



**April 26, 2026**

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

---

**CHORAL EVENSONG**

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

---

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

---

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

**Welcomer:** Joel Hefty

**Reader:** Karen Coverett

**Music:** Quartet

David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

**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.*



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.

---

## ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Prelude

*The officiant gives a short welcome.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### The Responses

*Margaret Woodley*

*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

29:1-10

- 1 Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, bring young rams unto the Lord \* ascribe unto the Lord worship and strength.
- 2 Give the Lord the honour due unto his Name \* worship the Lord with holy worship.
- 3 It is the Lord, that commandeth the waters \* it is the glorious God, that maketh the thunder.
- 4 It is the Lord, that ruleth the sea; the voice of the Lord is mighty in operation \* the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar-trees \* yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Libanus.
- 6 He maketh them also to skip like a calf \* Libanus also, and Sirion, like a young unicorn.
- 7 The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness \* yea, the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Cades.
- 8 The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young, and discovereth the thick bushes \* in his temple doth every man speak of his honour.
- 9 The Lord sitteth above the water-flood \* and the Lord remaineth a King for ever.
- 10 The Lord shall give strength unto his people \* the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

*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

Ezra 3:1-13

When the seventh month came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, the people assembled together as one in Jerusalem. Then Joshua son of Jozadak and his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and his associates began to build the altar of the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, in accordance with what is written in the Law of Moses the man of God. Despite their fear of the peoples around them, they built the altar on its foundation and sacrificed burnt offerings on it to the Lord, both the morning and evening sacrifices. Then in accordance with what is written, they celebrated the Festival of Tabernacles with the required number of burnt offerings prescribed for each day. After that, they presented the regular burnt offerings, the New Moon sacrifices and the sacrifices for all the appointed sacred festivals of the Lord, as well as those brought as freewill offerings to the Lord. On the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the Lord, though the foundation of the Lord's temple had not yet been laid.

Then they gave money to the masons and carpenters, and gave food and drink and olive oil to the people of Sidon and Tyre, so that they would bring cedar logs by sea from Lebanon to Joppa, as authorized by Cyrus king of Persia.

In the second month of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak and the rest of the people (the priests and the Levites and all who had returned from the captivity to Jerusalem) began the work. They appointed Levites twenty years old and older to supervise the building of the house of the Lord. Joshua and his sons and brothers and Kadmiel and his sons (descendants of Hodaviah) and the sons of Henadad and their sons and brothers—all Levites—joined together in supervising those working on the house of God.

When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the Lord, as prescribed by David king of Israel. With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord:

“He is good; his love toward Israel endures forever.”

And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Magnificat

*Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: Second Service – June Nixon (b.1942)*

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

Ephesians 2:11-22

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Nunc Dimittis

*Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Second Service – June Nixon (b.1942)*

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:*

O GOD, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, 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)

This joyful Eastertide,  
Away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified,  
Hath sprung to life this morrow.

### Refrain

Had Christ, that once was slain,  
Ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now hath Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen, arisen.

My flesh in hope shall rest,  
And for a season slumber:  
Till trump from east to west  
Shall wake the dead in number.

### Refrain

Death's flood hath lost his chill,  
Since Jesus cross'd the river  
Lover of souls, from ill  
My passing soul deliver.

### Refrain

Text: George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)  
Music: Anonymous, arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

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

## Intercessions

Please stand as you are able.

## Hymn (CP 14)

Text: Phos hilaron, Greek hymn (200?); para. Fl Bland Tucker (1895-1984).

Para. © 1985 The Church Pension Fund.

Music: TALLIS'S CANON, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585).



1. O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,  
in you the Father's glory shone.  
Immortal, holy, blest is he,  
and blest are you, his holy Son.

2. Now sunset comes, but light shines forth;  
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.  
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit:  
God who dwells in the eternal light.

3. Worthy are you of endless praise,  
O Son of God, life-giving Lord;  
wherefore you are through all the earth  
and in the highest heaven adored.

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Hymn (CP 217)

Text: Michael Weisse (1488?-1534); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: WÜRTEMBERG, Melody - *Hundert Arien*, appendix to *Haus-Buch*, Dresden, 1694;  
adapt. William Henry Monk (1823-1889). ©  
Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.



1. Christ the Lord is risen again;  
Christ has broken every chain.  
Hear the angel voices cry,  
singing evermore on high: Alleluia!
2. He who gave for us his life,  
who for us endured the strife,  
is our paschal lamb today;  
we too sing for joy and say: Alleluia!
3. He who bore all pain and loss  
comfortless upon the cross  
lives in glory now on high,  
pleads for us, and hears our cry: Alleluia!
4. He who slumbered in the grave  
is exalted now to save;  
through the universe it rings  
that the lamb is King of kings: Alleluia!
5. Now he bids us tell abroad  
how the lost may be restored,  
how the penitent forgiven,  
how we too may enter heaven: Alleluia!
6. Christ, our paschal lamb indeed,  
all your ransomed people feed!  
Take our sins and guilt away;  
let us sing by night and day: Alleluia!

## The Blessing or Grace

*Please be seated.*

## Organ Voluntary

---

*The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine*  
*(Diocese of British Columbia / Anglican Church of Canada)*  
1611 Quadra Street Victoria BC V8W 2L5 250-383-7169  
[stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](http://stjohnthedivine.bc.ca) [facebook.com/musicSJD](https://facebook.com/musicSJD)

---