

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Early Christmas Eve Communion

7pm, 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.



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. The Eucharist, or Holy Communion, is 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.

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.

Holy Communion for Christmas

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

MINISTERING THROUGH LITURGY

Presider: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

Gospel Reader: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Sermon: The Reverend Bill Tarter

Readers: John McLaren, Chris Eve

Intercessor: Lorraine Gates

Verger: Al Lehmann

Sacristan: Jamie Lawson

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Virginia Miller, Tony Barlow, Barry Lucier, Barry Salter, Margaret Walker

Greeters: Joan Huzar, Karyn Lehmann, Beryl Roundhill

Music: The Community Choir of St. John the Divine; David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (CP 132)

CORDE NATUS

GREETING

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.

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

People of God: shout and sing!
Tell the good news of peace on earth.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.
All God's people say:

All: Amen!

Angels dance
and the bright star shines.
All creation bows to the Lord of all.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.
All God's people say:

All: Amen!

One with us,
yet born to save,
he will show us the way to God.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.
All God's people say:

All: Amen!

People of God: shout and sing:

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS

Heavenly Father, you exalted the humble and meek:
give us humble and contrite hearts.
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you grew towards birth in the Virgin's womb:
be planted also in our hearts and lives.
Christ have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you overshadowed Mary,
that she might become the God-bearer:
fill us with your heavenly gifts.
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
and be cleansed from all your sins,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

GLORIA

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Eternal God
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
bring us, who know the revelation of that light on earth,
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Common Worship 2000

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us; and he is named
authority rests upon his shoulders;
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL

ANTIOCH

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

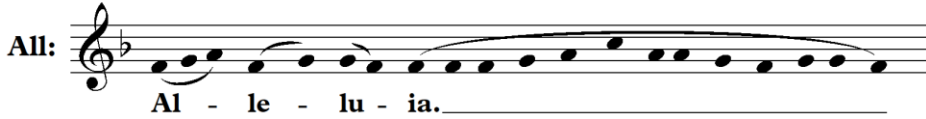
GRADUAL HYMN (CP 136)

WINCHESTER OLD

Before the Gospel



Cantor: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory..



The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please stand or kneel.

THE PEACE

Please stand.

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord 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 (CP 123 / NEH 34 altered)

IRBY

Please remain standing.

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Good and loving God,
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor
to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be a blessing for others.
With the trees of the field,
with all earth and heaven,
we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the mystery of his incarnation
was made perfectly human
of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother;
in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven,
we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS

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."

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

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 sons and daughters;
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 for ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ambrosian Chant

THE 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 to 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. 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 the communion station please make this known to the Greeters and communion will be brought to you.

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

ANTHEM DURING COMMUNION

Please stand; candles will be lit during the singing of the following carol.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (CP 119)

STILLE NACHT

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God,

**All: with our eyes we have seen your salvation,
and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.
May your Word take flesh in us,
so that we may be your holy people,
revealing your glory made known to us
in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

THE BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing...

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

RECESSIONAL HYMN

ADESTE, FIDELES

DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

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

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)

Epiphany Services

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

Christmas Office Hours

Closed: December 25th thru January 1st
Normal office hours resume Wednesday, January 2nd 9:00 am – 12 Noon

Regular Sunday Services at St. John the Divine

8:00 a.m. ❖ Holy Communion

A quiet, spoken service in the chapel using the 17th-century language of the Book of Common Prayer, with sermon and Communion.

10:00 a.m. ❖ Parish Eucharist

The main weekly service, with sermon, congregational singing supported by our large pipe organ, choral music, and Communion.

7:30pm (First Sunday of the month) ❖ Choral Evensong

The ancient evening service of the Anglican Church, with readings, chant, prayer, and choral music.

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

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

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 memory of loved ones – from

Marilyn Moody

Enid Luneburg

Sylvia Calder



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.

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

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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MERRY
CHRISTMAS