

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

The 1st Sunday after Christmas

December 30, 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. 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 Bill Tarter

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

Gospel Reader: Joan Huzar

Sermon: The Reverend Bill Tarter

Readers: Virginia Miller, Kit Pearson

Audio: Walter Hundleby

Vergger: Douwe Bosma

Music: Joash Fang, organist

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

The children are invited to gather at the back of the church and join in the procession.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (CP 150)

PERSONENT HODIE

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.

CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER

Loving God,

**All: You've called us to be your family and to celebrate our life together in worship.
We pray for all the members of our family, here and absent,
and especially for our young people now as they continue their worship,
Bless them, and each of us, in fun and learning, in friendship, and love. Amen.**

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.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS

Dear friends in Christ,

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.

Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,

**All: 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.**

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.

All: Amen.

GLORIA

HYMN TO JOY (CP 425)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you have known us from our mother's womb. You call us to follow you through all our days and seek us even when we wander. Clothe us with your love, so that we may grow in grace and find favour in your sight; through Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

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

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

148

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created.

He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and wingèd birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens, old and young together.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

THE EPISTLE

Colossians 3:12-17

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

All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN (NEH 387)

QUEM PASTORES (at CP 256)

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-52

Before the Gospel

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.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

Following the Sermon there will be a pause for Silence.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

Please stand.

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 135)

IRIS

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of light,

All: in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

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 perfect man
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 (Holy, holy, holy)

Schubert (at CP 735)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.____

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.____

Heav - en and earth are full,____ full____ of your glo - ry. Ho -
Bless - ed is he who comes____ in the name of the Lord.____ Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Je- sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on - us. Je - sus, re deem- er, re
deem- er of the world, Give us your peace, give us your peace.

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.

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.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Good and loving God,
**All: 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.
Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

THE BLESSING

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.

Coffee and tea will be served in the Parish Hall.




READINGS FOR JANUARY 6 – EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 60:1-6 The glory of the Lord is light for all the nations.

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14 In the ancient Near East, kings were next to gods. A king and his heir were seen as endowed with justice by gods, and had special responsibility for the poor and needy. This psalm is a prayer for the king, possibly written for a coronation.

Ephesians 3:1-12 The manifestation of God’s revelation to the Gentiles is celebrated and Paul’s ministry to them affirmed.

Matthew 2:1-12 “Wise men” (in Latin: magi) were members of a Persian caste of astrologers and interpreters of dreams. Astrology was widely accepted then. A star was associated with each person; the way the star rose told the wise men that a king had been born. A later church tradition called the wise men kings.




victoria baroque

Steven Devine (uk),
director and harpsichord
Kate Semmens, soprano
Nathan McDonald, baritone

Joy Passion Metamorphosis

Handel's orchestral works and dramatic cantata
Apollo e Daphne




Friday 7:30pm
January 11
St. John the Divine
1611 Quadra St., Victoria

TICKETS \$28, \$25, \$5
Long & McQuade, Ivy's Bookshop,
Munro's Books, McPherson Box
office and at the door

victoria-baroque@shaw.ca
victoria-baroque.com 250-590-9770

Saturday 7:30pm
January 12
St. Andrew's United Church
311 Fitzwilliam St., Nanaimo

TICKETS \$28, \$25, \$5
Fascinating Rhythm, Arbutus
Music, the Mulberry Bush
Book Stores (Parksville and
Qualicum Beach), McPherson
Box Office (rmts.bc.ca)
and at the door



 victoria
baroque

Joy, Passion, Metamorphosis

With Steven Devine (UK), director and harpsichord

Handel's dramatic cantata 'Apollo e Daphne' and orchestral works.



**Fri. Jan. 11 • 7:30 pm • St John's Church
1611 Quadra St, Victoria**

Tickets: \$28 • \$25 • \$5

through the McPherson Box Office

and Ivy's, Munro's and Long & McQuade.

