

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

The First Eucharist of Christmas

10:30 pm, December 24, 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.

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.

10:30 pm First Eucharist of Christmas

MINISTERING THROUGH LITURGY

Presider: The Reverend Grant Croswell

Deacon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Sermon: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

Readers: Chris Eve, Muriel Ryan

Intercessor: Jamie Lawson

Verger: Kelly Somogyi

Sacristan: Iris Elsdon

Crucifer: Susanna Peterson

Servers: Penny Holt, Emmett Hodgins,
Geoffrey Harper, Sarah Kell

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Judith Reid,
Susan Fraser, Al Lehmann, Susan McCabe,
Barbara Martin

Greeters: Susan Powell, Jordan Archibald

Musicians: The Choristers of St. John the Divine;
Emily Redhead and Hanna Crudele, violins;
Martin Bohnham, cello; David Stratkauskas,
Director of Music

Mass Setting: *Missa Brevis S. Joannis de Deo (Kleine Orgelmesse)*, J. Haydn (1732-1809)

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

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

A welcome is given by the Rector, after which you are invited to prepare for worship while a short choral introit is sung by the choir.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Minister: Blessed are you, loving God, creator of the Universe,

All: For you have made all things, and love your creation.

Minister: Gracious God, you have made light and dark, day and night, we give thanks for the wholeness of your life. We remember that in light things are clearer, and in darkness we may learn to trust in you and celebrate your mystery.

All: For darkness and light are the same to you.

As these Advent lights remind us of the light brought to us from our history, and our welcome into your Church in baptism, we pray that we too may be people of light and life.

You are God through all time – who in Jesus, the Christ, made yourself known through acts of love and healing, and through declarations of the justice and truth of God's reign of peace and wholeness. As we now light this Christ candle, may we know you in this time and in this place as the God of now and of always, God of promise, and God of hope.

Minister: Blessed are you, loving God, creator of the Universe,

All: For you have made all things, and love your creation.

The procession stops at the Crèche.

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ,
let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son,
born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father, on this night your Son Jesus Christ
was born of the Virgin Mary for healing and salvation;
bless this crib which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;
may all who see it be strengthened in faith,
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring;
who is alive and reigns for ever.

All: Amen.

Common Worship: Times and Seasons

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

GLORIA *(sung by the choir)*

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra
pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris,
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus.
Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus Altissimus, Iesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu,
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace
to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks
for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, only-begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sin of the world:
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS

Eternal God,
this holy night is radiant
with the brilliance of your one true light.
As we have known
the revelation of that light on earth,
bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive 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 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL

ANTIOCH

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.' Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God,

your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN (CP 121)

FOREST GREEN

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

Before the Gospel

Cantor: Al - le - lu - ia. All: Al - le - lu - ia.

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

All: Al - le - lu - ia.

God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Good News of Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated for:

THE SERMON

Following the Sermon there will be a pause for Silence.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please stand, as able; the choir sings the ancient words of the Nicene Creed.

Credo in unum Deum. Patrem omnipotentem,
factorem caeli et terrae,
visibilium omnium et invisibilium.
Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Filium Dei
unigenitum, Et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum
de Deo vero Genitum, non factum,
consubstantialem Patri
per quem omnia facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines et propter nostram salutem
descendit de caelis:

Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto
ex Maria Virgine Et homo factus est:
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato:
passus, et sepultus est.

Et resurrexit tertia die, secundum scripturas.
Et ascendit in caelum:
sedet ad dexteram Patris.
Et iterum venturus est cum gloria iudicare
vivos et mortuos: Cujus regni non erit finis.
Et in Spiritum sanctum Dominum, et vivificantem:
Qui ex Patre, Filioque procedit. Qui cum
Patre, et Filio simul adoratur,
et conglorificatur: Qui locutus est per Prophetas.
Et unam, sanctam, catholicam
et apostolicam Ecclesiam. Confiteor
unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum
Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum
Et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.

*We believe in one God, the Father 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 him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:*

*By the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from 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

Please stand, sit or kneel.

THE PEACE

Please stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

During the hymn, bread and wine are brought to the Altar and a collection will be taken.

OFFERTORY HYMN

CRANHAM

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Please remain standing.

Source of light and gladness,
accept all we offer on this joyful feast.
May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours;
for he is Lord now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Prayer 3, Book of Alternative Services

The_ Lord be___ with_ you. **All: And al-so with you.** 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 (sung by the choir)

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Osanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

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.

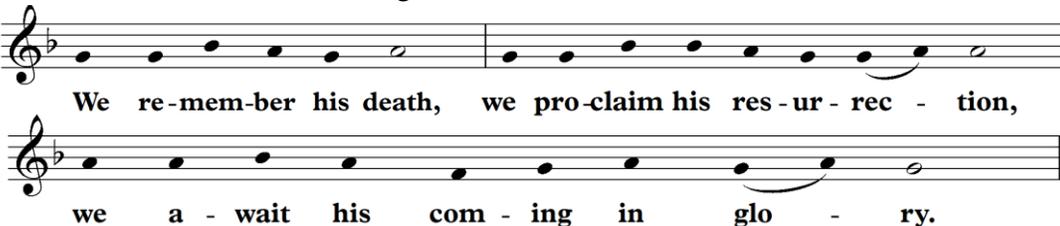
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

Ambrosian Chant

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 *(sung by the choir)*

BENEDICTUS AND AGNUS DEI

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Osanna in excelsis.

*Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.*

ANTHEM

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone. Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak
midwinter long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain—Heav'n and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign. In the bleak mid-winter, a stable place sufficed the Lord God
Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breast full of milk, and a
manger full of hay. Enough for him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and
camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb. If I were a
wise man I should do my part. Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

Text: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894).
Music: Harold Darke (1888-1976)

At the end of communion, hand candles will be lit. Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (CP 119)

STILLE NACHT

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Creator of all,
tonight you have united earth and heaven
in sending your Son to take our human nature.
May we who have tasted heavenly things
share in the life of his eternal kingdom.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our 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 118)

ADESTE, FIDELES

VOLUNTARY Toccata - Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

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

Christmas Services

December 25 10:00 am Holy Communion for Christmas Day (BAS)

Epiphany Services

January 5 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10:00 am Parish Eucharist (BAS), & Chalking of the Doors
 7:30 pm Epiphany Evensong

Christmas Office Hours

Closed: December 25th thru January 1st
Normal office hours resume Thursday, January 2nd 9:00 am – 12 Noon



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.

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

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

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 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

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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