

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

The 4th Sunday in Lent *March 15, 2026*

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 lands of the Lekwungen 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.



Photo by David Stratkauskas

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 in 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.

Services at St. John's are: **8:00 am (Holy Communion – said service), 10:00 am (Holy Eucharist – with choir and organ), 4:30 pm (BCP Choral Evensong)** on Sundays as well as mid-week services (please see our website for times). If you can't attend in person we invite you to join us via Zoom (email admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca for the link) or through the livestream on the Website: www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

We continue to share daily prayer online with a link on our website.

Contacting Us: Please email us at admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca or call 250-383-7169. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Pastoral Care Team 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.

If you would like to give to support the work and ministries of St. John the Divine you can do so in the offering plate which is by the Garden door and will be presented as the Communion is prepared. You may also conveniently use our tap machine (no tax receipt) which is available at the garden door entrance, or the bank machine (tax receipt with envelope completion) available at the office. Envelopes for regular giving are available from the church office. Alternatively, you can scan this QR code which will take you to our Canada Helps giving page.

Donations may be emailed to givings@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca If you are a new donor and wish a tax receipt, please include your mailing address in the comment section.

Thank you for your support.



8:00 am Holy Communion

The order of service is found on page 67 in the Book of Common Prayer

Presider: The Reverend Dr. John Thatamanil

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

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

Presider: The Reverend Dr. John Thatamanil

Greeters: Ruth Swinton, Marilyn Moody

Crucifer: Penny Holt

Sacristan: Iris Elsdon

Readers: Joel Durkovic, Jessie Bosma

Gospel: Murray Harris

Sermon: The Reverend Dr. John Thatamanil

Intercessor: Jamie Lawson

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Gary Moss,

Lorraine Gates, Virginia Miller

Verger: David Pupak

Streaming Technician: Karen Coverett

Music: The Choristers of St. John the Divine
David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

Char Hodgkins, Assistant Director

Setting: Ruth Watson Henderson (b. 1932)

This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending this service, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

The Gathering of the Community

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Processional Hymn (CP 345)

GWALCHMAI



**1. King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.**

**2. Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.**

**3. Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee:
even eternity's too short
to extol thee.
even eternity's too short
to extol thee.**

Text: George Herbert (1593-1633). Music: Joseph David Jones (1827-1870).

Gathering

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.

Invitation to Confession

We are all called to healing and wholeness through the God who draws us close
and embraces us with love and strength.

We acknowledge our broken relationship with the earth, with one another, with
God, and with ourselves, as we pray.

Silence

During lent, the Gloria is replaced with the Kyrie Eleison.

Kyrie (*sung by the choir*)

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reminds us of God's love and forgiveness.

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

Holy God,
in Jesus Christ, you reveal yourself to the world,
even when we are blind to your grace.
Open our eyes to see your transforming love in our midst,
so that we may see your world anew;
through Jesus Christ, the saviour who shows compassion.

All: Amen.

Propers Working Group (2016)

The Proclamation of the Word

Let us listen for the Word of God in Holy Scripture.

Please sit for the Reading and the Psalm.

The First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

23

GOD is my shepherd; * I shall not be in want.

GOD makes me lie down in green pastures * and leads me beside still waters.

GOD revives my soul * and guides me along right pathways for their Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; * for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; * you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, * and I will dwell in the house of GOD for ever.

Inclusive Language Psalter: A New Gender-Inclusive Adaptation of the Book of Psalms,
Based on the 1979 Book of Common Prayer Text (Version for Congregational Use)
Edited and adapted by Adam Waddell, Hannah Bowman,
the Rev. K.D. Joyce, and the Rev. Bailey Pickens.

The Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gradual 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.
Music: Melody – *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829; adapt. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921).
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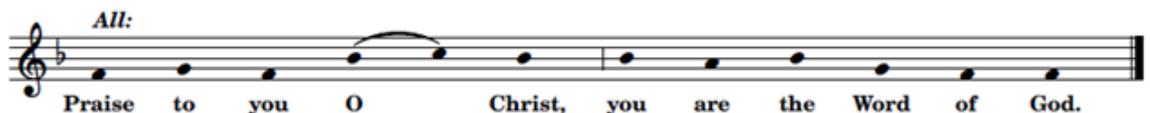
Please remain standing as you are able.

