



**Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup> 2021**

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 19,1-6**

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
<sup>2</sup> Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.  
<sup>3</sup> They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.  
<sup>4</sup> Yet their voice<sup>[b]</sup> goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world.  
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.  
<sup>5</sup> It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,  
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.  
<sup>6</sup> It rises at one end of the heavens  
and makes its circuit to the other;  
nothing is deprived of its warmth.

## Prayer

When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When we stumble and fall, lift us up. When doubts assail us, give us faith. When nothing seems sure, give us trust. When ideals fade, give us vision. When we lose our way, be our guide! That we may find serenity in Your presence, and purpose in doing Your will.

John. D Rayner

## Affirmation

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 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.,  
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.

*All* Gracious God,  
**accept these prayers**  
**In the name of our brother, Jesus Christ.**

*All* **Amen.**

A poem for the "shriven" Tuesday

Wild Geese, by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
For a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.  
Tell me about your despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting --  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.

Thank you for sharing in our lunch time worship

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

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