# THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

# **Christmas Day**

# December 25, 2019

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 lands of the Lekwungen speaking people.

We are an inclusive and affirming parish; the sacraments of the church (baptism, communion and marriage) are available to all people on equal terms. Christ welcomes you, and so do we.



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. Gluten free wafers are available: 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.

# 10:00 am Parish Eucharist

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

**Presider:** The Venerable Alastair McCollum Intercessor: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

**Deacon:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley **Reader:** Lorraine Gates **Audio:** Doug Adderley **Verger:** Chuck Neilson

Sermon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley Music: The Community Choir of St. John the Divine

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** (CP 155)

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

#### **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.

**GLORIA** (CP 365)

All:

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God the Creator, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 9:2-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Amen.

PSALM 96



Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. *Refrain* 

Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

#### Refrain

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary! **Refrain** 

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power. Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

## Refrain

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! He has made the world so firm that it

cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." Refrain

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. **Refrain** 

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth. Refrain

THE EPISTLE Titus 2:11-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

Before the Gospel



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



God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON**

Following the Address there will be a pause for silence.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through whom all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE PEACE

Please stand.

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** (CP 143)

**REGENT SQUARE** 

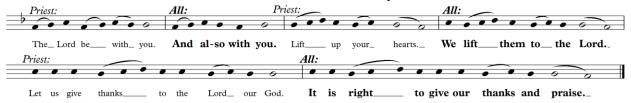
#### THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Generous Creator, in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever.

All: Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Prayer 3, Book of Alternative Services



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh

you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of salvation in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Now with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

## SANCTUS (CP 735)

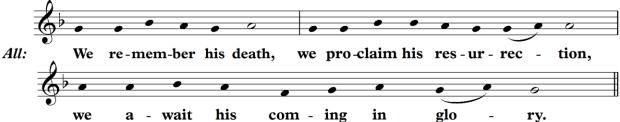
We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin 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,



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.

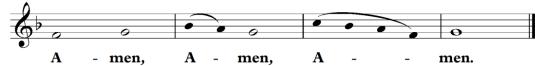
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ

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 children; 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.



#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

All:

#### 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.

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 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.

#### Music during Communion

Torches, torches, run with torches; All the way to Bethlehem! Christ is born and now lies sleeping; Come and sing your song to Him! Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby; Ah, Roro, my love, Roro; Sleep you well, my heart's own darling; While we sing you our Rorro Sing, my friends, and make you merry; Joy and mirth and joy again; Lo, He lives, the King of heaven; Now and evermore. Amen.

Text: J. B. Trend (from the Galician) / Music: John Joubert (1927-2019).

## **Hymn after communion** (NEH 40)

**G**REENSLEEVES

# THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

#### 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: Amen.

#### DISMISSAL

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

All: Thanks be to God.

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN** (CP 138)

**MENDELSSOHN** 

#### VOLUNTARY

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

#### Poinsettias - Given to the Glory of God

in memory of from

Our parents, The Hutchinsons and Sylwesters

Loved ones and friends

My parents
Family & friends

Our parents, Bob & Vi McLaren, and Stewart & Ruth Bothwell

My parents, John & Doris Erickson

Altaire

Charles M. MacLeod & Evelyn E. L. MacLeod

lan Hay Claire Minkley Hélène Nadeau

Our Parents – Herb & Ruth Zenger and Hugh & Betty McCaw Our parents – Jim Reid, Ava Jane Nelson & Dan Sudbeck

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.

Marguerite & Harold Henrikson and

Betty & Tom Melville

Rex

Mum and Dad

George Pollard & Jean Radtke Pollard My parents, Frank & Evelyn Mayers My parents and grandparents

May Kemp Ann Wilson

Loved family members

Florence Reid

To Absent Friends

Ron Martin

Robert Kendrick

Our parents, George & Phil Dagger and Harry & Florence Jenkins

For the beauty of St. John's

For friends and family at Christmas

For the celebration of the safe arrival of Lladon's twins

Celebrating the joy of family

In celebration of being together for Christmas

John & Jean Sylwester Doug & Val Adderley Elizabeth McAuley Elizabeth McAuley John & Ann McLaren

Diane Erickson
Ted & Vorna Butler
Robin MacLeod
The family
Hilary Punnett

Daniel, Ruth, Luc, Paul & Camryn Michael & Carol-Ann Zenger Judith Reid & Scott Sudbeck

Rhoda Brodie-Smith The Baker Family

With love, and appreciation for all those

memories, Heather & family Bruce & Gerry Melville

Louise Langman Louise Langman

With love from your 3 daughters

Nancy Peterson Nancy Baal Valerie Sullivan Bill Williamson

Frank & Joyce Caldwell

Jane Reid

Carol Anne Harper

The Bugslag & Hodgins Families

Harriet Kendrick
John & Pat Jenkins

Esther Chapman Susan Mugridge TC & Judy Tethong Dorothy Chuhran Marguerite Heppell

In memory of loved ones - from

In thanksgiving

Marilyn Moody Sylvia Calder Enid Luneburg Susan Powell

Margaret Walker Douwe & Jessie Bosma
Barbara Jenks Sandy & Shelley Cotton

Kingsley & Pat Payne



## FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Main 1 in celebration of 50 years of marriage, Al & Karyn Lehmann.

Main 2 in thankfulness for all God's blessings, from Barb Martin.

**Lectern** in memory of absent loved ones, from Judith Branion.

#### 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

## Regular Sunday Services at St. John the Divine

## 8:00 a.m. . Holy Communion

A quiet, spoken service in the chapel using the 17<sup>th</sup>-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.

## 7:30 p.m. (First Sunday of the month) **\*** Choral Evensong

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



# THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

#### **STEWARDS**

People's Warden: Graeme Brown Associate Warden: Joan Huzar Envelope Secretary: Jim Harlick Rector's Warden: Chris Eve Associate Warden: Karen Coverett Treasurer: David Buckman

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

David Buckman, Carol Denton, Marguerite Heppell, Penny Holt, Elizabeth McAuley

#### 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 Associate Priest: The Rev'd Grant Croswell Deacon: The Rev'd Patrick Sibley

Director of Music: David Stratkauskas Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger

#### **HONORARY ASSISTANTS**

The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody / The Rev'd Canon Andrew Gates
The Rev'd Dr. Larry Scyner / The Rev'd Jane Reid

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