

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

As people of God, we celebrate Christ in the heart of Victoria through joyful worship,
building inclusive community, and putting faith into action.

St. John's acknowledges these ancestral territories of the Lekwungen people.



Welcome to the Parish Church of St. John the Divine, Victoria. We are a community of faith in the Anglican Tradition, seeking to live lives of faith, hope and love as part of this community of Downtown Victoria. We are on a journey of learning to be a welcoming, inviting, inclusive and serving community which is open to all.

Our worship reflects our rootedness in the Anglican tradition, whilst drawing on liturgies that reflect the long history and heritage of our Christian faith. Please join in as you feel able, and enjoy the words, music and opportunity for prayer and to be a part of our community.

If our service seems unfamiliar, please follow the cues from our leaflet, the ministers leading the service and those around you. Most of our Sunday morning worship services have the Eucharist, or Holy Communion, at the heart of our worship – please feel free to join us, whatever your tradition, in the sharing of bread and wine, at the station nearest to where you are seated. Gluten free wafers are available at all stations: Please indicate if you need one.

Within the Anglican Church of Canada (under the advice of the Primate and the Chief Medical Officer for Canada) we would ask that bread is not dipped into the wine, as this has the potential to spread infection in a way that the sharing of the cup does not. If you would prefer not to share the cup then receiving only bread is considered ‘full communion’ (also known as ‘Communion in One Kind’).

If there is anything that you wish to talk about, please do take the opportunity to talk to the worship leaders, ministers and other members of the congregation following the service. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Healing Prayer group in the south Quadra entrance who would be happy to pray with you as the Holy Communion is shared.

After our service we usually share coffee and an opportunity to get to know one another, in the Church Hall – through the door on the front left hand side. We have many visitors and newcomers here so please make yourself known to folks as you feel comfortable.

You are very welcome here. We don’t always get it right; please let us know when we do, and when we don’t. Please stay and be a part of our family, for however long you would like.

8:00 am Holy Communion

The order of service is found on page 67 in the Book of Common Prayer

Presider: The Reverend Canon Kevin Arndt

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

The congregation is invited to join in the hymns, responses and prayers marked in bold print.

Presider: The Reverend Bill Tarter, OSF

Deacon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Sermon: The Reverend Canon Kevin Arndt

Readers: Muriel Ryan, Joel Durkovic

Intercessor: Peggy Wilmot

Verger: Richard Routledge

Music: The Community Choir

Congregational Mass Setting: New Plainsong Mass, David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

INTROIT

Conditor alme siderum

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that the ancient curse should doom to death a universe, you came, O Saviour, to set free your own in glorious liberty.

Come in your holy might, we pray, redeem us for eternal day; defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, praise, honour, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (CP 108)

MERTON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In this time and in this place

we gather on the ancestral territories of the Lekwungen people.

All: From many places and many peoples we come to this house in prayer.

In this time and in this space we are not alone

for we meet in the presence of the living God.

All: We meet in the presence of the living God.

In this time and in this place we are not alone

for the Risen Jesus stands in our midst.

All: The Risen Jesus stands in our midst.

In this time and in this place

we are not alone

for the wind of the Spirit

moves in and through us.

All: The wind of the Spirit

moves in and through us.

In this time and in this place
we gather with the whole company of heaven:
here heaven and earth are one.

**All: In this time and in this space
heaven and earth are one.**

In this time and in this space
as the nights lengthen
and the days are dim,

**All: we light this candle to
remind us that our Light comes.**

In this time and in this place
as we wait for Jesus, who is
Hope for the world,

**All: we light this candle to
remind us that our Hope comes.**

In this time and in this space,
we gather together,
one people in Jesus Christ.

**All: In this time and place,
we are one people in Jesus Christ.
In the name of God,
Creator, Saviour and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Children leave for Church School.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS

The grace-filled shadows of Advent offer us the opportunity to explore our human complexities through the lens of God's saving love. Trusting in God's promises let us confess our sins:

KYRIE

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you close,
pardon and cleanse you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and show you the glory of the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
**All: give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility,
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

80:1-8



Show the light of your coun-te-nance, O Lord God of hosts, and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock; Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your mighty strength and come to our salvation. Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

O Lord, God of hosts, how long will you be angry at your people's prayer? You feed them with the bread of tears; you give them abundance of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn. Turn us again, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN (CP 110)

WACHET AUF

THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

Before the Gospel

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Athanasian Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died and rose again?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All: We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Authorized Affirmations of Faith (New Patterns of Worship)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

Please stand.