The Gospel

John 9:1-41



Cantor: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; those who follow me will have the light of life. *John 8:12*



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.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Please stand as you are able.

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare the faith of Christ 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.

Please stand, sit, or kneel as you prefer.

Prayers of the People

Those who have asked for our prayers are listed at the end of the leaflet.

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn (CP 354)

NETTLETON



1. **Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious measure,
sung by flaming tongues above;
O the vast, the boundless treasure
of my God's unchanging love.**
2. **Here I make faith's affirmation:
Thus far by thy help I've come,
and I hope, by thy compassion,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.**
3. **O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
take my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.**

Text: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.

Music: *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813.

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
Accept all we offer you this day,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

The Book of Alternative Services

As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist, we remember that we are the people of God. Near or far we are gathered together by the love of Christ. We remember that we are incorporated into the body of Christ. We join together in this celebration of our union in Christ.

Please remain standing as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer V
Scottish Episcopal Church 1982 (revised 2002) altd.

Priest: The Lord be with you. *All:* And al-so with you. *Priest:* Lift up your hearts. *All:* We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness.

Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,
brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled,
debts forgiven, and strangers made welcome.

Your Spirit frees us to live
as a community joined by bonds of love.

We who by Christ's power
follow the way of the Cross,
sharing the joy of his obedience,
now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Sanctus (sung by the choir)

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.*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving God,
for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.

Lifted on the Cross,
Jesus' suffering and forgiveness
spanned the gulf sin had made.
Through that dark struggle
death was swallowed up in victory,
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,

the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the First-Born,
freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread
and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat. This is my Body: It is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:

“Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Creator,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage
in the company of Mary, the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our siblings living and departed.

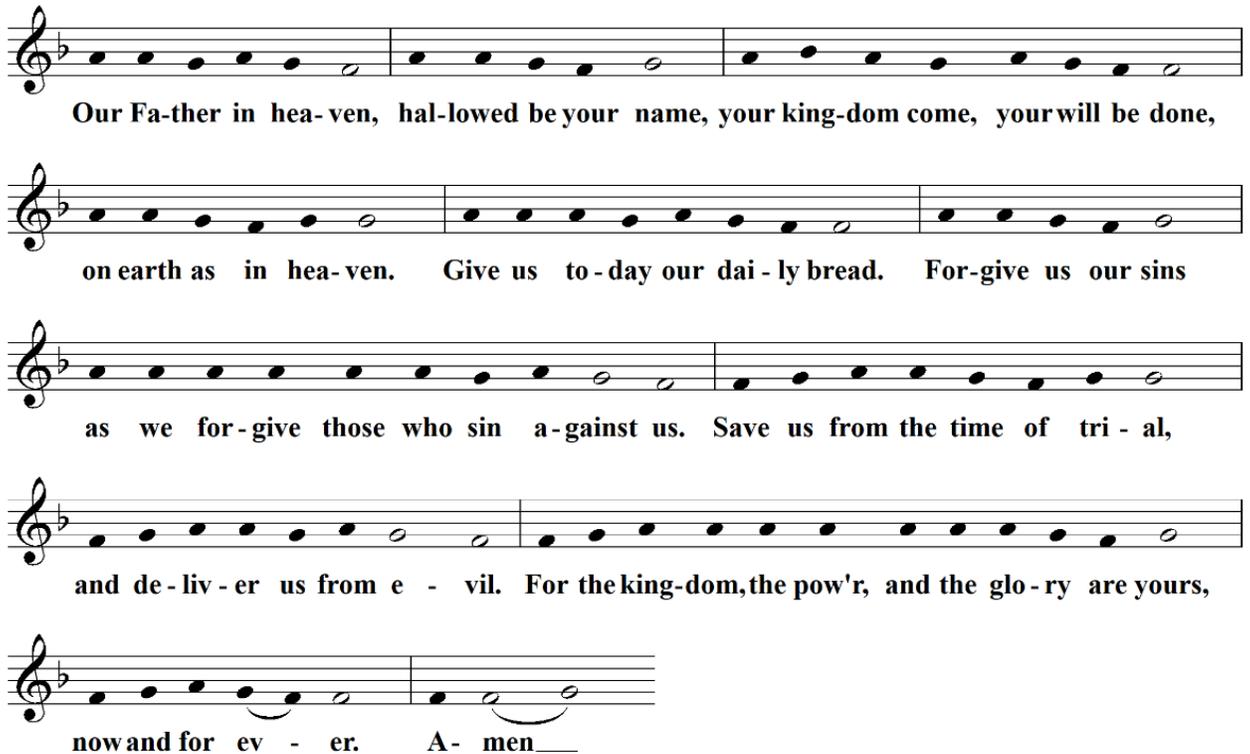
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end.



