

# **THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE**

**Christmas Eve**

**4pm, December 24, 2018**

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.

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## **A Family *Posada* Service for Christmas Eve 2018**

**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.

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.

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.

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*Please take time to visit the Christmas crèche scene outside the side chapel.  
Our thanks to Sara Chu and Claire Munn for the crèche.*

## Welcome

### Blessing of the Crèche *(all stand, as you are able)*

O Almighty God, who by the birth of your child Jesus has given us a great light to dawn upon our darkness: bless this crèche which has been prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be strengthened in faith, and receive the fullness of life Jesus came to bring; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Hymn

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

*Adeste Fideles (CP 118)*

### Collect for Christmas

God of grace and wonder,  
**on this night we, like the shepherds, are amazed. We hear again the message of the angels proclaiming peace on earth, and we recall the ageless story of a baby born in a manger. You love us more than we can ever know, through him who is Christ the Lord, and lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

### Scripture

*Isaiah 9:2, 6–7*

### Hymn

*Once in Royal David's City*

*Irby (CP 123)*

*The congregation is seated.*

## The Story of Jesus' Birth

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### ***Mary and Joseph come to the stable—no room at the inn!***

**Scripture**      *Luke 2:4-7*

*During the carol the figures of Mary and Joseph come to the stable.*

**Hymn**            *Away in a Manger*

*Cradle Song (CP 126)*

*The congregation is seated.*

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### ***The Shepherds are told of Jesus's birth and go to Bethlehem***

**Scripture**      *Luke 2:8-16*

*During the carol the shepherds and sheep are taken to the stable.*

**Hymn**            *While shepherds watched their flocks by night*

*Winchester Old*

*The congregation is seated.*

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### ***The Wise Men follow the star to Bethlehem***

**Scripture**      *Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12*

*During this song the Magi are brought to the stable.*

**Hymn**            *We three kings of Orient are...*

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

Leader    God our Father,  
            for us the Saviour is born  
            and those who live in darkness are seeing a great light.  
            Help us, who greet the birth of Christ with joy,  
            to live in the light of your Son

and to share the good news of your love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who has come into the world.

**All: Lord Jesus, Light of light,  
you have come among us.  
Help us who live by your light  
to shine as lights in your world.  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

## **A Thought for Christmas**

## **Prayers**

*The congregation stands.*

*During the hymn, each family is invited to bring their knitted sheep forward  
to the stable. The collection will be taken at the third verse.*

## **Hymn**

*In the bleak midwinter*

*Cranham*

*Hand-held candles will be lit during the following hymn:*

## **Hymn**

*Silent Night*

*Stille Nacht*

## Closing prayer

Here is a place for you, Lord Jesus.

Just as our hands have made it ready,  
so make our hearts ready  
to love and to welcome you.

Be born again,  
not in a manger,  
but in us.

**Make us your Bethlehem,  
where God is personal  
and all things and all people  
are made new.  
AMEN.**

## The Blessing

*Please extinguish your candles.*

**Hymn**     *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

*Mendelssohn (CP 138)*

*You may take your candle home with you,  
or place it in one of the baskets provided.*

## Christmas Services

December 25	10:00 am	Holy Communion for Christmas Day (BAS)
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## Epiphany services

January 6	8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:00 am	Parish Eucharist (BAS), & Chalking of the Doors
	7:30 pm	Evensong

## Christmas Office Hours

*Closed: December 25<sup>th</sup> thru January 1<sup>st</sup>*

*Normal office hours resume Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>*

*9:00 am – 12 Noon*

# Poinsettias – Given to the Glory of God

## in memory of

My grandparents  
Family and friends  
Our families  
My Grandmother, Joyce MacArthur  
Members of the Lucier family  
Bill and Reno  
My parents  
Altaire  
Charles M. MacLeod & Evelyn E. L. MacLeod  
The Dagger & Jenkins Family  
Claire Minkley  
Hélène Nadeau  
Our Parents/Grandparents – Herb & Ruth Zenger and  
Hugh & Betty McCaw  
Our parents – Jim Reid, Ava Jane Nelson & Dan Sudback  
Jim & Isabelle Smith  
Alice & Bill Denson. We fondly remember the happy times we  
enjoyed together.  
Remembering Grahame Baker and all the wonderful Christmases  
we celebrated together.  
Brian Beckett  
Marguerite & Harold Henrikson and Betty & Tom Melville  
Rex  
James Kehoe  
My parents, Norman & Elsie Elsdon  
George Pollard & Jean Radtke Pollard  
My parents, Steven & Rosy Chan  
My sisters, Benita and Caroline Chan  
Our Parents

## from

Susan Powell  
Judith Branion  
Al & Karyn Lehmann  
Patrick Sibley  
Barry Lucier  
Sandy & Shelley Cotton  
Diane Erickson  
Ted & Vorna Butler  
Robin MacLeod  
John & Pat Jenkins  
Hilary Punnett  
Daniel, Ruth, Luc, Paul & Camryn  
Michael & Carol-Ann Zenger and  
Susanna Peterson  
Judith Reid & Scott Sudbeck  
Rhoda Brodie-Smith  
The Baker Family  
  
With love, and appreciation for all those  
memories, Heather and family  
His Family  
Bruce & Gerry Melville  
Louise Langman  
Margaret Cornish  
Iris Elsdon  
With love from your 3 daughters  
Adrienne Chan  
Adrienne Chan  
Nancy Baal and Nancy Peterson

## in thanksgiving

In celebration of my family  
Thanks for all my family and friends  
For the lives of Barry and Susan Jenks  
With love of family missed at Christmastide – especially Alice

Dorothy Chuhran  
Susan Mugridge  
Barbara and Timothy  
The Ryans

## in memory of loved ones – from

Marilyn Moody

Enid Luneburg

Sylvia Calder





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## **FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

**Main 1** in loving memory of our parents, from Nancy Baal and Nancy Peterson.

**Main 2** in loving memory of my family, from Sylvia Balogh.

**Chapel** with thanksgiving for our many blessings during this past year,  
from Michael & Carol-Ann Zenger.

**Lectern** with thanksgiving for the community of St. John the Divine,  
from Pat and Anne Anderson.

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### *Good is the Flesh*

Good is the flesh that the Word has become,  
good is the birthing, the milk in the breast,  
good is the feeding, caressing and rest,  
good is the body for knowing the world,  
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Good is the body for knowing the world,  
sensing the sunlight, the tug of the ground,  
feeling, perceiving, within and around,  
good is the body, from cradle to grave,  
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Good is the body, from cradle to grave,  
growing and aging, arousing, impaired,  
happy in clothing, or lovingly bared,  
good is the pleasure of God in our flesh,  
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Good is the pleasure of God in our flesh,  
longing in all, as in Jesus, to dwell,  
glad of embracing, and tasting, and smell,  
good is the body, for good and for God,  
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

*Brian Wren*

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## THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

### STEWARDS

**People's Warden:** Graeme Brown

**Rector's Warden:** Chris Eve

**Assistant Warden:** Joan Huzar

**Envelope Secretary:** Jim Harlick

**Treasurer:** vacant

### PARISH COUNCIL

Sherrie Allen, Tom Clements, Carol Anne Harper, Penny Holt, Elizabeth McAuley,  
Rod Marsh, Catherine Small

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

**Rector:** The Ven. Alastair McCollum

**Director of Music:** David Stratkauskas

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

**Family Ministry Coordinator:** Ruth MacIntosh

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

**Parish Administrator:** Carol-Ann Zenger

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

### HONORARY ASSISTANTS

The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody

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

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