

The Church of St. John the Divine

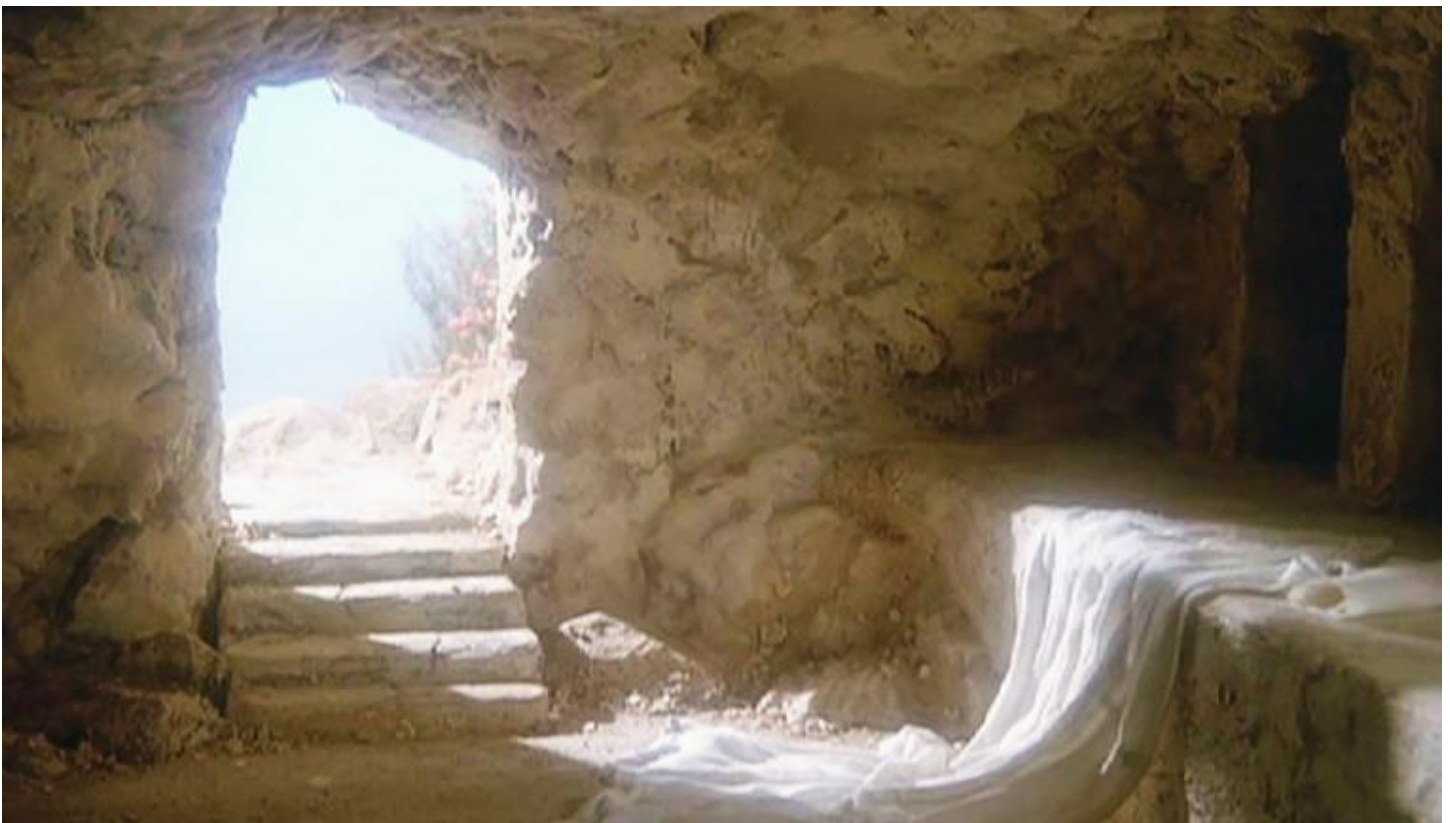
Easter Day

April 12, 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 the 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.

Officiants: The Venerable Alastair McCollum
The Reverend Canon Kevin Arndt
Readers: Catherine Small, Margaret Walker
Richard Routledge

Gospel: The Reverend Patrick Sibley
Sermon: The Venerable Alastair McCollum
Intercessor: Lorraine Gates

The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn (CP 203)



1. Jesus Christ is risen today, *alleluia!*
Our triumphant holy day, *alleluia!*
Who did once, upon the cross, *alleluia!*
Suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia!*
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, *alleluia!*
Unto Christ our heavenly King, *alleluia!*
Who endured the cross and grave, *alleluia!*
Sinners to redeem and save. *Alleluia!*
3. But the pains that he endured, *alleluia!*
Our salvation have procured; *alleluia!*
Now above the sky he's king, *alleluia!*
Where the angels ever sing. *Alleluia!*

Text & Music: EASTER HYMN, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; text alt.