All: A - men, A - men, A - - men.

The Disciples' Prayer

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



Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins
as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al,
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the glo-ry are yours,
now and for ev-er. A-men

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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.

All are invited to receive communion. 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.

Agnus Dei (*sung by the choir*)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, *Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,*
miserere nobis. *have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, *Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,*
dona nobis pacem. *grant us peace.*

Anthem

Ave, verum corpus natum
de Maria Virgine:
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine:
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum,
in mortis examine.
O Jesu dulcis, O Jesu pie,
O Jesu Fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen.

Hail the true body, born
of the Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
on the cross for the sake of man.
From whose pierced flank
flowed water and blood:
Be a foretaste for us
in the trial of death.
O sweet, O merciful,
O Jesus, Son of Mary.
Have mercy on me. Amen.

Text: Trad. Latin
Music: Stephanie Martin (b.1965)

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

The Commissioning of the Community

Please stand as you are able.

One body are we.

All: For, though we are in many places, spiritually we share one bread.

Prayer after Communion

Giver of life,
you enlighten all who come into the world.
Fill our hearts with the splendour of your grace,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily praise your holy name,
through Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

The Book of Alternative Services.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve our living God.

All: Thanks be to God.



1. **O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!**
2. **My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread thro' all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.**
3. **Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.**
4. **He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.**
5. **To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.**

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
Music: Thomas Haweis (1734-1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe the younger (1770?-1843).
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Please be seated.
Voluntary

Please join us at the back of the church for refreshments and fellowship.



Sunday Reflections will be held in the Denson Lounge
starting about 15 minutes after the service ends.

Choral Evensong today at 4:30pm

Readings: Psalm 31:1-8; Micah 7; John 3:14-21

Officiant: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Music: Small Ensemble

Responses: Thomas Tallis/Matthew Larkin ; Canticles: Fauxbourdons - Thomas Morley

Anthem: Drop, drop, slow tears – Phineas Fletcher / Orlando Gibbons

Readings for March 22nd – The 5th 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.

Psalm 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.

Blue Envelope for March – Alongside Hope

Alongside Hope, formally known as the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), was established by the Anglican General Synod of Canada in 1959. The name reflects the agency's main program focus and philosophy. Alongside Hope provides for long-term development needs connected to most of the suffering caused by natural or human-provoked disasters.

The following people have asked for our prayers.

Please keep them in your heart and mind as you go through your week.

Chuck
Mallory
Vorna & family
Ronnie A. & family
Sue
Paul
James M.
Andrew

Charles & Frances
Zoe
Kevin & family
Tonja D.
Robyn
Amanda
Nancy
Jamie G.
Baby Caron

Paul C-S.
John & Pat
Liz & family
Kai & Chelsea
Lisa
Jennifer Q.
Brian T.
Ashley

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

Stewards

People's Warden: Jim Harlick
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Associate Warden: Murray Harris
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Givings Coordinator: Jim Harlick
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Incumbent's Warden: Jamie Lawson
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Associate Warden: Carol Anne Harper
charper@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Treasurer: David Buckman
treasurer@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

Parish Council

Brendan Feary, Jaqueline Gillespie, Mary Kennedy
David Lemon, Kate Newman, Ruth Swinton, Cornelia van Voorst

Synod Delegates

Jim Harlick, Jamie Lawson, Michael Zenger

Synod Alternate

Penny Holt

Staff Supporting the Ministry of St. John's

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Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh
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Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger
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