

The Church of St. John the Divine

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 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.



**Matthew
20:16**

**The last will be first,
and the first last.**

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.

Worship in a time of COVID-19 : In these times when we must be careful in any gathering we have careful protocols in place for our limited gatherings on a Sunday – the plans are available to download on the Website, and for those unable to attend in person our services are also livestreamed there: <https://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/>

We will continue to meet on Sundays at 10am for our Parish Eucharist, and at 5:30 pm for a service of Evensong, please check details on the website as to how to book for each service and the information needed to comply with Provincial requirements.

We continue to share daily prayer online with a link on our website daily.

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 responses and prayers marked in bold print.

Celebrant: The Reverend Canon Kevin Arndt

Reader: Judith Branion

Gospel: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Sermon: Stephanie Wood

Intercessor: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Sacristan: Judith Branion

Greeters: Karyn Lehmann, Beryl Roundhill

Safety Officer: Judith Reid

Vergers: Chuck Neilson

Streaming Technician: Karen Coverett

Music: David Stratkauskas, organist

Anne van der Sloot, cantor

Setting: Missa S. Maria Magdalena,
Healey Willan

The Gathering of the Community

Welcome and Announcements

Organ Prelude

Gathering

Presider: From wherever we are, near or far, we gather in the name God. We gather in God's love. There is no distance greater than God, there is no separation possible from the love of God. We gather with God our Loving Creator. We gather with Jesus our brother and redeemer. We gather with God, the Spirit of Love.

All: Amen.

Sing to God's glory as we walk along our harbours.

All: All creation blesses you.

Sing to God's glory for the warmth of the sun on our skin.

All: All creation blesses you.

Sing to God's glory as we admire the fog and clouds above the mountains.

All: All creation blesses you.

Sing to God's glory as ocean breezes refresh us on our walks.

All: All creation blesses you.

Sing to God's glory for the refreshing rain giving us flowers along the shoreline.

All: All creation blesses you.

Collect for Purity

Almighty God

All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Church Family Prayer

Loving God,

All: you have called us to be your family and to celebrate our life together in worship. We pray now, for all members of our family, gathering in our church buildings, in our homes, and online. Through your spirit keep us connected. Bless each of us with beloved friendship. Teach us, gracious God, how to be your church in these times. Amen.

Gloria

Cantor: Glory be to God on high, And on earth peace, good will towards all. We praise you. We bless you. We worship you. We glorify you. We give thanks to you for your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father. You take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For you only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Translation: Book of Common Prayer, modernised.

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

O God, you are rich in love for your people: show us the treasure that endures and, when we are tempted by greed, call us back into your service and entrust we with the wealth that never fails. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) alt.

The Proclamation of the Word

Let us listen for the Word of God in Holy Scripture.

All: Amen.

The First Reading

Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

Then the LORD said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other

days.’ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, ‘In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?’ And Moses said, ‘When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.’

Then Moses said to Aaron, ‘Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, “Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.” ’ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ‘I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.” ’

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvellous works.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Search for the Lord and his strength; continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.

He led out his people with silver and gold; in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

Egypt was glad of their going, because they were afraid of them.

He spread out a cloud for a covering and a fire to give light in the night season.

They asked, and quails appeared, and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

He opened the rock, and water flowed, so the river ran in the dry places.

For God remembered his holy word and Abraham his servant.

So he led forth his people with gladness, his chosen with shouts of joy.

He gave his people the lands of the nations, and they took the fruit of others’ toil,

That they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

Cantor: Alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia.

God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Here the Good news of Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Following the sermon there will be a pause for silence.

Affirmation of Faith

With the whole church,

**All: we affirm that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere,

**All: we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

With all creation,

**All: we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life;
the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.**

Iona Abbey Worship Book

Prayers of the People

Please sit, stand or kneel as is your custom.

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

The Peace

Please stand.

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Anthem

Panis Angelicus, Charpentier

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum; dat panis coelicus figuris terminum:

O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum pauper, servus et humilis.

Translation: The bread of the angels becomes the bread of mortals; the bread of heaven puts an end to prefigurations.

O wondrous thing! The poor, the slave and the humble feed on their Lord.

The Prayer over the Gifts

In the name of all of us gathered, near and far, we present these our gifts to God. Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

our selves, our time and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,

through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

The Great Thanksgiving

Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 2

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Eternal God, Source of all being,

we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love.

You call us into friendship with you and one another

to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us.

When we injure others, you confront us in your love

and call us to the paths of righteousness.

