



**Jan 10, 2021 | The Baptism of Christ**

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**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**Church of St. John the Divine**

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## St. John's acknowledges these ancestral lands of the Lekwungen speaking people.

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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.

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.

### Worship in a time of COVID-19

In these times of COVID-19, appropriate protocols are in place. For the time being due to the instructions from the Provincial Health Officer in-person attendance at services is not possible.

**The Sunday morning service** will be held virtually on Zoom. Please check our website on how to attend: <https://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca> or contact [admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca)

**Sunday Evensong** will continue livestreamed weekly on the church website and Facebook pages.

**Daily prayer online** is shared daily with a link on our website.

**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.

### Assisting with tonight's Liturgy

**Officiant:** The Rev'd Patrick Sibley

**Music:** Choral and Organ Scholars of the Church of St. John the Divine

**Videographer:** Karen Coverett

### A note about language

*In our worship, we use language which is poetic and filled with metaphor and wonder – realising that any language about God is limited. We use some ancient words which may seem odd, or may seem to refer to God as male, or in terms which elsewhere we might not choose to use. The poetry and the metaphor are there not to restrict or define our understanding of God, but to remind us that our words are never enough to talk about the Divine: instead we use the beauty of the words and music in our worship to help us glimpse just a little of the God beyond all words.*

*Listed music is subject to substitution in the event of changes of personnel or situation.*

**COVER IMAGE: Zenka, Dave. Baptism of Christ**, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56385> [retrieved January 8, 2021]. Original source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Baptism-of-Christ.jpg>

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

## Organ prelude

## The Responses

*Music: Joanna Forbes L'estrange (b. 1971)*

*Cantor:* O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Choir:* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*Cantor:* O God, make speed to save us.

*Choir:* O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

## Psalm

*Psalm 46*

1 God is our hope and strength \* a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved \* and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.

3 Though the waters thereof rage and swell \* and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.

4 The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God \* the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.

5 God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed \* God shall help her, and that right early.

6 The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved \* but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.

7 The Lord of hosts is with us \* the God of Jacob is our refuge.

8 O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord \* what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.

9 He maketh wars to cease in all the world \* he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire.

10 Be still then, and know that I am God \* I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.

11 The Lord of hosts is with us \* the God of refuge. Jacob is our

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## First Lesson

*Isaiah 42.1-9*

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

## Magnificat

*Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music: William Byrd (1543-1623).*

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and the meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Second Lesson

*Text: Matthew 3.13-17*

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

## Nunc Dimittis

*Text: Luke 2:29-32. Music: Byrd*

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou has prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Apostles' Creed

**All: I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

## Responses, Lord's Prayer, and Collects

*Cantor:* The Lord be with you;

*Choir:* And with thy spirit.

*Cantor:* Let us pray.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

*Cantor:* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

*Choir:* And grant us thy salvation.

*Cantor:* O Lord, save the Queen;

*Choir:* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Cantor:* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

*Choir:* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Cantor:* O Lord, save thy people;

*Choir:* And bless thine inheritance.

*Cantor:* Give peace in our time, O Lord;

*Choir:* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

*Cantor:* O God, make clean our hearts within us;

*Choir:* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

*First Collect, of the day:*

O HEAVENLY FATHER, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ did take our nature upon him, and was baptised for our sakes in the river Jordan: Mercifully grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may also be partakers of thy Holy Spirit; through him whom thou didst send to be our Saviour and Redeemer, even the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Second Collect, for Peace:*

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

*Third Collect, for Aid Against All Perils:*

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Anthem

*Text: English trad.; Music: John Gardner. (1917-2011)*

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance  
to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance:

*Sing, O my love, O my love, my love, my love;  
this have I done for my true love.*

Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance;  
thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance:

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor this was my chance,  
betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance:

Then afterwards baptised I was; the Holy Ghost on me did glance,  
my Father's voice heard from above, to call my true love to my dance:

## Intercessions

## Response to the Prayers

*Text and music: traditional African-American*

Deep river, my home is over Jordan.  
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.  
O, don't you want to go to that gospel feast,  
That promised land where all is peace?

## Sermon

### Final Hymn (CP 160)

*Text: G. B. Timms (1910-1997); Music: SOLEMNIS HAEC FESTIVITAS*

The sinless one to Jordan came  
To share our fallen nature's blame;  
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled  
And chose the path his Father willed.

Uprising from the waters there,  
The voice from heaven did witness bear  
That he, the Son of God, had come  
To lead his scattered people home.

Above him see the heavenly Dove,  
The sign of God the Father's love,  
Now by the Holy Spirit shed  
Upon the Son's anointed head.

How blest that mission then begun  
To heal and save a race undone;  
Straight to the wilderness he goes  
To wrestle with his people's foes.

Dear Lord, let those baptized from sin  
Go forth with you, a world to win,  
and send the Holy Spirit's power  
To shield them in temptation's hour.

On you shall all your people feed  
And know you are the Bread indeed,  
Who gives eternal life to those  
That with you died, and with you rose.

### The Blessing or Grace

### Organ Voluntary

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***The Anglican Church of St John the Divine***  
***(Diocese of British Columbia / Anglican Church of Canada)***

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