The God who holds heaven and earth as one sent to us the Prince of Peace:
peace in the Church,
peace among nations,
peace in our homes and
peace in our hearts.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN (SPR 13)

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God for whom we wait,

**All: in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day
when the hungry will be fed with good things.
Teach us patience and hope
as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son,
our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

May God be with you

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Creator of all.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you,
God of love, our source and our fulfillment,
for you create all things
and in you we live and move and have our being.
Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.

You made us in your image.
And even though we turn from you,
again and again you call us to yourself,
and in every age, promise liberation.

As a mother gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own
to nurture them in the way of compassionate love.
You sent Jesus among us,
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary.
Jesus revealed your love for all Creation,
and showed us the way of reconciliation.

Having lived among us -
Jesus suffered the cross,
Died,
And in rising again
became the firstborn of the renewed family.

Your Holy Spirit descended
and gave life to your church.

And so we gather around your table,
with all the saints
and with all Creation
We sing the hymn of your unending love:

SANCTUS

To you be glory, almighty God,
because on the night before he died,
Jesus took bread,
when he had given thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you:
Do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
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
Poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins;
Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is rise, Christ will come again.

Recalling Christ's death and resurrection,
we ask you to accept
this, our sacrifice of praise.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts
that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son.

Unite us in Christ
and give us your hope
that we might be strengthened to do your work
as your body in the world.

Through Christ our Redeemer,
in the power of the Spirit,
all praise and glory be yours, Creator God,
now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ambrosian Chant

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us light and life.

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

All are invited to receive communion at the side chapel, at the altar rail, or at the back of the church. Please follow the Greeters' instructions. Receiving bread or wine is considered full communion. It is the practice of the ACC not to dip the bread into the wine. Any not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing, and to indicate that by holding their arms crossed on their chest.

If you are unable to come to a communion station please make this known to the Greeters and we will bring communion to you.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request them from the person who is distributing the bread.

Ministry of Healing

We invite those wishing prayer for themselves or on behalf of someone else to come to the front of the line to receive the bread and wine. Immediately after receiving, go to the prayer station in the south Quadra entrance. Briefly state your need. The prayer team will lay hands on your shoulders and will pray quietly for you.

ANTHEM DURING COMMUNION

R. Shephard (b. 1949)

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; Behold, the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near; The Saviour of the world is here.*

*O blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!*

*Come then, O Saviour, and abide; Our hearts to thee be open wide;
May all thy inward presence feel, To all thy grace and love reveal.*

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

THE DOXOLOGY

All your works praise you, O Lord.

All: And your faithful servants bless you.

**Gracious God we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**May we, who share his body, live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup, bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ADVENT BLESSING

May the saving hope of the coming infant Christ
fill you with expectation,
the joy of Mary's song surround you and give you courage,
the faith of the prophets strengthen your resolve
to work for the redemption of the world,
and the blessing of God, Source of all being,
eternal Word and Holy Spirit,
be with you this day and always.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

RECESSIONAL HYMN (CP 88)

CROSS OF JESUS (CP 537)

VOLUNTARY Wachet auf

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

You are invited to be seated for the Voluntary or to leave at this point.

Coffee and tea will be served in the Parish Hall.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 10 – 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 40:1-11 During the desolation of the Exile the prophet is called by God to preach comfort to the people.

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 Hope is offered to those who seek God's forgiveness and restoration.

2 Peter 3:8-15a Do not despair in the delay of the coming of 'God's Day': Those who walk in hope prepare the way for the fullness of God's reign.

Mark 1:1-8 Echoing Isaiah, John the Baptizer goes into the wilderness to prepare the way for God.

FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Main

After 32 years apart, Mum, you are with Dad at last, love and miss you both, from Louise Langman.

Chapel

In recognition of Liz Elliott's many years of service to the Chancel Guild.

Office Hours 9am – 12 Noon Monday to Friday

**The deadline for leaflet announcements is Tuesday noon of each week.
All notices are to be given in writing, preferably by email.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today

11:30 am	Prayers for Elizabeth Elliott	Chapel
11:45 am	Sunday Reflections	Denson Lounge
7:30 pm	Advent Procession	Church
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

Monday 4

2:00 pm	Book Study	Denson Lounge
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

Tuesday 5

10:00 am	Food Bank	Crypt
12 Noon	Downtown Churches Association	Denson Lounge
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

Wednesday 6

7:45 am	Holy Communion followed by Breakfast	Chapel/Denson Lounge
9:30 am	Sermon Circle	Denson Lounge
12 Noon	Tolmie Region Clericus luncheon	Denson Lounge

Thursday 7

12:10 pm	Meditative Eucharist	Chapel
2:00 pm	Chancel Guild Meeting	Denson Lounge

Friday 8

10:00 am	Food Bank	Crypt
4:00 pm	Property Committee Meeting	Denson Lounge

Saturday 9

9:30 am – 3 pm	Quiet Day with Bishop Barry Jenks	Denson Lounge
4:00 pm	Carolling with the Pacific Opera Chorus	Church