You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone,

whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first.

Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels,

forever praising you and singing:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord:

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, O Holy One:

when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope.

When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good.

When you called Israel out of slavery,

you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land.

When your people were taken into exile

you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor,
the outcast, and the oppressed.

Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.

He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life.

Christ knew the desolation of the cross

and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends,
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said,
“Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Loving and Holy One,
recalling Christ’s death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts,
longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come.

Therefore we proclaim our hope.

**All: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts
that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace.
We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering,
our sisters and brothers.

When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Disciple’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 Breaking of the Bread

Creator of all, who summons the salmon from the depths of the seas
to yearn for the place of their origin.

All: So may your Spirit stir in our hearts to return and find our home in you.

Liturgy of the Islands, 2018, Diocese of Islands and Inlets

The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

As communion is given, the deacon will offer these words for those at home:

We remember that we are the people of God, gathered together by the love of Christ. We remember that we are incorporated into the body of Christ. We join together in this celebration of our union in Christ.

Let us pray.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given us. 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.

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

All are invited to receive communion. Please follow the Greeters' instructions. Receiving bread is considered full communion. Any not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing, and to indicate that by holding their arms crossed on their chest.

If you are unable to come forward for communion please make this known to the Greeters and we will bring communion to you.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request them from the person who is distributing the bread.

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

The Commissioning of the Community

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.

In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve our loving God.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Our coffee hour will take place on Zoom at 11:00 am.

Readings for September 27th – The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7 Moses strikes rock to supply water for the murmuring, faultfinding Israelites.

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 The wonderful works of God are praised, including the care of the

Israelites during the Exodus and wilderness wanderings. **Philippians 2:1-13** The community at

Philippi is experiencing some dissension, and Paul encourages all to conform to the “mind of

Christ.” **Matthew 21:23-32** Jesus invites the chief priests and elders to reconsider where God

is at work and what faithfulness looks like.

Flowers

For the past two weeks the Flower Dedications were missed – here they are with sincere apologies to those who had made the dedications for the specific dates.

Sunday, September 6

In loving memory of Altaire - much missed daughter, sister, wife and mother, from her parents.

Sunday, September 13

To the Glory of God and in celebration of the birthday on September 11th of my beloved wife, Valerie.

Sunday, September 20

In memory of Alice Frances Ryan who would have been 28 this month, love from Patrick, Muriel, Cairan and Hannah.

EVENSONG

Every Sunday at 5:30pm - sung by a small ensemble of Choral Scholars

Evensong is a contemplative, musical and prayerful liturgy, ideally suited to the end of the week and the close of day, and to this current time when we have been asked to avoid congregational singing, but still long for the depth and beauty of a choral liturgy.

Register to attend at stjohnthedivine.eventbrite.com

Registration for each service opens Monday morning, and closes just before the service starts, so please do register to come.

Usual safety protocols apply: please don't attend if symptomatic. See stjohnthedivine.bc.ca for more information on church safety during the pandemic.

Full-sized choirs are unable to participate in services at the moment due to attendance limitations and physical distancing guidelines - we will expand to our full choirs as soon as it is safe and permitted to do so! In the meanwhile, watch for extra-liturgical projects from both choirs over the course of the Autumn.

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

Joyce	Sohaila & Fawad	Rhoda
Coumba, Mady, Idriss	Anne	Silvana Carr
Hagos, Tsigay & family	Harriet	Carolyn
Mavis	Bradley	Nicholas
Alan	Philip & Lisa	Patrick

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

Stewards

People's Warden: Joan Huzar
Associate Warden: Lorraine Gates
Envelope Secretary: Jim Harlick

Rector's Warden: vacant
Associate Warden: Karen Coverett
Treasurer: David Buckman

Parish Council

Susan Bangrove, Carol Denton, Marguerite Heppell,
Penny Holt, Erin Kelly, Bill Williamson

Synod Delegates

Karen Coverett, Joel Hefty, Bill Huzar, Joan Huzar

Staff Supporting the Ministry of St. John's

Rector: The Ven. Alastair McCollum
Associate Priest: The Rev'd Canon Kevin Arndt
Associate Priest: The Rev'd Bill Tarter
Deacon: The Rev'd Patrick Sibley
Curate: Stephanie Wood

Director of Music: David Stratkauskas
Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh
Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger

Honorary Assistants

The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody / The Rev'd Canon Andrew Gates
The Rev'd Jane Reid

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