



Photo by Terry Needham

**May 3, 2026**

**The 5<sup>th</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:** The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

**Welcomer:** Ruth Swinton

**Reader:** Karen Coverett

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

**Streaming Technician:** Daphne Small

### 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.

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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

*Joanna Forbes L'Estrange (b.1971)*

*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

147:1-12

1 Praise the Lord, for it is a good thing to sing praises unto our God \* yea, a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful.

2 The Lord doth build up Jerusalem \* and gather together the out-casts of Israel.

3 He healeth those that are broken in heart \* and giveth medicine to heal their sickness.

4 He telleth the number of the stars \* and calleth them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord, and great is his power \* yea, and his wisdom is infinite.

6 The Lord setteth up the meek \* and bringeth the ungodly down to the ground.

7 O sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving \* sing praises upon the harp unto our God;

8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds, and prepareth rain for the earth \* and maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains, and herb for the use of men;

9 Who giveth fodder unto the cattle \* and feedeth the young ravens that call upon him.

10 He hath no pleasure in the strength of an horse \* neither delighteth he in any man's legs.

11 But the Lord's delight is in them that fear him \* and put their trust in his mercy.

12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem \* praise thy God, O Sion.

*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**

Zechariah 4:1-10

Then the angel who talked with me returned and woke me up, like someone awakened from sleep. He asked me, "What do you see?"

I answered, "I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lamps on it, with seven channels to the lamps. Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left."

I asked the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?"

He answered, "Do you not know what these are?"

"No, my lord," I replied.

So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

"What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of 'God bless it! God bless it!'"

Then the word of the LORD came to me: "The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands will also complete it. Then you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you.

"Who dares despise the day of small things, since the seven eyes of the LORD that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?"

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Magnificat**

*Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: Short Service - Philip Stopford (b.1977)*

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**

Revelation 21:1-14

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her

husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Nunc Dimittis**

*Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Short Service - Philip Stopford (b.1977)*

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 ALMIGHTY GOD, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of 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)*

Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away.  
For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear upon the earth.  
The time of singing of birds is come.  
Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.

Text: Song of Solomon  
Music: Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*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 (NEH 103)

Text: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885).

Music: LUX EIOI



1. Alleluya! Alleluya!  
Hearts to heaven and voices raise;  
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
He who on the Cross a victim  
For the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,  
Now is risen from the dead.
2. Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits  
Of the holy harvest field,  
Which will all its full abundance  
At his second coming yield;  
Then the golden ears of harvest  
Will their heads before him wave,  
Ripened by his glorious sunshine  
From the furrows of the grave.
3. Christ is risen, we are risen;  
Shed upon us heavenly grace,  
Rain, and dew, the gleams of glory  
From the brightness of thy face;  
That we, Lord, with hearts in heaven  
Here on earth may fruitful be,  
And by angel-hands be gathered,  
And be ever safe with thee.
4. Alleluya! Alleluya!  
Glory be to God on high;  
To the Father, and the Saviour,  
Who has gained the victory;  
Glory to the Holy Spirit,  
Fount of love and sanctity;  
Alleluya! Alleluya!  
To the Triune Majesty. Amen.

## The Blessing or Grace

*Please be seated.*

## Organ Voluntary

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