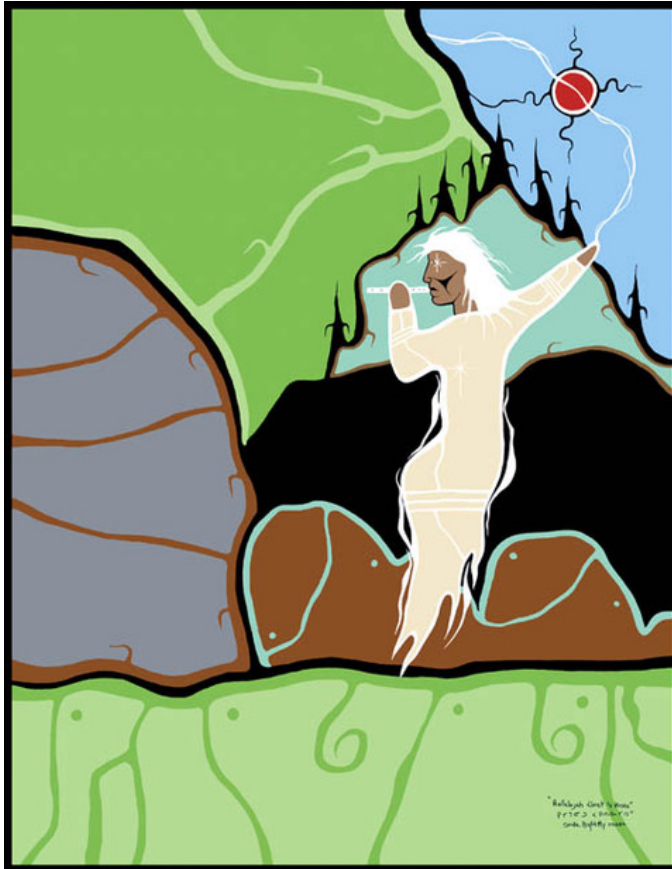




# ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES



Ovide Bighetty (Cree, 1969–2014), *Hallelujah, Christ Has Risen*, 2002. Acrylic on canvas.

## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

*We are so glad to have you worship with us!*

*We are a growing, diverse, and energetic faith community learning to follow Jesus together.*

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are invited to join us.*



**ST. JOHN'S NORWAY**  
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Twitter: [@stjnorway](https://twitter.com/stjnorway)

# Ascension Sunday

## 10:30 AM – Sunday, May 17, 2026

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev'd Molly Finlay

*Deacons:* The Rev'd John Quaggin, The Rev'd Christine Lambert

*Subdeacon:* Nathan Mani

*Reader:* Katy Molyneux

*Music Director:* Declan Tse

*Soloists:* Zion Stephens, Tarquin Wongkee, Daniel Rojas, Samuel Rothermal

### Prelude Music

### Welcome & Gathering of the Community

*(Please stand)*

### Easter Greeting

***Celebrant*** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

***People*** The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

***Celebrant*** May his grace and peace be with you.

***People*** May he fill our hearts with joy.

### Opening Hymn **CP 247 – Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise (verses 1, 3, 6)**

Hail the day that sees him rise, alleluia!

To his throne above the skies; alleluia!

Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, alleluia!

enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!

Highest heaven its Lord receives, alleluia!

yet he loves the earth he leaves; alleluia!

though returning to his throne, alleluia!

still he calls the world his own. Alleluia!

Lord, though parted from our sight, alleluia!  
far above the starry height, alleluia!  
grant our hearts may thither rise, alleluia!  
seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!

**Celebrant** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

**All** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant** Almighty God,  
**All** **to you all hearts are open,**  
**all desires known,**  
**and from you no secrets are hidden.**  
**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration**  
**of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you,**  
**and worthily magnify your holy name;**  
**through Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

### **Collect of the Day**

**Celebrant** Let us pray.  
Almighty God,  
your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord.  
Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of his peace,  
and bring the whole of creation  
to worship at his feet,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**People** **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

# The Proclamation of the Word

## The Readings

**Reader** A reading from the Book of Acts.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' (Acts 1:1-11)

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.  
**People** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 47**

**Choir**

Clap your hands, O faithful people!  
Shout to God a song of praise!  
The Most High our land has ransomed,  
and will reign as Lord always!  
Great the majesty around us,  
sure the paths our feet have trod;  
we are claimed as sons and daughters,  
children of a gracious God.

