



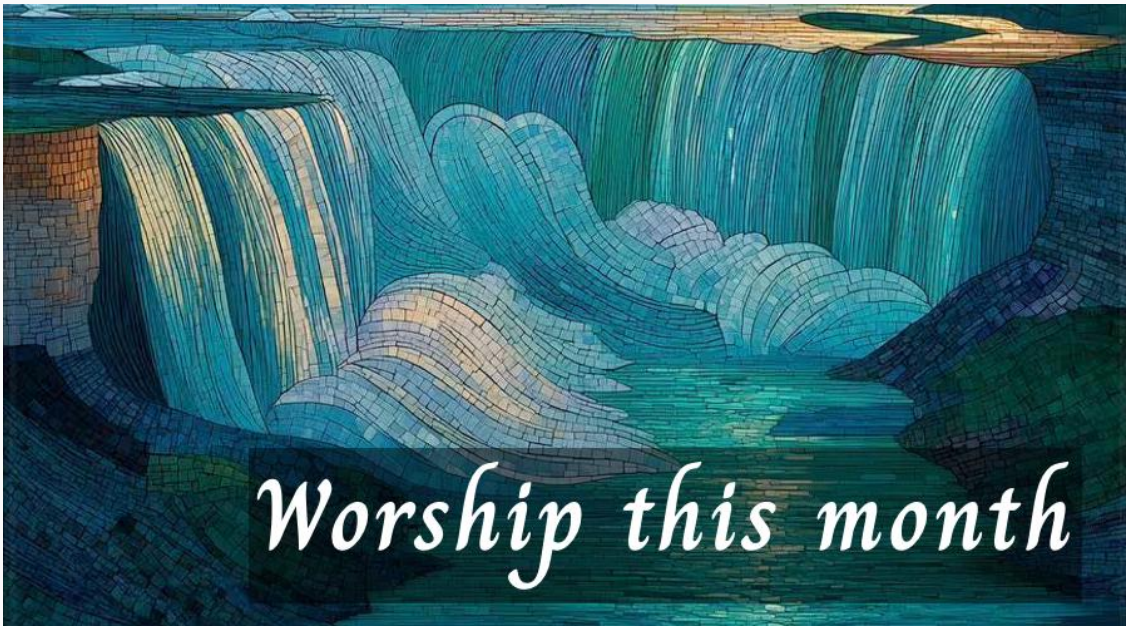
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Niagara Falls



We're Hiring!

St. John's is joining with Holy Trinity (Chippawa) to hire a joint Parish Administrator. If you're creative, organized, and committed to creating caring communities, we'd like you to apply! The deadline is October 2, 2026. [The full job posting is available here.](#) Please share the post widely.



Wednesday Worship

Midweek Eucharist has resumed on Wednesdays at 6pm. Please join us! Tea and conversation to follow.

Join us on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (orange shirt day, September 30) for a special service of repentance and covenant.

Season of Creation

Throughout September, we've been observing the Season of Creation, which stretches from the Feast of the Creator on September 1 to the Feast of St. Francis on October 4. This is a fairly new (optional) practice, initiated by churches around the world wishing to draw ecology and creation care into worship. [Read more about it here.](#)

Blessing of the Animals

On October 4, we'll have a blessing of the animals during our Sunday morning services. If you have a critter companion that could tolerate the Sunday service, feel free to bring them along - or bring a photo instead.



Walk the Labyrinth

Join us for an outdoor labyrinth walk at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library on September 26 between 10am and 12pm. At our monthly labyrinth walks this year, Stephanie Wilton-Duncan will lead us through Henri Nouwen's book, Life of the Beloved.

