

# St. John the Divine Anglican Church



Sunday October 18th, 2020  
20th after Pentecost  
Service of the Word

We gather on the unceded territory of Squamish Nation

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Diocese of New Westminster  
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

*Take a deep breath.  
And again.*

### ***The Gathering of the Community***

Leader        The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
                  and the love of God,  
                  and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
                  be with you all

**All:            And also with you.**

Leader        Let us pray.

**All            We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's  
                  Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing.  
                  Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past,  
                  and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Leader        Dear friends in Christ,  
                  as we turn our hearts and minds  
                  to worship almighty God,  
                  let us confess our sins.

**All            Most merciful God,  
                  we confess that we have sinned against you  
                  in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done  
                  and by what we have left undone.  
                  We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
                  we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
                  We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
                  For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
                  have mercy on us and forgive us,  
                  that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
                  to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Leader        Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
                  that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind;  
                  through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you  
                  and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Leader        May the Peace of God be with you.

**All            And also with you.**

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voices, let us sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Bright burning sun with golden beams,  
pale silver moon that gently gleams,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Earth ever fertile, day by day  
Unfold your blessings on our way,  
O sing now, Alleluia!  
All flowers and fruit that in you grow,  
God's glory let them also show.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All you with mercy in your heart  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All you that pain and sorrow bear,  
sing praise and cast on God your care.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And even you, most gentle death,  
Waiting to hush our final breath,  
O sing now Alleluia!  
You lead back home the child of God,  
for Christ our Lord the way has trod.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship God in humbleness,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

## The Collect of the Day

Opening Prayers (1997) alt.

O God, whose image we bear and whose name we carry, yours is the world and all it contains. Recall us to our true allegiance, so that above the powers and rulers of this world you alone may claim our loyalty and love. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading: Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight.' Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

### Psalm 99

The Lord is king; let the people tremble;  
**he is enthroned upon the Cherubim; let the earth shake.**  
The Lord is great in Zion;  
**he is high above all peoples.**

Let them confess his name, which is great and awesome;  
**he is the Holy One.**

“O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;  
**you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his  
footstool;

**he is the Holy One.**

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call  
upon his name,

**they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.**

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;

**they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.**

“O Lord our God, you answered them indeed;

**you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil  
deeds.”**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his  
holy hill;

**for the Lord our God is the Holy One.**

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.  
God, you've been so good to me.  
Ev'ry day you're blessing me.  
Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.  
I will glorify you, O my Lord, today!  
You keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.  
You opened the door that I might see, you're blessing me.  
And you keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.  
I will glorify you, O my Lord, today!

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**Gospel:** Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

**Sermon**

**The Apostle's Creed**

Leader            Let us confess our faith as we say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

### **The Prayers of the People**

**Offertory Hymn:** You Have Passed By

CP #510

You have passed by, you came like fire that lights the skies;  
Sparks falling from your name glow in our hearts like eyes.  
In tatters hangs your word, draped round our world and torn;  
Now we shall live in you; like clothing you are worn.

You have passed by, as brief as foot-prints on the sea;  
Why did you go so far? You went too far for me.  
You are forever now as deep in God as breath;  
No stillness captures you, unthinkable your death.

You have passed by, a strange and yet familiar face,  
A fragment of our being, a flickering light, a trace.  
Your light is in my blood, my body is your day;  
I hope my whole life long to meet you on the way.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis  
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Leader  
**All** Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

Leader  
**All** Glory to God  
**whose power, working in us,**  
**can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.**  
**Glory to God from generation to generation,**  
**in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen**

Leader  
**All** May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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**St. John the Divine Prayers for October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**The Church**

The Vancouver School of Theology - The Reverend Richard Topping, The Reverend Grant Rodgers, The Reverend Liz Ruder-Celiz and all Faculty, staff and students.

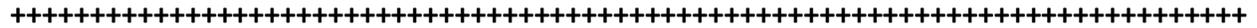
St. John the Divine Squamish – The Reverend Cameron Gutjahr

**Immediate Prayer Requests**

Gwen Taylor, Jessica, Muriel, Susan, Eleanor, Lori, The Howe Sound Women’s Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

We pray for Stacey Spencer as she prepares for her baptism, as well as anyone else preparing for baptism or confirmation.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care professionals, researchers and emergency personnel.



**Rector’s Reflection**

Another of our shared goals for this year is “Whistler.”

When I was still at seminary in Ontario, before I knew I was coming to Squamish, I had to invent a church for a class. Do you want to guess what it was? It was St. Bernard’s Whistler! (pun intended) What are the odds?!

Coincidence aside, over my first year at St. John’s I have felt a consistent pull to Whistler. Over and over again things seemed to keep falling into place, indicating there might be energy and capacity for some form of Whistler community.

To be honest, I was not thrilled. I resisted. “No way!” I said to myself, and to God, “not me!” “That’s not what I’m here for.” “I barely know what I’m doing as it is.” “I don’t have the skills or experience.” “This is too wild and big and new!” God laughed, I’m sure.

I’m slightly more agreeable now, and nerves are giving way to excitement as we begin the discernment for this new thing.

We are the parish of St. John the Divine. The Anglican understanding of parish is more than a building. It is more than just the people that gather together on Sunday mornings throughout the year. It is a geographic area of responsibility, and a reminder that as Christians, as the Church, we are called to look outward. Whistler is part of our parish, and so this new thing we are exploring is part of our witness and mission in this place, in our parish.

I don't know what will happen with this nascent part of our community, but I'm so excited to find out where the Spirit is leading. I'm excited that we have taken this on as a goal, not letting our dreams be too small for God's dream for us.

Thanks be to God!

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