



**March 14, 2021 | The Fourth Sunday in Lent**

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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 Ven. Alastair Singh-McCollum

**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:** Christ in the House of Simon, by Dieric Bouts, 1440s.

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

## Organ prelude

## The Responses

*Music: Char Hodgkins (2021)*

*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.

*Cantor:* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*Choir:* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Praise ye the Lord.

## Psalm

*Psalm 13*

1 How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord, for ever \*  
how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

2 How long shall I seek counsel in my soul, and be so vexed in my heart \*  
how long shall mine enemies triumph over me?

3 Consider, and hear me, O Lord my God \*  
lighten mine eyes, that I sleep not in death.

4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him \*  
for if I be cast down, they that trouble me will rejoice at it.

5 But my trust is in thy mercy \*  
and my heart is joyful in thy salvation.

6 I will sing of the Lord, because he hath dealt so lovingly with me \*  
yea, I will praise the Name of the Lord most Highest.

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

Exodus 6.2-13

God also spoke to Moses and said to him: 'I am the Lord. I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name "The Lord" I did not make myself known to them. I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they resided as aliens. I have also heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are holding as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. Say therefore to the Israelites, "I am the Lord, and I will free you from the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgement. I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has freed you from the burdens of the Egyptians. I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the Lord." ' Moses told this to the Israelites; but they would not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and their cruel slavery.

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go and tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the Israelites go out of his land.' But Moses spoke to the Lord, 'The Israelites have not listened to me; how then shall Pharaoh listen to me, poor speaker that I am?' Thus the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, and gave them orders regarding the Israelites and Pharaoh king of Egypt, charging them to free the Israelites from the land of Egypt.

## Magnificat

*Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music, after Amy Beach, by Olivia Sparkhall (b. 1976).*

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 10.16-22*

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

## Nunc Dimittis

*Text: Luke 2:29-32. Music: Amy Beach (1867-1944).*

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.

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:*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*(The Episcopal Church)*

### *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

Christe, adoramus te,  
et benedicimus tibi,  
quia per sanctam crucem tuam  
redemisti mundum.  
Domine, miserere nobis.

*Music: Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)*

*Christ, we adore you  
and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross  
you have redeemed the world.  
Lord, have mercy on us.*

## Intercessions

### Response to the Prayers

*Text: Psalm 119, para. Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

*Music: Alice Parker (b. 1925).*

Thy mercies fill the earth, O Lord, how good thy works appear!  
Open mine eyes to read thy word, and see thy wonders there.  
Since I'm a stanger here below, let not thy path be hid;  
but mark the road my feet should go, and be my constant guide.  
When I confess'd my wand'ring ways, thou heardst my soul complain;  
grant me the teachings of thy grace, or I shall stray again.

## Sermon

*Final hymn and Blessing overleaf.*

## Final Hymn (CP 508)

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Alfred V. Fedak (1953-). © Selah Pub. Inc. Text and Music reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605



A spendthrift lover is the Lord who never counts the cost  
or asks if heaven can afford to woo a world that's lost.  
Our lover tosses coins of gold across the midnight skies  
and stokes the sun against the cold to warm us when we rise

Still more is spent in blood and tears to win the human heart,  
to overcome the violent fears that drive the world apart.  
Behold the bruised and thorn-crowned face of one who bears our scars  
and empties out the wealth of grace that's hinted by the stars

How shall we love this heart-strong God who gives us everything,  
whose ways to us are strange and odd; what can we give or bring?  
Acceptance of the matchless gift is gift enough to give.  
The very act will shake and shift the way we love and live.

## 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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