**All**

**With a shout and blast of trumpet,  
God ascends to reign above,  
clothed in robes of righteous judgment,  
crowned with all-redeeming love!  
Fill the world with glad rejoicing;  
heaven shall sing, and earth reply!  
Let the nations rise in wonder  
all God's work to glorify!**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

*The Gospel is carried down the centre aisle into the midst of the people gathered, as a symbol of God's sending out of Jesus—who is the “Word made flesh” into the world.*

**All**                    **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Deacon**                The Lord be with you.

**People**                **And also with you.**

**Deacon**                The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**People**                **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then Jesus said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*(Luke 24:44-53)*

**Deacon**                The Gospel of Christ.

**People**                **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**All**                    **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Sermon**

**The Rev'd Molly Finlay**

*(Please stand)*

## The Nicene Creed

*Deacon*

Let us confess our faith as we say,

*All*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*(Please be seated or kneel for prayer)*

## **The Prayers of the People**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**Deacon** Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
God welcomes sinners  
and invites them to this table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

**Deacon**  
**All** Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name.  
**Amen.**

**Celebrant** Almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Invitation to Offering**

*We at St. John the Baptist Norway give regularly to God's work  
through offerings and other gifts. Our offerings support the life of the parish,  
as well as the work we do in the world, both locally and globally.*

*We invite you to contribute financially as you can to the life and ministry of the parish.*

*If you wish to donate online through Canada Helps, please scan the QR code  
and follow the link. To sign up for pre-authorized giving, you may contact  
the Church Office at [admin@stjohnsnorway.com](mailto:admin@stjohnsnorway.com) or  
call us at 416-691-4560. Thank you!*



*(Please stand)*

### **The Peace**

**Celebrant** The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People** And also with you.

*Sharing “peace” with one another is an ancient Christian tradition, not only in the words of Jesus, but also in the practices of the Christian community.*

*Passing the peace began as a way for people in the Christian community to be reconciled to one another before making their offering at the altar.*

*It is for this reason that the Peace always comes before Communion.*

*We impart the Peace of Christ with one another when we greet each other in this meaningful way.*

*(Please remain standing and join in singing)*

**Offertory Song**                      **CP 482 – Come and Journey with a Saviour (v. 1, 2, 4, 5)**

Come and journey with a Saviour  
who has called us from our birth,  
who has washed us in the waters,  
and who loved us on earth.

**Refrain:**

Come and journey, come and journey  
with a Saviour who has come.  
We are all God’s sons and daughters;  
in the Spirit we are one.

Come and journey, journey inward,  
come and seek him deep within,  
where he meets us in our living,  
in our striving and our sin. **[Refrain]**

Come and journey, journey outward,  
where that cross calls us to care,  
where injustice and where hunger  
and the poor call us to share. **[Refrain]**

Come and journey, journey upward.  
Sing his praises, offer prayer.  
In the storm and in the stillness  
find his presence everywhere. **[Refrain]**

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

### The Prayer over the Gifts

**Celebrant** Eternal God,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ  
has promised to be with us until the end of time.  
Accept all we offer you this day,  
and renew us in his transfigured life;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People** Amen.

### The Great Thanksgiving

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** We lift them to the Lord.

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Celebrant** Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
we give you thanks and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who after his glorious resurrection  
appeared to his disciples,  
and in their sight ascended into heaven  
to prepare a place for us;  
that where he is, there we might also be,  
and reign with him in glory.  
Therefore we praise you with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven,  
who for ever sing this hymn  
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**All** Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Celebrant** We give thanks to you, Lord our God,  
for the goodness and love  
you have made known to us in creation;  
in calling Israel to be your people;  
in your Word spoken through the prophets;  
and above all in the Word made flesh,  
Jesus your Son.  
For in these last days you sent him  
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.  
In him you have delivered us from evil,  
and made us worthy to stand before you.  
In him you have brought us  
out of error into truth,  
out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over  
to suffering and death,  
a death he freely accepted,  
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,  
and said, "Take, eat:  
this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them  
and said, "Drink this, all of you:  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me."

*All* Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**We remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant* and we offer our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving  
to you, Lord of all;  
presenting to you, from your creation,  
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,  
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,  
that they may be the sacrament  
of the body of Christ  
and his blood of the new covenant.  
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,  
that we, made acceptable in him,  
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,  
reconcile all things in Christ,  
and make them new,  
and bring us to that city of light  
where you dwell with all your children;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the firstborn of all creation,  
the head of the Church,  
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever.