Sunday 10 (2nd Sunday of Advent and White Gift Sunday)

8:00 am	Holy Communion	Chapel
10:00 am	Parish Eucharist and Baptism	Church
11:45 am	Sunday Reflections	Denson Lounge
4:00 pm	Christmas Pageant (Gather at 3:00 pm for barbecue and hot apple cider)	Parking Lot and Church Garden
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

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**Please ensure that any written announcements to be read on Sunday morning  
are received in the office by Friday noon.**

## THIS WEEK

In lieu of a funeral, there will be a short service of prayer in thanksgiving for the life of **Elizabeth Elliott** in the Emmaus Chapel following the 10am service on Sun., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We have three beautiful styles of **CHRISTMAS CARDS** available at coffee hour for the next 2 Sundays, ending December 10<sup>th</sup>. A donation of \$20 (for which you will receive a full tax receipt) is suggested for each packet of 12 cards. The funds collected help the **Primate's World Relief and Development Fund** do its work across the world and here at home.

COME APART from the busy-ness of December days for a **Quiet Time, Sat., Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>** from 10 until 3 in Denson Lounge. In spaces of Silence, think, pray, and meditate with Bishop Barry Jenks on some personal themes of Advent.

Doors open at 9:30 am for coffee and conversation. Bring a bag lunch for later.

**Please register through the church office if you plan to attend.**

### Carolling with the Chorus

We are so grateful for our friendship all year long!

As a thank you for being a fabulous neighbour and community partner, we invite the parishioners of St. John's to book a **pair of complimentary tickets** to the **Carolling with the Chorus** on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 4pm.

Led by Robert Holliston,

Pacific Opera will offer a family afternoon with music, hot chocolate and cookies.

To book your 2 complimentary tickets, please contact

Jeremy at the box office by email ([jroszmann@pov.bc.ca](mailto:jroszmann@pov.bc.ca)) **no later than Thursday, December 7, 2017.**

*Additional Tickets \$40 for Adults, \$15 for Students, Children 12 and under are Free*

*but please book to reserve a seat. Please book soon, as capacity is limited.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### White Gifts – Next Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

White gifts are typically toys for children or appropriate gifts for adults, wrapped and labelled with age and gender. The families and children of the Burnside Gorge Community Centre look forward to these gifts every year and are very appreciative of the generosity of St. John's parishioners. The Centre has operated for over twenty years with thirty staff and provides personalized services to over 500 families each year.

Mark your calendars for our **Urban Outdoor Re-telling of the Nativity Story!**

**(Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm)** How can you help?

- barbeque hot dogs & serve hot apple cider
- lend us pop-up market style tents
- help set up and take down tents
- lend us your propane fire pits
- co-ordinate costumes
- dress up and join the cast
- join the music team
- come and invite others



Talk to Ruth MacIntosh for more information and to get involved.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A Prayer Group** prays through the week; to request confidential prayers for yourself or others contact Pat Manning by email: [patriciacmanning@gmail.com](mailto:patriciacmanning@gmail.com) or leave the request at the church office.

**Prayer is the bedrock of our relationship with God through Christ.** Individual requests for intercessory prayer (read at Sunday and weekday services) may be made by filling out a Prayer Request Card available at the back of the church (on the west wall) or by emailing the same information requested on the card to: [carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca).

### Prison ministry

Kevin expects a number of prisoners from Wilkinson Road will be released before Christmas. Many of these guys – perhaps as many as twenty – may end up on the street. It would make a big difference to them if Kevin was able to provide a basic care kit. This would include:

**New socks, new underwear, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, face cloth, gift card to Salvation Army, gift card to Subway Sandwiches.**

Anything that helps with personal hygiene on the street would be really appreciated.

If you are able to help with these needs please give items to me or leave them in the Prison Ministry box in the foyer. Thanks very much for your consideration.

Chris Eve

**The Canadian Church Calendar is now available for sale at the office - \$5.00**

## Sunday Reflections

On weeks without other events we offer the opportunity to ask 'what just happened?' at our Sunday service - an open forum to discuss the sermon, liturgy, music, and indeed anything that might have cropped up during our worship services, or about Anglican practice and tradition generally. This takes place at **11:45am, following the 10am service** and usually lasts for 45 minutes or so. All are welcome; come, and bring your questions!

Come and revive your **Art & Soul** at the art and spirituality group held in the basement space at St. John the Divine every Wednesday afternoon at 1:30pm. Art experience is not necessary! We ask for a *voluntary* donation of \$4.00 per session to provide supplies for those in need. Any questions - please contact Gillian Barlow or Susan McCabe.



