



April 11, 2021 | The Second Sunday of Easter

CHORAL EVENSONG

Church of St. John the Divine

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

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

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. 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: Stephanie Wood, Assistant Curate

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: Angelico, fra, approximately 1400-1455. Women at the Empty Tomb, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56872> [retrieved April 10, 2021]. Original source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fra_Angelico_-_Resurrection_of_Christ_and_Women_at_the_Tomb_\(Cell_8\)_-_WGA00542.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fra_Angelico_-_Resurrection_of_Christ_and_Women_at_the_Tomb_(Cell_8)_-_WGA00542.jpg).

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ prelude

The Responses

Music: Joanna Forbes l'Estrange

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 143.1-11

- 1 Hear my prayer, O Lord, and consider my desire *
hearken unto me for thy truth and righteousness' sake.
 - 2 And enter not into judgement with thy servant *
for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.
 - 3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground *
he hath laid me in the darkness, as the men that have been long dead.
 - 4 Therefore is my spirit vexed within me *
and my heart within me is desolate.
 - 5 Yet do I remember the time past; I muse upon all thy works *
yea, I exercise myself in the works of thy hands.
 - 6 I stretch forth my hands unto thee *
my soul gaspeth unto thee as a thirsty land.
 - 7 Hear me, O Lord, and that soon, for my spirit waxeth faint *
hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.
 - 8 O let me hear thy loving-kindness betimes in the morning, for in thee is my trust *
shew thou me the way that I should walk in, for I lift up my soul unto thee.
 - 9 Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies *
for I flee unto thee to hide me.
 - 10 Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee, for thou art my God *
let thy loving Spirit lead me forth into the land of righteousness.
 - 11 Quicken me, O Lord, for thy Name's sake *
and for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.
- 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.

On that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:
 We have a strong city; he sets up victory like walls and bulwarks.
 Open the gates, so that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.
 Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace—in peace because they trust in you.
 Trust in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.
 For he has brought low the inhabitants of the height; the lofty city he lays low.
 He lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust.
 The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy.

The way of the righteous is level; O Just One, you make smooth the path of the righteous.
 In the path of your judgements, O Lord, we wait for you;
 your name and your renown are the soul's desire.
 My soul yearns for you in the night, my spirit within me earnestly seeks you.
 For when your judgements are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.
 Your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise. O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy!
 For your dew is a radiant dew, and the earth will give birth to those long dead.

Magnificat

Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music: Philip Moore (b. 1949)

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: Luke 24.1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.' Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Nunc Dimittis

Text: Luke 2:29-32. Music: Moore

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 in the Paschal mystery hast established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through the same 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

Text: George Herbert (1593-1633) Music: Peter Skellern (1947-2017)

I Got me flowers to straw Thy way,
I got me boughs off many a tree;
But Thou wast up by break of day,
And brought'st Thy sweets along with Thee.

The sunne arising in the East,
Though he give light, and th' East perfume,
If they should offer to contest
With Thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this,
Though many sunnes to shine endeavour?
We count three hundred, but we misse:
There is but one, and that one ever.

Intercessions

Response to the Prayers

Text: Edmund Spenser (1552-1599) Music: Alan Wilson (b. 1947)

Most glorious Lord of life that on this day
didst make Thy triumph over death and sin:
and having harrow'd hell, didst bring away
captivity thence captive, us to win;

This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin,
and grant that we for whom Thou diddest die
being with Thy dear blood clean wash'd from sin,
may live for ever in felicity.

And that Thy love we weighing worthily,
may likewise love Thee for the same again:
and for Thy sake that all like dear didst buy,
with love may one another entertain.

So let us love, dear love, like as we ought,
love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Sermon

Final Hymn (NEH 113)

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: SAVANNAH, as given in J. Wesley's Foundery Collection 1742

1 Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won:
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
lo, he sets in blood no more.

2 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell;
death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.

. 3 Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave?

4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to thee by both be given:
thee we greet triumphant now;
hail, the Resurrection Thou!

The Blessing or Grace

Organ Voluntary

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