*People*      **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant*      And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

*People*      **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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

**Celebrant** Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**All** Now we are raised to new life.

**Celebrant** We were buried in your tomb.

**All** Now we share in your resurrection.

**Celebrant** Live in us, that we may live in you.

## The Communion

**Celebrant** The gifts of God for the people of God.

**People** Thanks be to God!

**CP 690 – Lamb of God**

**All** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.

*We are pleased to offer communion in both kinds—the bread and wine.*

*You are welcome to take a small sip of wine from the chalice server,  
guiding the cup with your hand, or you can simply pass the cup by.*

*Please know that you are receiving full communion with the bread alone.*

## Communion Music

**I Will Rise (Chris Tomlin)**

**CP 63 – Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup**

### Refrain:

Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst.

I am the bread of life,  
the true bread sent from the Father. [Refrain]

Your ancestors ate manna in the desert,  
this is the bread come down from heaven. **[Refrain]**

Eat my flesh and drink my blood,  
and I will raise you up on the last day. **[Refrain]**

Anyone who eats this bread,  
will live forever. **[Refrain]**

If you believe and eat this bread,  
you will have eternal life. **[Refrain]**

*(Please stand)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

**Celebrant** Let us pray.  
Eternal Giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom.  
Confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

### **Doxology**

**Celebrant** Glory to God,  
**All** whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **The Blessing**

### **Announcements**

*(Please stand)*

### **Closing Hymn**

**CP 374 - Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (verses 1, 2, 5)**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia! he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

### **Dismissal**

**Deacon**      Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!  
**People**      **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Postlude Music**

## St. John's This Week

<b>Tonight</b>	<b>The Table Service</b> in the Sanctuary 5pm
<b>Monday</b>	<i>The Church Office and Food Pantry will be closed.</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Discipleship Small Groups</b> in the Sanctuary 7pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Mid-Week Eucharist</b> in the Chapel 12noon
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> in the Sanctuary 7pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Day of Pentecost In-Person / Livestream Service</b> in the Sanctuary 10:30am <b>The Table Service</b> in the Sanctuary 5pm

## Welcome to St. John's Norway

No matter where you find yourself on your journey of faith, **you are so welcome to be here with us!** We are a community of people—young and old, from all backgrounds and walks of life, who are learning to follow Jesus. We ask questions, don't avoid the tough issues that life presents, and we want to love our neighbours. Please [fill out a Welcome Card online](#). We would love to hear from you!

## St. John's Food Pantry

Our supply of most tinned goods and pasta is still plentiful but donations of any of the following would really be appreciated: juices, fruit cups, tinned fruit, cookies, crackers, hearty soups and stews, pasta sauce and instant oatmeal.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry.

## Day of Pentecost Service 10:30AM – Wear Red!

Next Sunday, we will celebrate the Day of Pentecost, so please wear your Red “I Did the Triduum T-shirts” or any other red clothing you may have to celebrate! It will also be Rev. Christine Lambert's last Sunday. Join us as we send her with love and wishes to Christ Church Deer Park.

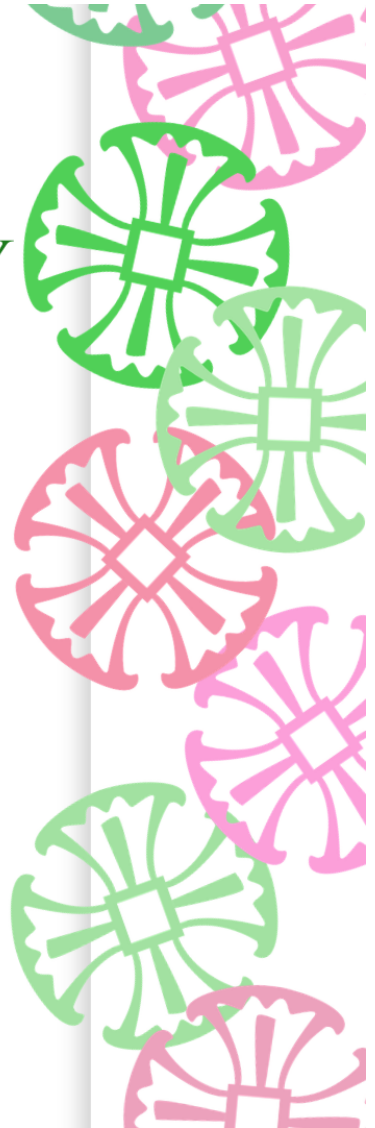
ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

SPRING  
FORUM

**Sunday, May 31**

AI and the Church  
with The Rev'd Tay Moss

*Come and see.*



# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The land we are standing on today is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many distinct First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

## LET'S GET SOCIAL!

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[www.stjohnsnorway.com](http://www.stjohnsnorway.com)

## TO REACH US

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**Matthew Neugebauer**

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