**"THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER"** - Poinsettias are now available to make our church look even more beautiful at Christmas. Please consider making a dedication. Cost: \$13 per plant, available until Mon., Dec.11<sup>th</sup>. Contact Carol-Ann in the church office ([carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca) or 250-383-7169 ext. 226) to order a poinsettia and give a dedication. Thank you, Susan Powell.

**The special blue envelope for December is for Rector's Discretionary Fund.** This money is used by the rector to help people quietly and without embarrassment. It allows him to act quickly in emergencies. It gives him the ability to access funds that are not already dedicated to other purposes.



### **Out of the Rain Christmas Stockings**

Every year, for Christmas, we give the homeless young people who sleep in our crypt a gift. Typically we fill a Christmas stocking with socks, some hygiene products and a treat. If we have enough funds, along with Christmas stockings, we buy hoodies. If you would like to contribute to this project, please make a cheque out to St John the Divine designating the funds to 'OOTR Stocking Project'. If you have any questions contact Gerry Melville or Karyn Lehmann. Thanking you in advance for your support.

# SOUL SPACE

Things to nourish our spiritual journey

## Advent Prayer

“In our secret yearnings  
we wait for your coming,  
and in our grinding despair  
we doubt that you will.  
And in this privileged place  
we are surrounded by witnesses who yearn more than do we  
and by those who despair more deeply than do we.  
Look upon your church and its pastors  
in this season of hope  
which runs so quickly to fatigue  
and in this season of yearning  
which becomes so easily quarrelsome.  
Give us the grace and the impatience  
to wait for your coming to the bottom of our toes,  
to the edges of our fingertips.  
We do not want our several worlds to end.  
Come in your power  
and come in your weakness  
in any case  
and make all things new.  
Amen.”

— Walter Brueggemann, *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*

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**"Waiting is a period of learning.  
The longer we wait, the more we  
hear about him for whom we are  
waiting."**

Henri Nouwen

# Advent and Christmas at St. John the Divine

## **Advent Procession**

**Sunday, December 3 – 7:30 p.m.**

A moving sequence of readings, hymns, anthems, and motets  
exploring the themes of Advent,  
with The Choristers of St. John the Divine.

## **Christmas Pageant**

**Sunday, December 10 – 4:00 p.m.**

Urban outdoor retelling of the Nativity Story – rain or shine, dress appropriately!  
Barbecue & hot apple cider.

## **Lessons and Carols for Christmas —**

**Sunday, December 17 - 7:30 p.m.**

The traditional carol service first made popular  
through the Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College Cambridge.  
Christmas hymns, readings, and choral carols  
with The Choristers of St. John the Divine.

## **Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24**

**4:00 p.m.**

### **All-Age celebration of the Nativity Story**

Bring the whole family and rejoice at the birth of Christ.  
Children, especially, are invited to participate in the telling  
of the Christmas story in word and song.

**7:00 p.m.**

### **Holy Communion for Christmas Eve**

An opportunity to share in a Eucharist for Christmas  
if the Midnight Mass is a little late.  
With the Community Choir of St. John the Divine.

**11:00 p.m.**

### **Midnight Mass**

The festive Christmas Eucharist, including traditional carols and candlelight,  
With the Choristers of St. John the Divine

## **Christmas Day – 10:00 a.m.**

**Monday, December 25**

Christmas Communion

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# THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

## STEWARDS

**People's Warden:** Graeme Brown

**Deputy People's Warden:** Joan Huzar

**Envelope Secretary:** Jim Harlick

**Rector's Warden:** Duane Lecky

**Deputy Rector's Warden:** Penny Holt

**Treasurer:** Kate McCabe

## PARISH COUNCIL

Sherrie Allen, Rhoda Brodie-Smith, Tom Clements, Trevor Elton, Carol Anne Harper, Doug Sheepwash,  
Catherine Small, Michael Zenger, Molly Patton (Clerk)

## STAFF SUPPORTING THE MINISTRY OF ST. JOHN'S

**Rector:** The Ven. Alastair McCollum

**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Canon Kevin Arndt

**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Bill Tarter, OSF

**Curate:** The Rev'd Gillian Hoyer

**Deacon:** The Rev'd Patrick Sibley

**Director of Music:** David Stratkauskas

**Family Ministry Coordinator:** Ruth MacIntosh

**Interim Parish Administrator:** Carol-Ann Zenger

**Bookkeeper:** Nicolas Michel

## HONORARY ASSISTANTS

The Rt. Rev'd R. Barry Jenks / The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody

The Rev'd Dr. Larry Scyner / The Rev'd Jane Reid

1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2L5 Tel. 250-383-7169 / Fax 250-381-3573

[pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca) or **for urgent calls only**, use 778-678-6873

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