

The Church of St. John the Divine

The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 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 Bill Tarter
Readers: Judith Branion, Larry Scyner
Gospel: Stephanie Wood
Sermon: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

Intercessor: Kit Pearson
Zoom Technician: Karen Coverett
Music: David Stratkauskas (musician)
Soile Stratkauskas (cantor)

The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn (CP 347)

Leoni

- 1. The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting Days, and God of love;
Jehovah, grant I AM!
by earth and heaven confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.**
- 2. The great I AM has sworn;
I on this oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heaven ascend,
I shall behold God's face;
I shall God's power adore,
and sing the wonders of God's grace for evermore.**
- 3. The goodly land I see
with peace and plenty blest;
a land of sacred liberty, and endless rest.
There milk and honey flows,
and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grown with mercy crowned.**
- 4. Triumphant hosts on high
give thanks eternally
and "Holy, holy, holy" cry, "great Trinity!"
Hail Abraham's God and ours!
One mighty hymn we raise:
all power and majesty be yours and endless praise!**

Text: The Yigdal of Aniel ben Judah (1400?); st. 1-3, para. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.; st. 4, rev. *Hymns for Today's Church*.
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Gathering

God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Come, God, Creator, make us one in Christ.

All: Come to us, O God.

Come, God, living Word, open our hearts to your life.

All: Come to us, O God.

Come, Spirit of love, make us people of transformation.

All: Come to us, O God.

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 God,

your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry

with bread of his life

and word of his kingdom.

Renew your people with your heavenly grace,

and in all our weakness

sustain us by your true and living bread,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

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

All: Amen.

The First Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

17:1-7, 16

Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord; give heed to my cry; listen to my prayer,
which does not come from lying lips.

Let my vindication come forth from your presence; let your eyes be fixed
on justice.

Weigh my heart, summon me by night, melt me down; you will find no impurity
in me.

I give no offence with my mouth as others do; I have heeded the words of
your lips.

My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; in your paths my feet shall
not stumble.

I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; incline your ear to me and hear
my words.

Show me your marvellous loving-kindness, O Saviour of those who take refuge at
your right hand from those who rise up against them.

But at my vindication I shall see your face; when I awake, I shall be satisfied,
beholding your likeness.

The Second Reading

Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

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.

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, ‘This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

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.

Creator God, we give you thanks that you are a gracious, abundant,
and gracious, host.
We thank you also that you became the guest of humanity.
In the Word made flesh you became guest of the animals in a stable,
the villagers of Nazareth,
Religious Leaders in the temple, prostitutes, drunkards, and outcasts.
You let us play host, became one of us, dined at our table.
You ate the same bread, drank the same wine. You shared stories and you
shared our story.
When you left the table, you left bread and wine to remember you by.

Alternative Worship (Baker & Gay)

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.

Loving God,

May the weary find a soft place to rest.

May the searching be met by the Sacred.

May the travellers be encouraged, be fed, be clothed, be received.

May the righteous see the fruits of their labour.

May the lonely find comfort in the night.

May the privileged take extravagant actions of solidarity.

May the complicit repent.

May the apathetic come to recognize the hardness of their hearts.

May the courageous have multitudes behind them.

May the creative write, paint, sing, and dance the truths we all need to feel.

May the fearful keep showing up, keep wrestling, keep taking steps.

May the unjust powerful step-down or be torn down.

May the mourning not be rushed to heal.

May the caretakers have their cups refilled.

May the Holy One within each of us rise

All: Amen.

enfleshed.com

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 Commissioning of the Community

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us go from our prayers to proclaim the good news.

The Blessing

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Final Hymn (CP 330)

Laudate Dominum

- 1. O praise ye the Lord! Give praise in the height;
rejoice in God's Word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him in brightness arrayed.**
- 2. O praise ye the Lord! Give praise upon earth;
in tuneful accord, give thanks for new birth;
praise God who hath brought you all grace from above,
praise God who hath taught you the pathways of love.**
- 3. O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, God's glory proclaim in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what God hath done.**
- 4. O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
be ever outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

Text: Psalm 150; para. Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.

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

Readings for The 10th Sunday after Pentecost – August 9th

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 The saga of Joseph, favoured son of Jacob, begins with the circumstances leading to his brothers rejecting him and Joseph's subsequent journey to Egypt.
Psalms 105:1-6, 16-22, 45c With grateful recollection, the story of God's great deeds are retold, including verses about Joseph.
Romans 10:5-15 Through faith, God's word becomes articulate within us, and we in turn articulate the faith that saves us.
Matthew 14:22-33 The story of Jesus walking on the water, a story of faith and endurance, presents Peter as an enthusiast without staying power at a critical moment.

The Special Blue Envelope for August is for Refugees.

This envelope is designated for the support of refugee families assisted by the Church of St. John the Divine.

Evensong - will be livestreamed from the church at 7:30pm on
Sunday, August 2nd.

(NB: go to our website or Facebook page to find the stream -
this isn't a 'zoom' service)

The service, about 40 minutes of prayer, chant, and choral music,
will be sung by a small ensemble.

Alastair will be officiating.

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

Joyce	Robyn
Penny	Arnon
Nolan	Karen
Coumba, Mady, Idriss	Anne
David	David, Kate, Laura and their families
Hagos, Tsigay & family	Stanley
Andrew	Harriet
Mavis	Michelle
Kathy	Richard
Alan	Geoffrey
Kristjan and family	Sussex
Sohaila & Fawad	Bradley
Silvanna & family	Robin
James	
Justin	

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: Chris Eve
Associate Warden: Karen Coverett
Treasurer: David Buckman

Parish Council

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

Synod Delegates

Joel Durkovic, Joel Hefty, Bill 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 Dr. Larry Scyner / The Rev'd Jane Reid

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