the gift of faith, the support and love we find in our relationships, the guidance of your Word and Spirit, the meaning and grace of the sacraments, and those people and gifts you bring into our life that furnish it with meaning. Gracious God, you have called us together to be the church of Jesus Christ. May your people be one in faith and discipleship, breaking bread together, seeking that justice in the world which reflects your will, confessing failure and fault when we are in err, building up your people, discerning the Spirit's guidance, and telling and showing good news. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Christina: Creator God, you made all things and called them good. May your creation be held in reverence by all people. May its resources be used wisely and its fragile balance between life and death respected. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Christina: Eternal Ruler, the nations rise and fall. Hear our prayers for those who govern, those who form and keep our laws, that they may learn wisdom, mercy and truth, establish justice and seek the ways of peace. We pray for your peace and justice in those parts of the world that are torn by violence and conflict, praying especially for Gaza, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen and Sudan. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Christina: God of new relationships, we pray that your church will be a place of truth, healing and reconciliation. Open our hearts and minds to understand your vision for all your people and strength us to walk in new ways. We pray for people who have been harmed by the church, who are healing and who seek grace and forgiveness. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Christina: Healing God, you desire health and wholeness for your people. Cleanse and redeem your whole creation that poverty may turn to abundance, that streams of living water may flow in the wilderness, and those who are broken in body, mind and spirit may find rest and newness of life. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Christina: God of comfort, look with compassion on all those who mourn, that they may find comfort in their sorrow, and know the healing power of your assurance that they are never separated from your love. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Christina: Eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will and be your true church, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught his disciples to pray using this prayer:

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:

Christina: The gifts we offer today join the gifts of many others to bring the love and compassion of Christ into places of deep need. Let us bless others as we have been blessed in Christ.

You can give to First Presbyterian Church.....

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

* by e-transfer to firstkirk@truespeed.ca

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

Offering Praise Song:

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:

Christina: Gracious and generous God, we offer you our gifts with humble thanks for all you have provided. Bless them with your Spirit and use them to bless those in deepest need with love they can taste and justice they can celebrate in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sending Hymn # 250:

I danced in the morning

Sydney Carter ©1963 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI License # 20312607/20312614

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,

and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came with me and the dance went on.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance, and I still go on.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

5. They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,

and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

The Benediction:

Christina: Go into the world, living in the light of Christ. By the power of the Spirit do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can as long as ever you can. And as you do, may the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Christ and Spirit descend upon you and dwell in your hearts this day and forever. Amen.

Organ Postlude:

Voluntary in C Major

G. F. Handel

In Memoriam



We extend our love and sympathy to Barbara Barbour on the death of her husband **JAMES L. (Jim) BARBOUR**, on Thursday, September 24th, 2026, in the Brockville General Hospital. Cremation has taken place and a private family gathering is being planned for a later date. For more information, visit Jim's obituary in the Recorder and Times. Please remember Barb, children Kevin (Yvonne) and Stacey Fouchard (John), their families and the extended Barbour family in your prayers.



We are God's people, called to serve with the unique gifts God has entrusted to each of us. As members of a denomination united by faith, shared governance, history, and mission, we are stronger when we work together. Through Presbyterians Sharing, Presbyterians across Canada join in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and sharing God's love and hope in our communities, across the country and around the world. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing strengthen congregations, bring hope to vulnerable people, support the PCC's commitment to confession, truth, and reconciliation with Indigenous people, seek justice, and share

Christ's love in practical and meaningful ways. Together, we can accomplish far more than any congregation or individual could on their own.

A Mission Moment from The PCC



Today, Sunday, October 4th is **LOAVES & FISHES Sunday** - Our Church supports the work of this restaurant with our donations of money and time. This ministry assists so many and we are thankful to be a part of it. Donations of food can be left in the basket at the

rear of the Sanctuary or delivered to the Church Office (white and chocolate cake mixes and coffee are great choices) during the week. Donations of money are welcome in your regular offering envelopes or online donations. Please mark all envelopes clearly. Thanks.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER CALENDAR**

LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY 1st Sunday of each month
CRAFT & CHAT Tuesday afternoons - Parlour – 1 to 4

FPC HAND BELL CHOIR Thurs Afternoons 4:15 pm. Red Room

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

SUNDAY SUPPER – 4th Sunday of each month.

ONGOING PROJECTS: Grocery Bags, Egg Cartons, Survival Kits (Food Bank), Pop Cans for Maintenance, Breakfast Bags (Food Bank), Sunday Supper Ministry

COMMUNITY GROUPS using the Church Building:

AA GROUP – Monday Evenings in the Red Room

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

Oct 04 **MORNING WORSHIP** (World Communion Sunday) - 11 am. in the Sanctuary
Leader in Worship - Christina Duncan

Loaves & Fishes Sunday. Church School. Coffee Hour.

Christina Duncan leads worship at St. Lawrence Lodge in the afternoon.

Oct 06 B.A.M.A. will meet at noon.

Craft & Chat will meet in the Parlour at 1 pm.

Oct 11 **HARVEST (Thanksgiving) SUNDAY WORSHIP** - 11 am. in the Sanctuary.

Leader in Worship – Bruce Hynes (First Baptist Church)

Church School. Coffee Hour follows worship, in the Church Hall.

Oct 12 Thanksgiving Monday Holiday – Church Building and Office closed.

Oct 13 The **M.O.V.E. Committee** will meet in the Hall at 10 am.

Oct 14 The **SESSION** will meet in the Red Room at 7 pm.

Oct 17 **MEN'S BREAKFAST** – 8:15 am. at Stacked Restaurant

Oct 18 **SUNDAY WORSHIP (World Food Day) with Communion** - 11 am. - Sanctuary.

Church School. Coffee Hour follows worship, in the Church Hall.

Reverend Marianne leads worship at the Wedgewood in the afternoon.

Oct 23 Reverend Marianne leads worship at Bridlewood in the afternoon.

Oct 25 **REFORMATION SUNDAY WORSHIP**

11 am. in the Sanctuary.

Oct 26 **P.A. Day Camp** - 9 am. – 3 pm. in the Hall.

Office Marianne (and Mark) will be on holiday in Algonquin Park from Monday, October 5th to Monday, October 12th. The Church Office will be closed during this week. Marianne will return to the Office on Tuesday, October 13th. Happy Thanksgiving from us to all of you!

The Hosick Family
Art Show & Sale
Phil, Caroline and Bethany
OCTOBER 17

from 9 – 4

Join Phil, Caroline and Bethany Hosick for their Family Art Show & Sale.

Refreshments available throughout the day (by donation, supporting the Youth Opportunities in the Arts & Interval House). Come and support local artists. Please use King Street Entrance of the Arts Hub. Christmas is coming!

The FOOD BANK needs the following:

- Canned Soups and Stews
- Cheese Whiz
- Peanut Butter and Jam
- Canned Pasta
- Powdered Milk
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Meats
- Cooking Oil
- Canned Vegetables
- Peanut-Free School Snacks and Drinks

Happy Birthday to (Oct. 4th to Oct. 11th):

ELEANOR CHAPMAN – October 5th

JOHN McCUE – October 5th

KAREN MAHON – October 11th



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

**Copies of the PRAYER CALENDAR
for OCTOBER**

Copies of OUR DAILY BREAD
September to November Edition!

**Copies of The PRESBYTERIAN
CONNECTION**

The Fall 2026 Edition!

Check out especially pages 14, 23, 22 and 29-30
for pictures and news of First Church!

Stewardship Moments: Inspiring Generosity



**In ordinary life we
hardly realize that we
receive a great deal
more than we give,
and that it is only
with gratitude that
life becomes rich.**

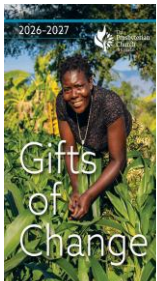
*Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
Letters and Papers from Prison*



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

presbyterian.ca

As the summer months end, please remember **THE CHALLENGE!** How did you spend your summer? Where did you go? Whom did you visit? Send pictures and stories etc. to firstkirk@truespeed.ca anytime now. Thanks! The Summer/Advent/Christmas issue of the Challenge, combined because of computer difficulties, will be ready for distribution hopefully on Sunday, November 8th. The submission deadline will be Monday, November 2nd. Thanks.



The 2025–2026 Gifts of Change catalogue is now online and hard copies are available in the church office. Giving a Gift of Change makes a difference in the lives of people in Canada and around the world. No matter what you choose to support, you can be sure your funds will be used effectively and efficiently to carry out life-changing programs that are responding to the needs of people affected by poverty, hunger, discrimination and conflict.

Visit - <https://presbyterian.ca/donate/gifts-of-change/>

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE
SAY ABOUT...?

Satan and the Devil



**What Does the Bible Say
About...?**

Satan and the Devil

The second webinar in the "What Does the Bible Say About...?" series is Satan and the Devil, which explores the views of the person and work of Satan/the devil across the Hebrew Bible and through the New

Testament writings. The webinar will allow for Q & A and a study sheet will be available following the webinar.

Date: October 7th, 2026 **Time:** 3 p.m.

To learn more visit

<https://presbyterian.ca/webinars/what-does-the-bible-say-about-satan-and-the-devil/>.

