

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Christmas Day

December 25, 2019

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.

If our service seems unfamiliar, please follow the cues from our leaflet, the ministers leading the service and those around you. Most of our Sunday morning worship services have the Eucharist, or Holy Communion, at the heart of our worship – please feel free to join us, whatever your tradition, in the sharing of bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available: Please indicate if you need one.

Within the Anglican Church of Canada (under the advice of the Primate and the Chief Medical Officer for Canada) we would ask that bread is not dipped into the wine, as this has the potential to spread infection in a way that the sharing of the cup does not. If you would prefer not to share the cup then receiving only bread is considered 'full communion' (also known as 'Communion in One Kind').

If there is anything that you wish to talk about, please do take the opportunity to talk to the worship leaders, ministers and other members of the congregation following the service. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Healing Prayer group in the south Quadra entrance who would be happy to pray with you as the Holy Communion is shared.

After our service we usually share coffee and an opportunity to get to know one another, in the Church Hall – through the door on the front left hand side. We have many visitors and newcomers here so please make yourself known to folks as you feel comfortable.

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.

Presider: The Venerable Alastair McCollum **Intercessor:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Deacon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley **Audio:** Doug Adderley

Reader: Lorraine Gates **Verger:** Chuck Neilson

Sermon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley **Music:** The Community Choir of St. John the Divine

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (CP 155)

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

GLORIA (CP 365)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God the Creator,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem,
may the light of faith
illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is 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

Isaiah 9:2-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.



Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. **Refrain**

Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

Refrain

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary! **Refrain**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Refrain

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." **Refrain**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. **Refrain**

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth. **Refrain**

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Before the Gospel



Choir or cantor: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.



God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Following the Address there will be a pause for silence.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through whom all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

Please stand.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN (CP 143)

REGENT SQUARE

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Generous Creator,
in faith and joy
we celebrate the birth of your Son.
Increase our understanding and our love
of the riches you have revealed in him,
who is Lord now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Prayer 3, Book of Alternative Services

Priest: The Lord be with you. *All:* And al-so with you. *Priest:* Lift up your hearts. *All:* We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth,
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh

you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of salvation
in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Now with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
we lift our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS (CP 735)

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,
“Take, 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.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: We re-mem-ber his death, we pro-claim his res-ur-rec-tion,
we a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ

and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.



All: A - men, A - men, A - - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world

**All: God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

All are invited to receive communion. Please follow the Greeters' instructions. Receiving bread or wine is considered full communion. It is the practice of the ACC not to dip the bread into the wine. 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 to a communion station 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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Torches, torches, run with torches; All the way to Bethlehem!
Christ is born and now lies sleeping; Come and sing your song to Him!
Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby; Ah, Roro, my love, Roro;
Sleep you well, my heart's own darling; While we sing you our Rorro
Sing, my friends, and make you merry; Joy and mirth and joy again;
Lo, He lives, the King of heaven; Now and evermore. Amen.

Text: J. B. Trend (from the Galician) / Music: John Joubert (1927-2019).

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION (NEH 40)

GREENSLEEVES

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Source of truth and joy,
may we who have received the gift of divine life
always follow the way of your Son.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

THE BLESSING

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing...

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN (CP 138)

MENDELSSOHN

VOLUNTARY

You are invited to be seated for the Voluntary or to leave at this point.

