

# St. John the Divine Anglican Church



Sunday November 15th, 2020  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Service of the Word

We gather on the unceded territory of the Squamish Nation

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Diocese of New Westminster  
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

*Take a deep breath.  
And again.*

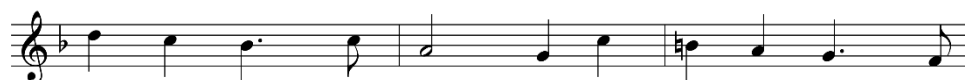
***The Gathering of the Community***

Leader	The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all
All:	<b>And also with you.</b>
Leader	Let us pray.
All	<b>We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen</b>
Leader	Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.
All	<b>Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.</b>
Leader	Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. <b>Amen</b>
Leader	May the Peace of God be with you.
All	<b>And also with you.</b>

# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



1. God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, From your  
2. Skills and time are ours for press - ing Toward the  
3. Treas - ure, too, you have en - trust - ed, Gain through



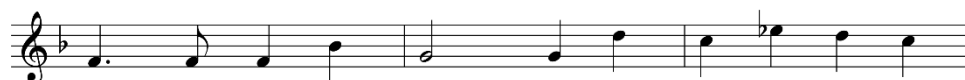
rich and end - less store: Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus'  
goals of Christ, your Son: All at peace in health and  
pow'rs your grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and



wis - dom, Cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered  
free - dom, Rac - es joined, the Church made  
kin - dred, And to spread the Gos - pel



door, Gift - ed by you, we turn to you, Of - f'ring  
one. Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, Lest we  
Word. O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, As we



up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful song shall rise for -  
strive for self a - lone; Born with tal - ents, make us  
heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing, teach - ing, and re -



ev - er, Gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
ser - vants Fit to an - swer at your throne.  
claim - ing, Serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, b.1915, © 1961, 1989, The Hymn Society of America (Administered by Hope Publishing Co.)  
Tune: RUSTINGTON, 8 7 8 7 D; Charles H. H. Parry, 1848-1918

## The Collect of the Day

Opening Prayers (1997) alt.

O God, from whose abundance all gifts and skills are lavishly bestowed: give us courage to use our talents as generously as you have given them, so that, being faithful to your purpose, we may share in your glory; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

## The Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading: Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Haroshethhagoiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgement. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

### Psalms 123

To you I lift up my eyes,  
    **to you enthroned in the heavens.**  
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,  
    **and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,**  
So our eyes look to the Lord our God,  
    **until he show us his mercy.**  
Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,  
    **for we have had more than enough of contempt,**  
Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,  
    **and of the derision of the proud.**

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

**Acclamation:** Ev'ry Day Is a Day of Thanksgiving

More Voices #185

Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.  
God, you've been so good to me.  
Ev'ry day you're blessing me.  
Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.  
I will glorify you, O my Lord, today!  
You keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.  
You opened the door that I might see, you're blessing me.  
And you keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.  
I will glorify you, O my Lord, today!

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**Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two

more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

## Sermon

### The Apostle's Creed

Leader      Let us confess our faith as we say,

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

**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.**

**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. Amen**

### **The Prayers of the People**

**Offertory Hymn:** We Are Watching You

Jason Wood

I lift my eyes to you  
O God, enthroned above  
I keep looking to my God for mercy  
I keep looking to my God for mercy

### Chorus

We are watching You (3x)  
As a servant seeks her queen  
We are watching you (3x)  
As a slave waits for his king  
To come

Have mercy, Lord, have mercy  
We have had our fill  
There's only so much scoffing we can take  
There's only so much scoffing we can take

(To come)...We are watching You (3x)  
(To come) As a servant seeks her queen  
(To come) We are watching you (3x)  
(To come) As a slave waits for his king  
(To come) As a slave waits for his king

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[squamishanglicanchurch.ca/pages/donatetostjohn-the-divine-squamish](http://squamishanglicanchurch.ca/pages/donatetostjohn-the-divine-squamish)

Leader All	Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us, <b>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</b>
Leader All	Glory to God <b>whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen</b>
Leader All	May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. <b>Amen.</b>



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## **St. John the Divine Prayers for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **The Church**

St. Hilda, Sechelt - The Reverend Ayoob Adwar, The Venerable Bruce Morris

St. Clement, North Vancouver - The Reverend Philippa Segrave-Pride, The Reverend Elizabeth Mathers, The Reverend Peggy Trendell-Jensen

The Deanery of Oakridge – The Reverend Marion Wong, Regional Dean

St. John the Divine Squamish – The Reverend Cameron Gutjahr

### **Immediate Prayer Requests**

Jessica, Muriel, Susan, Eleanor, Lori, The Howe Sound Women's Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Anne Hildreth.  
We pray for the repose of the soul of Miriam MacDonald.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care professionals, researchers and emergency personnel.

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## Rector's Reflection

As I reflect on stewardship this week, I am drawn to our first reading about Deborah from the book of Judges. Judges tells of a time from before the period of kings for the community of Yahweh-worshippers, when the people of Israel were less united – a looser confederation of 12 tribes. Judges is the story of a people who, in times of trouble, had raised up for them, by God, a judge. These are not judges as we know them today, but leaders, who had what was needed for the time.

However, this story is bigger than just the book of Judges. I think that in some ways it is one of *the* stories that we receive from the witness of the Scriptures. From the beginning to the end of the Bible we hear story after story of people, called, lifted up by God, because God is fundamentally collaborative; because God has decided not to do this work alone.

Sometimes the people raised up might not make sense to us, they might seem deeply flawed, or not have what it takes, or not have it all together. Sometimes the people being raised up that makes no sense to us is us, is you.

God is calling your name; God is raising you up to work together.

Stewardship is about responding to that call.

Stop and listen. Feel God's hand cradling you, lifting you up. Hear God's voice saying, "you, yes you. I believe in you; I have chosen you; It won't be the same without you."

Will you say yes?

Thanks be to God!

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