WEBINARS

You can find all of the PCC's upcoming webinars, plus recordings of previous ones,

<https://presbyterian.ca/leadership-webinars/>

A THANKSGIVING POEM

May your stuffing be tasty,
May your turkey plump,
May your potatoes and gravy
have nary a lump.
May your yams be delicious
and your pies take the prize,
and may your
Thanksgiving dinner
stay off your thighs!



Join us to
CELEBRATE
200 Years

of
Presbyterian Worship
at

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
21 Main St. S., Maxville, ON

Sunday, October 18th, 2026
ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP
2:00 p.m.

Light lunch to follow
At the Metcalfe Centre
34 Fair St., Maxville, ON

RSVP by
Saturday, October 10th, 2026
Please email: Sharon Simpson
simpson.sands2022@gmail.com
By Phone: Olga Ferrier
613-527-1226



**200th Anniversary Celebrations at St. James
Anglican Church, Maitland on Saturday, October
17th and Sunday, October 18th.**

We will soon be hosting our two-day celebration of St. James Church's 200th Anniversary. Two days of exceptional music, worship, and fellowship will mark this once-in-a-century milestone in Maitland. The anniversary weekend begins on **Saturday, October 17th at 7 p.m. with an evening of classical and sacred music** featuring distinguished organist, conductor, composer, and educator Matthew Larkin, alongside JUNO Award-winning soprano Kathleen Radke.

Celebrations continue on **Sunday, October 18th at 10:30 a.m. with St. James' 200th Anniversary Worship Service.** The church is honored to welcome The Right Reverend William G. Cliff, Bishop of the Diocese of Ontario, along with clergy and other special guests. Matthew Larkin, his ensemble, and Kathleen Radke will also provide music during the service.

Following Sunday's service, celebrations will continue with a **200th Anniversary Luncheon** at the Maitland Education and Recreation Centre (MERC), with lunch served at approximately 12 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be

purchased in advance. You can purchase tickets for the luncheon using the link below. To Buy In-Person: Contact Church Warden Wayne Thornhill at 613-926-1631 or via email at wayne.d.thornhill@gmail.com



Call Chain

At this time of year, we review the Call Chain to make sure it is up to date. It is used to phone everyone if we have to cancel a service on account of a snowstorm or loss of heat in the church. We also send out emails and put a notice on the church web site, Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter.

If you check your email or one of the social media sites regularly and so do not need a phone call, please let us know by sending an email to thesession@truespeed.ca or speak to Quentin Robinson. Thank you.



**Presbyterian World Service
& Development**



**Presbyterians
Sharing**

PWS&D's Monthly Newsletter

Subscribe to PWS&D's newsletter for news, updates, stories and more. Go to werespond.ca and add your email address in the Stay Connected box at the bottom.

PCC CONNECT E-NEWS

<https://form.jotform.com/Presby/pcc-enews-signup>

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY to GIVE this THANKSGIVING

Your box of Church Envelopes contains a special one marked "Thanksgiving Offering". This year, donations received in that special envelope will be shared equally between **THE BROCKVILLE & AREA FOOD BANK** and **PRESBYTERIANS SHARING**. For those of you who do not have church envelopes, please use a visitor's envelope or e-transfer. Include your name, full address and the word 'THANKSGIVING' on the envelope or in the comment section on the e-transfer. If you prefer your gift be used to support the ongoing expenses of the Church, include your gift in your regular offering envelope.

Alzheimer Society

LANARK LEEDS GRENVILLE

FIRST LINK LEARNING SERIES: CARE ESSENTIALS

FOR THOSE CARING FOR
SOMEONE WITH ALZHEIMER'S
DISEASE OR RELATED DEMENTIA
AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN
DIAGNOSED (if appropriate)

Register:

To attend on-line click Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinme/register/18yfiueYGC>

To attend in-person -100 Strowger Blvd. Brockville
call:

Sean McFadden at 1-888-578-8558 or
email at smcfadden@alzlg.ca

TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

Any questions please contact:

Sean McFadden at 1-888-578-8558 or
email at smcfadden@alzlg.ca



WHEN:

TUESDAY Oct. 20th, 2026

What to Expect:

Learn about the stages of dementia and the changes that are happening in the brain as dementia progresses.

TUESDAY Oct. 27th, 2026

Responding to Behaviour Changes:

Learn about behavioural changes that can happen in dementia.

TUESDAY Nov. 3rd, 2026

Communicating Effectively:

Find out why communication changes as dementia progresses and ways to effectively communicate with your loved one.

TUESDAY Nov. 10th, 2026

Supporting Daily Activities:

Find out ways to support and adapt your loved one's daily activities.