Webinar for Truth & Reconciliation

The Moose Hide Campaign invites you to a free panel discussion on September 24, featuring bestselling author and journalist Waubgeshig Rice of Wasauksing First Nation, whose work explores contemporary Anishinaabe life, culture, community and storytelling. [Register here.](#)

Human Trafficking Justice Education Forum

St. John's in Port Dalhousie, is hosting an event on October 24, 10am-2pm, about how to recognize and prevent human trafficking in Niagara. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Connecting for Climate Change Action is a free, award-winning online course from Western University that combines indigenous knowledge and Euro-western science. The current course began September 14 (but one can still register) and runs for 12 weeks. Learning takes 2-3 hours per week and is well worth the investment of time and energy. If you have any questions please contact Stephanie Wilton-Duncan.

School's In!

Bee Montessori has resumed their normal school hours for the fall. Please note that parishioners may only be in the building on weekdays before 4pm if they have a background check on file or are escorted by someone who does. Thank you for helping us keep the kids safe!

Wild Ride 2026

Rev. Val Kerr (our former priest) is participating in Alongside Hope's campaign to raise money for solar panels at St. Luke's Hospital in the West Bank. She's

committed to reading five books about diverse First Nations before the campaign closes on October 18. [Read more and sponsor her here.](#)

Project Share Fundraiser

From now until September 28, order local wine [online through the Vineland Wineshop](#), and 20% of your purchases will be donated to Project Share.



National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

As residents of Canada, we are all inheritors of the treaties between Indigenous and settler peoples. But over the centuries, settlers have broken our promises of respect and support for Indigenous lands and peoples. As Anglicans, we are also inheritors of the tragic legacy of the residential schools.

In light of this, it's easy to throw up our hands and walk away - it all feels too heavy. Perhaps it feels far from your own context. But reconciliation is not about getting it right or even fixing the past. It is about showing up, and listening, and trying again.

On September 30, wear an orange shirt to show your solidarity with those who suffered at the hands of the residential schools, and as a sign that Anglicans are ready to take the treaties seriously. **Join us for worship at 6pm that evening, in a special service of repentance and covenant.**

You're also invited to wear your orange shirt to church the previous Sunday, September 27.

Chapel Space Renewal

After a parish council vote in June, we've made an agreement with Bee Montessori to divide the chapel space in half so we can both utilize it more effectively. Our half is being returned to a worship space, and theirs will be used for library and music. I'm excited about using the worship space for Wednesday evening worship again, while continuing to have parish council and other meetings there.

I understand that sharing the space with the school can feel challenging. The decision was made because we were both using the space already, but the design was ineffective for both worship and the school's needs. The increased rent from the school will enable us to do more ministry for the long term. I'm confident that it will be a win for all of us in the end.

The next phase of the spacial redevelopment is to purchase a portable ramp so that the chapel is accessible for everyone. If you have experience with procuring such a ramp, please let me know.

New Neighbours

I'm excited to share that the empty lot beside the church has been purchased by Birchway Niagara, a nonprofit working with survivors of domestic violence in our area. Once their funding is in place, they plan to build transitional housing units for clients exiting the shelter system. I'll share updated details with you as they become available.



In Our Community

Loving God, you bind us together across communities, calling us to be one body in your spirit. We gather our hearts to lift up the community of St. John's, weaving our prayers into an offering of grace.

We hold close those on our parish prayer list. You know each name, each hidden worry, each quiet hope, and each physical struggle. Surround them with your healing presence, grant them comfort, and let them feel the warmth of a community that carries them in spirit.

We pray for those in our parish cycle of prayer. Bless their homes, their daily routines, and their journeys of faith. May our shared life be a source of strength and renewal.

We give thanks for the hands that build your kingdom. We lift up the organizations where our parishioners volunteer their time, energy and gifts. Bless these groups as they care for all in creation. Fuel volunteers with joy and stamina, reminding us all that when we serve the world, we serve you.

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer

We pray for 855 dioceses and 42 provinces of the Anglican

Communion. [Download the rotation of prayers here.](#)

The Niagara Cycle of Prayer

In our Diocese, we pray for local ministries and parishes. [Find this rotation and other prayer resources here.](#)