PLUS: A special VBMS fundraising event with **Steven Devine** in conversation with **Nancy Argenta**

“Devine Adventures in Music”

*An intimate and entertaining evening of stories and music,
shedding light on the magic of the harpsichord and continuo playing.*

Monday, January 14th, 2019 Baumann Centre, 925 Balmoral Rd, Victoria

\$60 (\$30.00 tax deductible)

RESERVE in advance victoria-baroque@shaw.ca or 250 590-9770

FLOWERS

To the Glory of God and in memory of Michael, loving and much loved brother and brother-in-law, from Lorraine and Andrew.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today

11:45 am Sunday Reflections

Rector's Office

Monday 31

The Office is Closed.

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

The Office is Closed.

Wednesday 2

7:45 am Holy Communion followed by Breakfast

Chapel/Denson Lounge

9:30 am Sermon Circle

Denson Lounge

1:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Denson Lounge

Thursday 27

12:10 pm Meditative Eucharist

Chapel

Sunday 6 – The Epiphany of Our Lord

8:00 am Holy Communion

Chapel

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

Church

11:45 am Sunday Reflections

Denson Lounge

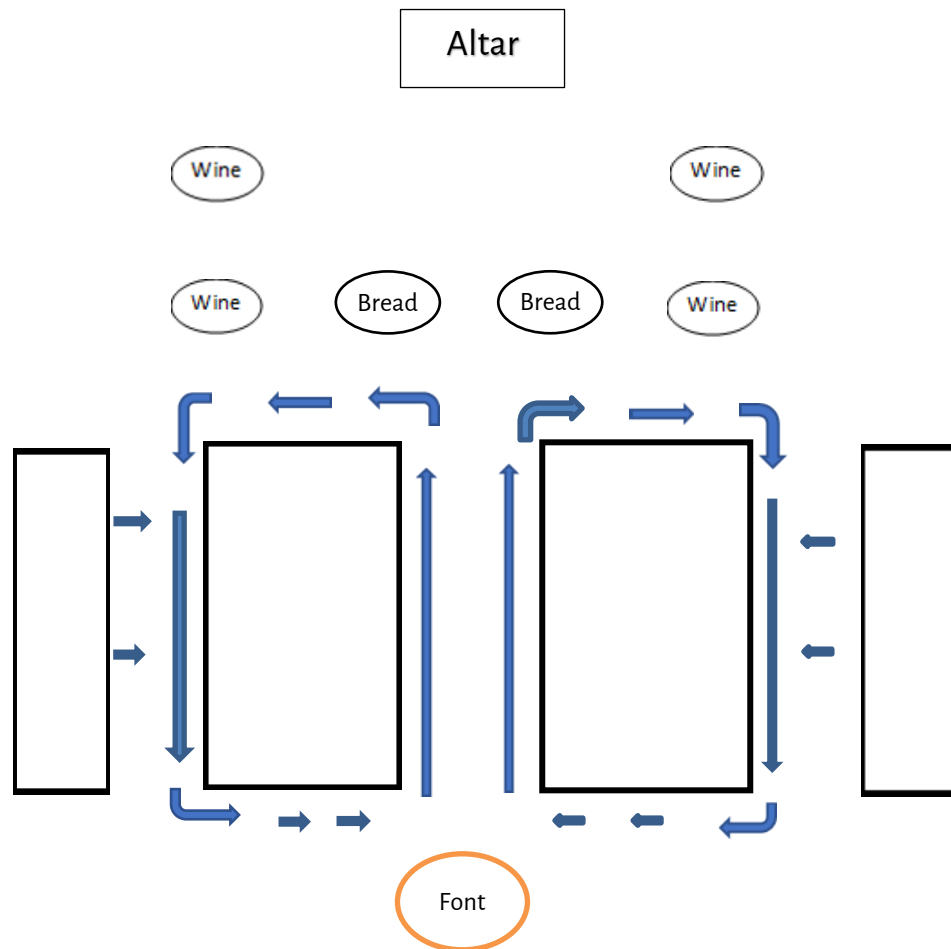
7:30 pm Epiphany Evensong

Church



SHARING IN COMMUNION

We are trialling a new way of distributing our communion. A number of people – both newcomers/visitors and those of us who have been a part of the community for some while – have commented on how confusing, and frankly unwelcoming, our current way of sharing bread and wine is. Therefore, in an effort to make for ourselves a welcoming, accessible, straightforward space, we are going to be sharing communion in one place – at the front of the church – at two stations. Please take bread from the Eucharistic Minister standing on your side, then move to the next available chalice of the two which will be at each station. We ask those in the side aisles to go to the back of the church and then to the front to receive.



