



June 20, 2021
National Indigenous Day of Prayer

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, Curate

Music: The MacRae Choral Scholars; Emily Markwart, Sutton Organ Scholar;
David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ prelude

The Responses

Music: Margaret Woodley (2019)

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. (The Lord's name be praised.)

Psalm

Psalm 89.1-19

- 1 My song shall be alway of the loving kindness of the Lord * with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth from one generation to another.
- 2 For I have said, Mercy shall be set up for ever * thy truth shalt thou stablish in the heavens.
- 3 I have made a covenant with my chosen * I have sworn unto David my servant;
- 4 Thy seed will I stablish for ever * and set up thy throne from one generation to another.
- 5 O Lord, the very heavens shall praise thy wondrous works * and thy truth in the congregation of the saints.
- 6 For who is he among the clouds * that shall be compared unto the Lord?
- 7 And what is he among the gods * that shall be like unto the Lord?
- 8 God is very greatly to be feared in the council of the saints * and to be had in reverence of all them that are round about him.
- 9 O Lord God of hosts, who is like unto thee * thy truth, most mighty Lord, is on every side.
- 10 Thou rulest the raging of the sea * thou stillest the waves thereof when they arise.
- 11 Thou hast subdued Egypt, and destroyed it * thou hast scattered thine enemies abroad with thy mighty arm.
- 12 The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine * thou hast laid the foundation of the round world, and all that therein is.
- 13 Thou hast made the north and the south * Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy Name.
- 14 Thou hast a mighty arm * strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.
- 15 Righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat * mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

16 Blessed is the people, O Lord, that can rejoice in thee * they shall walk in the light of thy countenance.

17 Their delight shall be daily in thy Name * and in thy righteousness shall they make their boast.

18 For thou art the glory of their strength * and in thy loving-kindness thou shalt lift up our horns.

19 For the Lord is our defence * the Holy One of Israel is our King.

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

Acts 5.12-16

Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people held them in high esteem. Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he came by. A great number of people would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

Magnificat

Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music: Thomas Tallis, Dorian Service

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 21.29-36

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Nunc Dimittis

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

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:

Creator God, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name. You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love, and empowered us by your Spirit to speak the truth in love, and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one another to grow into the full stature of Christ, who is our light and our life. 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

Music: Thomas Morley (1557- c.1603)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nostril.

Lamb of God, who bearest the world's transgressions, show on us thy mercy.

Intercessions

Response to the Prayers

Richard de Castre's Prayer. Music: Sir R. R. Terry (1865-1938)

Jhesu, Lord, that madest me, and with thy blessyd blood hast bought,
forgive that I have grievéd thee with word and wil, and eek with thought.

Jhesu, in whom is all my trust, that died uppon the roodé tree,
withdrawe myn herte from fleshli lust, and from all worldly vanyté.

Jhesu, for thy woundés smerte on feet and on thyn handés two,
O make me meeke and low of herte, and thee to love as I schulde do.

Jhesu, keepe them that are good, amend them that han grievéd thee,
and send them fruites of earthli food as each man needeth in his degree.

Sermon

Final Hymn (CP 585)

Text: Fred Kaan (b. 1929) Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, H. Purcell, (1659-1695).

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- 1 For the healing of the nations, God we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.**
- 2. Lead us, Father, into freedom; from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase**
- 3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice, may we hallow life's brief span.**
- 4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind,
for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.**

The Blessing or Grace

Organ Voluntary

Saraband in modo elegiaco, Herbert Howells

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