

# The Church of St. John the Divine

*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

*April 26, 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.

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***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](mailto: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

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

**Officiant:** The Venerable Alastair McCollum

**Intercessor:** Lorraine Gates

**Readers:** Sarah Kell, Patrick Ryan

**Zoom Technician:** Karen Coverett

**Gospel:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley

**Music:** David Stratkauskas (organist),

**Sermon:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Kyla Fradette (MacRae Choral Scholar)

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## The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn (CP 237)

Noel Nouvelet

- 1. Now of the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 2. In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 4. While we are divided, frightened and alone,  
still this new life beckons, we are yet God's own,  
Listen! Hope's singing with sweet notes serene:  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.**
- 5. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again like wheat arising green.**

Text: John M.C. Crum (1872-1958), alt.; v. 4 by The Rev. Dr. Ellen Clark-King (2020), used with permission.

Music: Melody – French (15<sup>th</sup> cent.) © 1928 Oxford University Press.

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## 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.**

## 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*

O God,

your Son made himself known to his disciples  
in the breaking of bread.

Open the eyes of our faith,

that we may see him in his redeeming work,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

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## The Proclamation of the Word

### The First Reading

Acts: 2:14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:  
Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him  
both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the  
other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be  
baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be  
forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for  
you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our  
God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them,  
saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his  
message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things he has done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his servants.

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

## The Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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 Luke.

**All: Glory to you, O Christ.**

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

*Following the sermon there will be a pause for silence.*

### Hymn Meditation This Joyful Eastertide

1. **This joyful Eastertide,  
Away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified,  
Hath sprung to life this morrow.  
*Had Christ, that once was slain,  
Ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.***
2. **My flesh in hope shall rest,  
And for a season slumber:  
Till trump from east to west  
Shall wake the dead in number.  
*Had Christ, that once...***
3. **Death's flood hath lost his chill,  
Since Jesus cross'd the river  
Lover of souls, from ill  
My passing soul deliver.  
*Had Christ, that once...***

Text: Dutch / Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926).

## Prayers of the People

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

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## 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.**

Here 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.**

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# 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 64)

Rhosymedre

- 1. Author of life divine,  
who hast a table spread,  
furnished with mystic wine  
and everlasting bread.  
preserve the life thyself hast given,  
preserve the life thyself hast given,  
and feed and train us up for heaven.**
- 2. Our needy souls sustain  
with fresh supplies of love,  
till all thy life we gain,  
and all thy fulness prove,  
and, strengthened by thy perfect grace,  
and, strengthened by thy perfect grace,  
behold without a veil thy face.**

Text: John Wesley (1703-1791).  
Music: John David Edwards (1806-1885).

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

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

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# 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, 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  
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

1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2L5 Tel. 250-383-7169 / Fax 250-381-3573  
pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca or **for urgent calls only**, use 778-678-6873  
www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca facebook.com/St.JohnVicBC  
twitter.com/StJohnVicBC e-mail: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca