

# The Church of St. John the Divine

*The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

*April 25, 2021*

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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Window in The Church of St. John the Divine, Victoria, BC

***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.

***Worship in a time of COVID-19*** : In these times when we must be careful in any gathering we have, appropriate protocols are in place. For the time being due to the instructions from the Provincial Health Officer we will be meeting virtually on Zoom and the services are also Live-streamed. Please check our website on how to attend: [stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/](http://stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/) or contact [admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca)

We will continue to livestream the weekly service of Evensong.

We continue to share daily prayer online with a link on our website daily.

**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 responses and prayers marked in bold print.*

**Presider:** The Venerable Alastair McCollum

**Intercessor:** Sarah Kell

**Reader:** Virginia Miller

**Streaming Technician:** Karen Coverett

**Gospel:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley

**Cantor:** Dahlia Adamson

**Sermon:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley

**Setting:** *The Oratory Mass* – Matthew Martin

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## The Gathering of the Community

Prelude

Welcome to all who are gathering online.

The Church Family Prayer

Loving God,  
**All: you have called us to be your family  
and to celebrate our life together in worship.  
We pray now, for all members of our family  
as we gather in our church buildings, our homes, and online.  
Through your spirit keep us united in love.  
Bless each of us with your beloved friendship.  
Teach us, gracious God,  
how to be your church in these times.  
Help us to know that we are your people,  
that we are your Family, always. Amen.**

Opening Hymn (CP 237)

NOËL NOUVELET

- 1. Now 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. **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. © 1928 Oxford University Press.  
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May Christ's grace and peace be with you.

**All: May God fill our hearts with joy.**

## Gloria

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 sins of the world, have mercy upon us,  
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer,  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon 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 of the Day

*Silence is kept.*

Lord of the sheepfold,  
whose love is not for hire:  
we thank you that Christ laid down his life for us  
when we could not help ourselves.  
Give us strength to work for peace  
in the world he came to serve;  
through the same Jesus Christ, the good shepherd.

**All: Amen.**

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

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# The Proclamation of the Word

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

## The First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you  
have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and  
I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Gospel  
Before the Gospel

John 10:11-18

*Cantor:* Alleluia. I am the good shepherd, says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

God is with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

Hear the Good news of Jesus Christ according to John.

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

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason, the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

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


## Affirmation of Faith



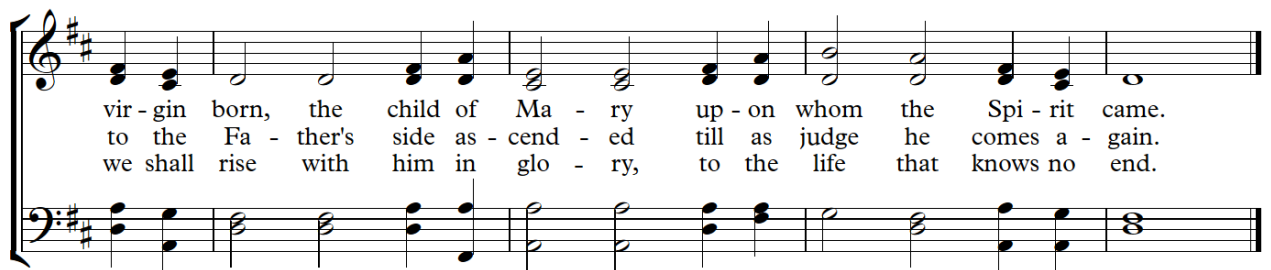
1. We be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, God al - migh - ty, by whose plan  
2. Christ, who on the cross for - sa - ken, like a lamb to slaugh - ter led,  
3. We be - lieve in God the Spi - rit; in one Church, be - low, a - bove:



earth and heav - en sprang to be - ing, all cre - at - ed things be - gan.  
suf - fered un - der Pon tius Pi - late, he de - scend - ed to the dead.  
saints of God in one com - mu - nion, one in ho - li - ness and love.



We be - lieve in Christ the Sa - viour, Son of God in hu - man frame,  
We be - lieve in Je - sus ri - sen, hea ven's king to rule and reign,  
So by faith, our sins for - giv - en, Christ our Sa - viour, Lord and friend,



vir - gin born, the child of Ma - ry up - on whom the Spi - rit came.  
to the Fa - ther's side as - cend - ed till as judge he comes a - gain.  
we shall rise with him in glo - ry, to the life that knows no end.

Text: T. Dudley-Smith © 1993 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.

Music: NETTLETON, trad. American.

## Prayers of the People

*Those who have asked for our prayers are listed at the end of the leaflet.*

## The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.*

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## The Celebration of the Eucharist

### Offertory Motet

Meinem Hirten bleib ich treu - J. S. Bach

Meinem Hirten bleib ich treu.  
Will er mir den Kreuzkelch füllen,  
Ruh ich ganz in seinem Willen,  
Er steht mir im Leiden bei.  
Es wird dennoch, nach dem Weinen,  
Jesu Sonne wieder scheinen.  
Meinem Hirten bleibe ich treu.  
Jesu leb ich, der wird walten,  
Freu dich, Herz, du sollst erkalten,  
Jesus hat genug getan.  
Amen: Vater, nimm mich an!

*I stay faithful to my shepherd.  
Though he fills the cup of suffering for me,  
I rest completely in his will,  
he stands by me in sorrows.  
For after my weeping  
the sun of Jesus will shine again.  
I stay faithful to my shepherd.  
I live for Jesus, who will rule over me,  
Rejoice, my heart, [though] you must grow cold [in death]  
Jesus has done enough.  
Amen: Father, take me!*

### The Prayer over the Gifts

*In the name of all of us gathered, near and far, we present these our gifts to God.*

Let us pray:

God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd.

**All: Amen.**

The Book of Alternative Services



*As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist, we remember that we are the people of God. Near or far we are gathered together by the love of Christ. We remember that we are incorporated into the body of Christ. We join together in this celebration of our union in Christ.*

Let us pray.

Thanks be to you,

**All:** Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given us, and all that you have borne for us. In our sharing in this Eucharist, in Church or at home, 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. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving

## Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 2

*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;  
for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
for he is the true paschal lamb  
who has taken away the sin of the world.  
By his death he destroyed death,  
and by his rising to life again  
he has won for us eternal life.

Therefore, joining our voices  
with the whole company of heaven,  
we sing our joyful hymn of praise  
to proclaim the glory of your name.

## Sanctus

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

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

Blessed are you, O Holy One:  
when Hagar was driven into the wilderness  
you followed her and gave her hope.  
When Joseph was sold into bondage,  
you turned malice to your people's good.  
When you called Israel out of slavery,  
you brought them through the wilderness  
into the promised land.  
When your people were taken into exile  
you wept with them by the river of Babylon  
and carried them home.

**All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!**

At the right time you sent your Anointed One  
to stand with the poor,  
the outcast, and the oppressed.  
Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.  
He accepted water from a woman of Samaria  
and offered her the water of new life.  
Christ knew the desolation of the cross  
and opened the way for all humanity  
into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed,  
Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,  
gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."  
Loving and Holy One,  
recalling Christ's death and resurrection,  
we offer you these gifts,  
longing for the bread of tomorrow  
and the wine of the age to come.

Therefore we proclaim our hope.

**All: Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts  
that through them you may sustain us  
in our hunger for your peace.

We hold before you  
all whose lives are marked by suffering,  
our sisters and brothers.

When we are broken and cast aside,  
embrace us in your love.

**All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!**

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours,  
O Source of all life,  
now and for ever.



**All: A men A - men A - men.**

## 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 Breaking of the Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**All: Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

**All: Now we share in your resurrection.**

Live in us, that we may live in you.

## The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

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

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## The Commissioning of the Community

One body are we.

**All: For, though we are in many places, we spiritually share one bread.**

## Prayer after Communion

God of steadfast love,

watch over the Church redeemed by the blood of your Son.

May we who share in these holy mysteries

come safely to your eternal kingdom,

where there is one flock and one shepherd.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

**All: Amen.**

The Book of Alternative Services

## Blessing

## Dismissal

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

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

1. **Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
    alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
2. **The Lord of life is risen today!  
Sing songs of praise along his way;  
let the earth rejoice and say:  
    alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
3. **Praise we in songs of victory  
that love, that life which cannot die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high:  
    alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
4. **Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing today with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored:  
    alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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Please stay and join us for our Zoom Coffee Hour.



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## Readings for May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Acts 8:26-40** The impact of the Easter faith reaches remote Ethiopia.

**Psalms 22:24-30** The conclusion of the same psalm read on Good Friday gives thanks for God's faithful love of all peoples.

**1 John 4:7-21** There is to be mutual love among Christians, for God is love.

**John 15:1-8** The organic relationship between God, Christ, and believers is metaphorically represented in Jesus' discourse about the vine and branches.

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## EVENSONG

### Every Sunday – sung by a small ensemble of Choral Scholars

Evensong is a contemplative, musical and prayerful liturgy, ideally suited to the end of the week and the close of day, and to this current time when we have been asked to avoid congregational singing, but still long for the depth and beauty of a choral liturgy.

Evensong will be livestreamed on the church Facebook page and available via the website [www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](http://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca)

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### The following people have asked for our prayers.

Please keep them in your heart and mind as you go through your week.

Hagos, Tsigay & family	Anne	Philip & Lisa
Rhoda	Carolyn	Nicholas
Patrick	Elsie	Derek
Helen	Anthony	David & Pat
Gary	Lorraine	Richard
Deborah	Marion	Blanche
Cathy	John	Asher
Linda	Bill	Jessie
Edna	Courtney	Judith

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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: Michael King  
Associate Warden: Karen Coverett  
Treasurer: David Buckman

## Parish Council

Susan Bangrove, Carol Denton, Marguerite Heppell,  
Erin Kelly, Miles Motture, Wendy Suddaby

## Synod Delegates

Karen Coverett, Joel Hefty, Bill Huzar, Joan 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  
Vocational Intern: Dr. John Thatamanil

## Honorary Assistants

The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody / The Rev'd Canon Andrew Gates

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