Gluten free wafers are available at both stations.

Those with limited mobility please indicate your desire to take communion in your seat and a minister will come to you.

As always, all are welcome to take part in our sharing. Thank you for being a part of our community!

EVENTS

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!

EPIPHANY – SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

7:30pm Festal Choral Evensong

Prayer, readings, hymns, and choral music on the feast of the Epiphany.

With the Choristers of St. John the Divine.

Post Bazaar Meeting -

This meeting will take place on Tues., Jan. 8th at 10:30 am in the Denson lounge. Anyone who has thoughts regarding this event that they wish to contribute for discussion is welcome to attend, or contact Heather Baker at hbaker@islandnet.com.



Movie Club –

7:00 pm in the Denson Lounge

REEL THOUGHTS AND FAITH IN JUSTICE present

"(Disrupted) human flow: Migrants' crises in the 21st century"

Featuring the documentary "Human Flow" by former Chinese dissident and film maker Ah Wei Wei and comment by and discussion with Sabine Lehr, Refugee Sponsorship Coordinator for the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA)

Wednesday, January 16, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, Denson Lounge, St. John's Church

A joint venture of First Met and St. John's Churches.

Announcements

A Prayer Group prays through the week; to request confidential prayers for yourself or others contact Pat Manning at: 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.

2019 Envelopes are now available (at the back of the church), including blue envelopes for **Credit Card and Automatic donors**.

If you expect to be visiting any shut-in parishioners today, please take their envelopes to them.

The Special Monthly Envelope for December is the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This provides the rector with money that he can give away and use at his discretion. It could be to help a family in the parish whose house burned down. It could be used to buy a sandwich for a street person. It allows the parish to help people quietly and gives the rector a budget that he can use as he sees fit without getting approval from wardens, parish council, or vestry.

Pledge Cards: If you have not yet handed in your pledge card for 2019 please do so now as we need this information to help us prepare the Budget for 2019.

Help to beautify your church. Your flower dedication in memory or in thanksgiving really adds to our Sunday Worship. The new Flower chart is up and ready for you to choose your dates. Thank you.

The new 2019 Flower Dedication Calendar is now at the garden door.

Looking for a St. John's Treasurer

With sadness we report that Kate McCabe, our Parish Treasurer has resigned, effective immediately, for personal reasons and the pressures of a new job. Kate has done a wonderful job as our Treasurer and we will miss her. We wish her well.

So, we are seeking a Treasurer (the Parish has a bookkeeper who maintains account records). The person should have some financial knowledge and will work with the Finance Committee to oversee the finances of the Parish and report to Parish Council.

We welcome a conversation with interested individuals.

Chris, Graeme and Joan, the Wardens.

SOUL SPACE

Things to nourish our spiritual journey

The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another.

Thomas Merton

This is what Colossians 3:12 says:

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness,
humility,
meekness,
and patience."

I have always read this passage as a command to treat *others* in these ways.

But this morning, I read the passage as a command to treat *myself* in these ways.

The tenderness I felt God asking me to show my very own self brought tears to my eyes.

This Christmas and New Year I will put on some nice, new clothes ...

I will be compassionate to my weary self.

I will be kind when I fail and fumble and mess up.

I will treat myself humbly - "Alice, you are not that big of a deal. Just relax."

I will practice meekness - I don't need to have the first or last word. Perhaps not even any word!!

And I will be patient; so patient with myself. I will recognize that it is ok that I don't have it all together once again. I will try to notice areas of my life where I see progress. And I will be grateful for those areas. And patient and kind and humble and compassionate in those areas where I still struggle. I may be in a hurry, but God rarely is.

My hunch is that the only way I can ever hope to live out Colossians 3:12 toward others is to first live it out toward myself.

Alice Shirey

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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