

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

The 4th Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

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.



“The Man Born Blind” by Ronald Raab CSC © Used with permission.
www.ronaldraab.com

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.

Social Distancing: In these times when we have to practice social distancing our Sunday Services will be streamed live. You may find a link on the our parish website <https://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/> Other worship services will also be posted. If our service seems unfamiliar, please follow the cues from our leaflet which is also posted on the web page.

Contacting Us: We are all learning ways to build community "at a distance." We are answering our phone and checking our messages. We are also receiving emails. The main email for contact is: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Healing Prayer group who will offer their prayers. Please contact: the church office at the above email address.

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. We invite you to participate, as you are able, wherever you may be.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING OF WATER

A short meditation is played by the organ.

Please turn to face the west end of the church.

Minister: Blessed are you, loving God, creator of the Universe,

All: For you have blessed your people with the gift of water.

As the minister pours water into the baptismal font the following is prayed:

Minister: Gracious God, you have made water. We give thanks for water as it brings life in every place that it flows. We remember your promise of restful waters. We remember Jesus calming the stormy waters.

All: For your water brings life.

As this water is blessed we recall that water is found in the essence of our lives. We recall that Jesus took his spittle mixed with dust and brought forth sight for one that was blind. We pray that our eyes are opened to your love and presence in our lives.

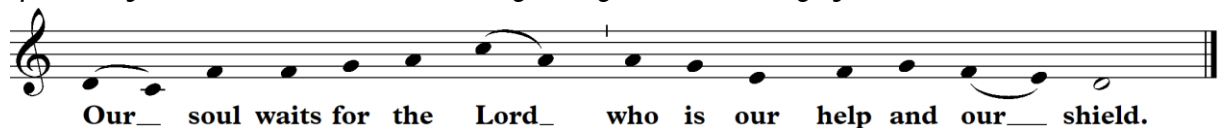
Minister: Blessed are you, loving God, creator of the Universe,

All: For you have blessed your people with the gift of water.

ENTRANCE PSALM

33:1-8

The refrain is repeated by all after the cantor at the beginning, and then sung by all after each set of verses.



Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; it is good for the just to sing praises. Praise the Lord with the harp; play to him upon the psaltery and lyre. **Refrain**

Sing for him a new song; sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet. For the word of the Lord is right, and all his works are sure. **Refrain**

He loves righteousness and justice; the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth. By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts. **Refrain**

He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin and stores up the depths of the sea. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him. **Refrain**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also with you.

CONFESSION

Christ the great reconciler calls us to be reconciled to God, one another, and within ourselves.

Let us open ourselves to God's calling to healing and wholeness and acknowledge our brokenness and longing.

KYRIE ELEISON

All respond with the Kyrie Eleison (English translation: Lord have mercy/Christ have mercy/Lord have mercy).

Ky - ri - e__ e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e__ e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste__ e - le - i - son. Chri - ste__ e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e__ e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e__ e - le - i - son.

Ferial mass, Gregorian, xvii.

ABSOLUTION

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
through the waters of baptism
your Son has made us children of light.
May we ever walk in his light
and show forth your glory in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER

After the prayer the children continue their worship in the Parish House.

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, and especially for our young people now,
wherever they may be, and however they are continuing their worship.
Bless them, and each of us, in fun and learning, in friendship, and love. Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

23

Sung by the cantor.

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want, he makes me down to lie in pastures green.
He leadeth me the quiet waters by.
My soul He doth restore again, and me to walk doth make within the paths of
blessedness, e'en for his own name's sake.
Yea, though I pass thro' shadowed vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me, and
thy rod and staff me comfort still.
My table thou has furnished in presence of my foes; my head with oil thou dost anoint,
and my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me; and in my Father's heart always
my dwelling place shall be.
And in my heart for evermore thy dwelling place shall be.

Music: Brother James's Air, Gordon Jacob (1895-1984)

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:8-14

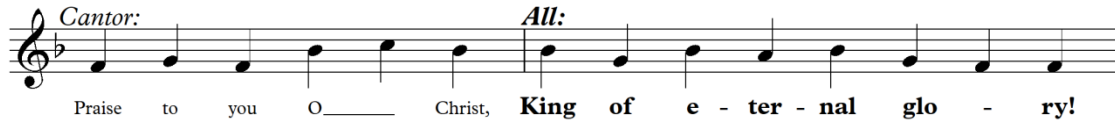
Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

Before the Gospel



Deacon or cantor: The Lord is a great God; O that today you would listen to his voice; harden not your hearts.



God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Good News of Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Following the sermon there will be a pause for silence.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare the faith of the Church as we say,

**All: Hear, O Israel;
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

Please stand.

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN (NEH 302, verses 1, 2 and 4)

SONG 1



1. O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
That all thy Church might be for ever one,
Grant us at every Eucharist to say
With longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.
2. For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
Make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
By drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:
Thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,
One through this Sacrament of unity.
3. So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
May we be one with all thy Church above,
One with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
One with thy saints in one unbounded love:
More blessed still, in peace and love to be
One with the Trinity in Unity.

Text: William H. Turton (1856-1938). Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625).

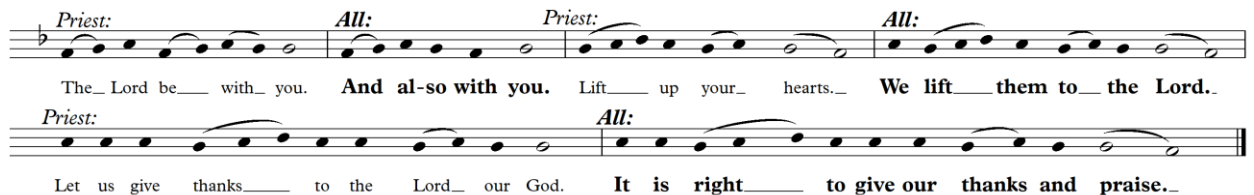
THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of light, your Word brings to us a new vision of your glory.
Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 2



Eternal God, Source of all being,
we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love.
You call us into friendship with you and one another
to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.
When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us.
When we injure others, you confront us in your love
and call us to the paths of righteousness.

You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone,
whom you have always welcomed home,
making the first last, and the last first.
Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels,
forever praising you and singing:

SANCTUS (*sung by the cantor*)

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Osanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Osanna in excelsis.*

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, O Holy One:
when Hagar was driven into the wilderness
you followed her and gave her hope.
When Joseph was sold into bondage,
you turned malice to your people's good.
When you called Israel out of slavery,
you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land.
When your people were taken into exile
you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One
to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed.
Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.
He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life.
Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity
into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, gave it to them, and said,
Take and 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.

Loving and Holy One,
recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts,
longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come.

Therefore we proclaim our hope.

**All: Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts
that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace.
We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers.
When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O Source of all life,
now and for ever.



All: A men A - men A - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: As our saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Music: Ambrosian chant.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.

**All: If we have died with him,
we shall live with him;
if we hold firm,
we shall reign with him.**

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI *(sung by the choir)*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the
world, grant us peace.

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Common Worship

All: Amen.

Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working within us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of...

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN (CP 352)

NEW BRITAIN

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found:
was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
3. The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.
4. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Text: St. 1-4, John Newton (1725-1807). St. 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, Richmond, 1790.

READINGS FOR MARCH 29TH – THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is prophecy that the people of Israel, dead in exile, will live again on their land.

Psalms 130 Hope is found in relationship with God.

Romans 8:6-11 The Spirit who dwells within us is the carrier of God's resurrection power.

John 11:1-45 Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

STEWARDS

People's Warden: Joan Huzar
Associate Warden: Lorraine Gates
Envelope Secretary: Jim Harlick

Rector's Warden: Chris Eve
Associate Warden: Karen Coverett
Treasurer: David Buckman

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Penny Holt, Erin Kelly, Bill Williamson

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Associate Priest: The Rev'd Canon Kevin Arndt
Associate Priest: The Rev'd Bill Tarter
Associate Priest: The Rev'd Grant Crosswell
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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