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.

The Easter Anthems

- 1 Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:♦
All: so let us celebrate the feast,
- 2 not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:♦
All: but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5:7b, 8

- 3 Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:♦
All: death has no more dominion over him.
4 In dying he died to sin once for all:♦
All: in living he lives to God.
5 See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:♦
All: and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:9–11

- 6 Christ has been raised from the dead: ♦
All: the first fruits of those who sleep.
7 For as by one came death: ♦
All: by one has come also the resurrection of the dead;
8 for as in Adam all die: ♦
All: even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:20–22

- All: Glory to the Creator and to the Word
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

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, wherever they may be, and however they are continuing
their worship. Bless them, and each of us, in fun and learning, in friendship,
and love. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept

- Lord of life and power,
through the mighty resurrection of your Son,
you have overcome the old order of sin and death
and have made all things new in him.
May we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
reign with him in glory,
who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive,
one God, now and for ever.
All: Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

Acts: 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, * and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory * in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 “The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! * the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”
- 17 I shall not die, but live, * and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, * but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- 20 “This is the gate of the Lord; * he who is righteous may enter.”
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord’s doing, * and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Gospel

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.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Following the sermon there will be a pause for silence.

A recorded anthem may follow here

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I got me flowers to straw Thy way, I got me boughs off many a tree;
But Thou wast up by break of day, And brought'st Thy sweets along with Thee.

The sunne arising in the East, Though he give light, and th' East perfume,
If they should offer to contest With Thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this, Though many sunnes to shine endeavour?
We count three hundred, but we misse: There is but one, and that one ever.

(Recorded at an Evensong in Spring 2019. Text: George Herbert)

Renewal of the Baptism Covenant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water.
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.
Through water you led the children of Israel
out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise.

In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we celebrate our fellowship in him in faith.

We pray that all who have passed through the water of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Dear friends, through the pascal mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us renew the promises we made in baptism, when we promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

All: I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: 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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All: I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All: I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

All: I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

All: I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?

All: I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation,
and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

All: I will, with God's help.

God the creator, the rock of our salvation, has given us new birth by water and
the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, through our Lord
Jesus Christ.

May God keep us faithful to our calling, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit, or kneel as is your custom for prayer.

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.

Almighty God, source of all mercies, we your servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. 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, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves 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 honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The Story of the Eucharist

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.

We give you thanks, loving God, that in the symbols of bread and wine you come to us – reminding us that nothing is sacred or profane but the Divine is found in the ordinary, heaven in the everyday.

As we remember the sharing of Christ's body and blood in Communion may we share a spiritual communion, knowing that we are united with all the saints, with Angels, Archangels and the whole company of heaven in your praise and in your service, now and forever. 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 (NEH 120)

MACCABAEUS (CP 210)



Thine be the glo-ry, ris - en_ con- qu'ring Son: end - less_ is the vic- t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

- 1. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won,
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.***
- 2. Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing.
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:
*Thine be the glory...***
- 3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is nought without thee: Aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:
*Thine be the glory...***

Text: French, Edmond Louis Budry (1854-1932); tr. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939).
Music: George Frederic Handel (1685-1759).

Our coffee hour will take place 15 minutes after the service has finished, continuing here in our zoom meeting – bring your own champagne, coffee or similar.



SOUL SPACE

Things to nourish our spiritual journey

Easter Sunday, 1985

*To take steps toward the reappearance alive of the disappeared is a subversive act,
and measures will be adopted to deal with it.*

—General Oscar Mejia Victores, President of Guatemala

In the Palace of the President this morning,
The General is gripped by the suspicion
That those who were disappeared will be returning
In a subversive act of resurrection.

Why do you worry? The disappeared can never
Be brought back from wherever they were taken;
The age of miracles is gone forever;
These are not sleeping, nor will they awaken.

And if some tell you Christ once reappeared
Alive, one Easter morning, that he was seen—
Give them the lie, for who today can find him?

He is perhaps with those who were disappeared,
Broken and killed, flung into some ravine
With his arms safely wired up behind him.

-Charles Martin

XV Easter Dawn

He blesses every love which weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled, or leave her love's
Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question 'Why,
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply
'They took my love away, my day is night'
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

Malcolm Guite

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 Bansgrove, David Buckman, Carol Denton, Marguerite Heppell,
Penny Holt, Erin Kelly, Bill Williamson

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
Associate Priest: The Rev'd Grant Crosswell
Deacon: The Rev'd Patrick Sibley

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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