Poinsettias – Given to the Glory of God

in memory of

Our parents, The Hutchinsons and Sylwesters
 Loved ones and friends
 My parents
 Family & friends
 Our parents, Bob & Vi McLaren, and Stewart & Ruth Bothwell
 My parents, John & Doris Erickson
 Altaire
 Charles M. MacLeod & Evelyn E. L. MacLeod
 Ian Hay
 Claire Minkley
 Hélène Nadeau
 Our Parents – Herb & Ruth Zenger and Hugh & Betty McCaw
 Our parents – Jim Reid, Ava Jane Nelson & Dan Sudbeck
 Jim & Isabelle Smith
 Alice & Bill Denson. We fondly remember the happy times we enjoyed together.
 Remembering Grahame Baker and all the wonderful Christmases we celebrated together.
 Marguerite & Harold Henrikson and Betty & Tom Melville
 Rex
 Mum and Dad
 George Pollard & Jean Radtke Pollard
 My parents, Frank & Evelyn Mayers
 My parents and grandparents
 May Kemp
 Ann Wilson
 Loved family members
 Florence Reid
 To Absent Friends
 Ron Martin
 Robert Kendrick
 Our parents, George & Phil Dagger and Harry & Florence Jenkins

from

John & Jean Sylwester
 Doug & Val Adderley
 Elizabeth McAuley
 Elizabeth McAuley
 John & Ann McLaren
 Diane Erickson
 Ted & Vorna Butler
 Robin MacLeod
 The family
 Hilary Punnett
 Daniel, Ruth, Luc, Paul & Camryn
 Michael & Carol-Ann Zenger
 Judith Reid & Scott Sudbeck
 Rhoda Brodie-Smith
 The Baker Family

 With love, and appreciation for all those memories, Heather & family
 Bruce & Gerry Melville

 Louise Langman
 Louise Langman
 With love from your 3 daughters
 Nancy Peterson
 Nancy Baal
 Valerie Sullivan
 Bill Williamson
 Frank & Joyce Caldwell
 Jane Reid
 Carol Anne Harper
 The Bugslag & Hodgins Families
 Harriet Kendrick
 John & Pat Jenkins

In thanksgiving

For the beauty of St. John's
 For friends and family at Christmas
 For the celebration of the safe arrival of Lladon's twins
 Celebrating the joy of family
 In celebration of being together for Christmas

Esther Chapman
 Susan Mugridge
 TC & Judy Tethong
 Dorothy Chuhran
 Marguerite Heppell

In memory of loved ones - from

Marilyn Moody
 Enid Luneburg
 Margaret Walker
 Barbara Jenks
 Kingsley & Pat Payne

Sylvia Calder
 Susan Powell
 Douwe & Jessie Bosma
 Sandy & Shelley Cotton



FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Main 1 in celebration of 50 years of marriage, Al & Karyn Lehmann.

Main 2 in thankfulness for all God's blessings, from Barb Martin.

Lectern in memory of absent loved ones, from Judith Branion.

Good is the Flesh

Good is the flesh that the Word has become,
good is the birthing, the milk in the breast,
good is the feeding, caressing and rest,
good is the body for knowing the world,
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Good is the body for knowing the world,
sensing the sunlight, the tug of the ground,
feeling, perceiving, within and around,
good is the body, from cradle to grave,
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Good is the body, from cradle to grave,
growing and aging, arousing, impaired,
happy in clothing, or lovingly bared,
good is the pleasure of God in our flesh,
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Good is the pleasure of God in our flesh,
longing in all, as in Jesus, to dwell,
glad of embracing, and tasting, and smell,
good is the body, for good and for God,
Good is the flesh that the Word has become.

Brian Wren

Regular Sunday Services at St. John the Divine

8:00 a.m. ❖ Holy Communion

A quiet, spoken service in the chapel using the 17th-century language of the Book of Common Prayer, with sermon and Communion.

10:00 a.m. ❖ Parish Eucharist

The main weekly service, with sermon, congregational singing supported by our large pipe organ, choral music, and Communion.

7:30 p.m. (First Sunday of the month) ❖ Choral Evensong

The ancient evening service of the Anglican Church, with readings, chant, prayer, and choral music.



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

STEWARDS

People's Warden: Graeme Brown
Associate Warden: Joan Huzar
Envelope Secretary: Jim Harlick

Rector's Warden: Chris Eve
Associate Warden: Karen Coverett
Treasurer: David Buckman

PARISH COUNCIL

David Buckman, Carol Denton, Marguerite Heppell, Penny Holt, Elizabeth McAuley

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 Croswell
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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