# **A close up of a map Description automatically generated**

Wednesday, January 13th

Lunchtime Worship

St. John’s acknowledges that the Church buildings, and all living in Victoria, are on the ancestral lands of the Lekwungen speaking people.

**Gathering to worship**

Let us worship the Divine: Creator, Word and Spirit

*All* **Amen**

God is with you

*All* **And also with you.**

This is the day that the Divine has made

*All* **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Opening Prayer**

*All* **Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.**

**Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth**

Amen  
Blessed is the Creator

*All* **for God has heard the voice of our prayer.**

**Psalm 91,1-2,4,9-12**

**1**Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
    will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%2091&version=NIV#fen-NIV-15397a)]  
**2**I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress,  
    my God, in whom I trust.”

**4**He will cover you with his feathers,  
    and under his wings you will find refuge;  
    his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

If you say, “The Lord is my refuge,”  
    and you make the Most High your dwelling,  
**10**no harm will overtake you,  
    no disaster will come near your tent.  
**11**For he will command his angels concerning you  
    to guard you in all your ways.

**Prayer**

Creator God,  
in love you have fashioned the human family  
in a variety of races, languages, and cultures.  
Do not let our diversity divide us,  
but help us to welcome gifts  
we can give and receive from one another.  
Save us from prejudice, arrogance and fear,  
and teach us how to live together  
as members of one family,  
sharing one home,  
and the children of one God. Amen.

My catholic prayers

**Affirmation**

With the whole church

*All* **We affirm that we are made in the image of the Divine,**

**Befriended by Christ,**

**Empowered by the Spirit**

With people everywhere

*All* **We affirm God’s goodness at the heart of humanity**

**Planted more deeply than all that is wrong**

With all creation

*All* **We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life.**

**The unfolding purposes of God, forever at work**

**In ourselves and the world**

Iona Abbey Worship Book

Let us keep in our hearts all those affected by Covid19 and let us pray for a time when, together, we can live without fear and anxiety. Wrap those that are suffering physically and mentally in our prayers. With our love, give them the strength to recover and find peace.

For our brothers and sisters in the USA, we pray for tolerance and the triumph of truth and love over lies and hatred. Give them the strength to seek peace and reconciliation leading to an inclusive future enjoyed by everyone.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,  
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,  
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety,  
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,  
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,  
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,  
We pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decisionmakers,  
We pray for wisdom and guidance.

During this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all.  
Grant peace.  
Grant comfort.  
Grant healing.  
Be with us, Lord.

Amen.

Gracious God,

*All* **accept these prayers**

In the name of our brother, Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen**.

A poem by Emily Dickinson:

**“Hope” is the thing with feathers**

“Hope” is the thing with feathers -

That perches in the soul -

And sings the tune without the words -

And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -

And sore must be the storm -

That could abash the little Bird

That kept so many warm -

I’ve heard it in the chillest land -

And on the strangest Sea -

Yet - never - in Extremity,

It asked a crumb - of me.

Thank you for sharing in our lunch time worship

Go in peace to love and serve.  
All Thanks be to God. Amen.

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