

The Church of St. John the Divine

Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

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 ancestral lands of the Lekwungen speaking 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.



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 of 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.

Social Distancing: In these times when we must practice social distancing our Sunday Services will be done remotely. You may find a link on our parish website

<https://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/>

Other worship services will also be posted. If our service seems unfamiliar, please follow the cues from our leaflet which is also posted on the web page.

Contacting Us: We are all learning ways to build community "at a distance." We are checking phone messages and answering emails. The main email for contact is: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Healing Prayer group 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.

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

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

Officiant: The Reverend Canon Kevin Arndt

Readers: Iris Elsdon, Doug Henderson

Gospel: Lorraine Gates

Sermon: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

Intercessor: Kit Pearson

Zoom Technician: Karen Coverett

Music: David Stratkauskas (organist),

Kyla Fradette (soloist)

The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn (CP 637)

Veni Creator Spiritus

- 1. Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who does thy sevenfold gifts impart.**
- 2. Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.**
- 3. Anoint and cheer our soiled face
with the abundance of thy grace;
keep far our foes, give peace at home;
where thou art guide no ill can come.**
- 4. Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but one:
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song:
praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Text: Latin (9th cent.); tr. John Cosin (1594-1672).

Gathering

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May Christ's grace and peace be with you.

All: May God fill our hearts with joy.

Come, Holy Spirit, creator, bring your light and renew the face of the earth.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, counsellor, and touch our lips that we may proclaim your word.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, love from within and without: make us agents of peace and ministers of wholeness.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, breath of God, make us a living people, holy and free.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come, Holy Spirit, wisdom and truth: enlighten and strengthen us in the risk of faith.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Lighting of the Family Candle

The Church Family Prayer

Loving God,

All: you've called us to be your family and to celebrate our life together in worship. We pray for all the members of our family, and especially for our young people now, tucked in their homes, surrounded by your love! We pray for the adults who care for them. Bless them, and each of us, in fun and learning, in friendship, and love. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

Almighty and everliving God,
who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation
the way of life eternal,
keep us in the unity of your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, ‘Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’ All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, ‘What does this mean?’ But others sneered and said, ‘They are filled with new wine.’

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

“In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

O Lord, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works. He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says ‘Let Jesus be cursed!’ and no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Here the Good news of Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Following the sermon there will be a pause for silence.

Music after the Sermon

Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising those of earth to thrones on high;
living, life-imparting Spirit, you we praise and magnify.

Holy Spirit, ever living as the church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ:
you we praise with endless worship for your gifts and fruits unpriced.

Holy Spirit, ever working through the church's ministry,
quickenng, strengthening, and absolving setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding, age to age and soul to soul
in communion never ending, you we worship and extol.

Text: Timothy Rees (1874-1939).
Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983).

Prayers of the People

Please note that those who have asked for our prayers are listed at the end of this service.

The Celebration of our Eucharistic Faith

Though we are unable to share in Bread and Wine,
we remember that we are people of God, joined together by the love of Christ.
That we are incorporated into the body of Christ.

We remember our sharing in bread and wine
is a symbol of our sharing in Christ's body and blood.
And we join together in this celebration of our union in Christ.

The General Thanksgiving

God is here.

All: God's Spirit is with us.

Let us give thanks to God the Creator.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Hear the words of Scripture, the story of how our Sacrament began.

1 Corinthians 11: 23-27

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Let us pray.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given us. For all the pains and insults you have borne for us. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly, day by day.

All: Amen.

Almighty God, giver of grace, we your servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As Christ taught his friends, and longing for the new life of God's reign,
let us pray:

All: 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.

The Commissioning of the Community

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Final Hymn (CP 645)

Down Ampney

- 1. Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**
- 2. O let it freely burn,
till early passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**
- 3. Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

4. **And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till thy become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit finds a dwelling.**

Text: Bianco de Siena (1350?-1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Little (1833-1890), alt.

Our coffee hour will take place 15 minutes after the service has finished, continuing here in our Zoom meeting.

Readings for Trinity Sunday, June 7

Genesis 1:1—2:4a We are called to take this story not as scientific description but as theological affirmation and praise to God. **Psalm 8** God is praised for the wonders of nature. **2 Corinthians 13:11-13** At the close of this letter is the Trinitarian blessing still used when Christians part one from another. **Matthew 28:16-20** The threefold name of God was used in baptism by Matthew's community.

The Special Blue Envelope for June is for PEERS.

PEERS Victoria Resource Society is a non-profit society established by former sex workers and community supporters. It provides support, resources and programs for past and current sex workers of all genders, such as help with housing, education, and advocacy services etc.

The following people have asked for our prayers.
Please keep them in mind as you go through your week.

Joyce

Penny

Nolan

Coumba, Mady, Idriss

David

Hagos, Tsigay & family

Andrew

Mavis

Kathy

Becca

Margaret

Alan

Kristjan and family

Sohaila & Fawad

Silvanna & family

James

Justin

Robyn

Arnon

Karen

Anne

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

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