



**April 12, 2026**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

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**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine**

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## St. John's acknowledges these lands of the Lekwungen people.

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### 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.

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.

### Worship

Service times: **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](mailto:admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca) for the link) or through the livestream on the Website: [www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](http://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca)

**Daily prayer online** is shared daily with a link on our website either live or via recording.

**Contacting Us:** The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm. The main email for contact is: [admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca). 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.

### Assisting with this afternoon's Liturgy

**Officiant:** Ann Barry

**Preacher:** The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

**Welcomer:** Ruth Swinton

**Reader:** The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

**Music:** Quartet

David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

Char Hodgkins, Assistant Director

**Streaming Technician:** Vanessa Whyte

### A note about language

*In our worship, we use language which is poetic and filled with metaphor and wonder – realising that any language about God is limited. We use some ancient words which may seem odd, or may seem to refer to God as male, or in terms which elsewhere we might not choose to use. The poetry and the metaphor are there not to restrict or define our understanding of God, but to remind us that our words are never enough to talk about the Divine: instead, we use the beauty of the words and music in our worship to help us glimpse just a little of the God beyond all words.*

*Listed music is subject to substitution in the event of changes of personnel or situation.*

**Cover Image :** Photo by David Stratkauskas



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. There are also envelopes in the book stand which can make your gifts tax efficient. Alternatively, you can scan this QR code which will take you to our Canada Helps giving page. 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.

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

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## ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Prelude

*The officiant gives a short welcome.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### The Responses

*Philip FitzHugh Radcliffe (1905-1986)*

*Cantor:* O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Choir:* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*Cantor:* O God, make speed to save us.

*Choir:* O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Cantor:* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*Choir:* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord. (The Lord's name be praised.)

*Please be seated for the singing of the psalm.*

### Psalm

30:1-5

1 I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up \* and not made my foes to triumph over me.

2 O Lord my God, I cried unto thee \* and thou hast healed me.

3 Thou, Lord, hast brought my soul out of hell \* thou hast kept my life from them that go down to the pit.

4 Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his \* and give thanks unto him for a remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye, and in his pleasure is life \* heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

*Please stand as you are able for the Gloria Patri:*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son \* and to the Holy Ghost,

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be \* world without end. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

### First Lesson

Daniel 6:6-23

So these administrators and satraps went as a group to the king and said: "May King Darius live forever! The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or human being during the next thirty days, except to you, Your Majesty, shall be thrown into the lions' den. Now, Your Majesty, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered—in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed." So King Darius put the decree in writing.

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: “Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions’ den?”

The king answered, “The decree stands—in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.”

Then they said to the king, “Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, Your Majesty, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day.” When the king heard this, he was greatly distressed; he was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sundown to save him.

Then the men went as a group to King Darius and said to him, “Remember, Your Majesty, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed.”

So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions’ den. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!”

A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel’s situation might not be changed. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions’ den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?”

Daniel answered, “May the king live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.”

The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Magnificat**

*Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: J Pachelbel (1653-1706)*

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and the meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty

away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Second Lesson

Mark 15:46—16:8

So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Nunc Dimittis

*Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Plainsong*

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou has prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Apostles' Creed

**All: I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

## Responses, Lord's Prayer, and Collects

*Cantor:* The Lord be with you;

*Choir:* And with thy spirit.

*Cantor:* Let us pray.

*Please remain standing, kneel, or be seated as is your preference for prayer.*

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Cantor:* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

*Choir:* And grant us thy salvation.

*Cantor:* O Lord, save the King;

*Choir:* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Cantor:* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

*Choir:* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Cantor:* O Lord, save thy people;

*Choir:* And bless thine inheritance.

*Cantor:* Give peace in our time, O Lord;

*Choir:* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

*Cantor:* O God, make clean our hearts within us;

*Choir:* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

*1<sup>st</sup> Collect, of the day:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collect, for Peace:*

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Collect, for Aid Against All Perils:*

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## **Anthem**

*(sung by the choir)*

Dum transisset Sabbatum,  
Maria Magdalene et Maria Jacobi et Salome  
emerunt aromata ut venientes ungerent Iesum.  
Alleluia.

When the Sabbath had passed,  
Mary Magdalene and Mary [the mother] of James and Salome  
bought spices so that they could come and anoint Jesus.  
Alleluia.

Text: Mark 16:1  
Music: John Tavener (1944-2013)

*Please remain seated, kneel, or stand as is your preference.*

## **Intercessions**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Hymn (CP 222)**

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926- ). (C) 1984 Hope Publishing Co.  
Music: **SONG 46**, First strain of song 46, Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625).  
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**1. All shall be well!**

For on our Easter skies  
see Christ the sun  
of righteousness arise.

**2. All shall be well!**

The sacrifice is made,  
the sinner freed,  
the price of pardon paid.

**3. All shall be well!**

The cross and passion past,  
dark night is done,  
bring morning come at last.

**4. All shall be well!**

Lift every voice on high;  
"Death has no more dominion,  
but shall die."

**5. Jesus alive!**

Rejoice and sing again;  
all shall be well  
for evermore, Amen!

*Please be seated.*

## **Sermon**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Hymn (CP 216)

Text: Fulbert of Chartres (?-1028); tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868).

Music: **ST. FULBERT**, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876).

Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.



1. Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,  
your sweetest notes employ,  
the paschal victory to hymn  
in strains of holy joy.
2. For Judah's lion bursts his chains,  
crushing the serpent's head,  
and cries aloud through death's domains  
to wake the imprisoned dead.
3. Devouring depths of hell their prey  
at his command restore;  
his ransomed hosts pursue their way  
where Jesus goes before.
4. Triumphant in his glory now  
to him all power is given;  
to him in one communion bow  
all saints in earth and heaven.
5. All glory to the Father be,  
all glory to the Son;  
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
while endless ages run.

## The Blessing or Grace

*Please be seated.*

## Organ Voluntary

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