



August 8, 2021

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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. We continue to require masks and physical distance for any in-person gatherings and ask all to observe careful hand hygiene.

The Sunday morning service takes place in-person, via live stream and is accessible on Zoom. Please check our website on how to book to attend or receive the Zoom

link: <https://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca> or contact admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

Sunday Evensong will continue livestreamed weekly on the church website and Facebook pages, as well as in-person attendance.

Daily prayer online is shared daily with a link on our website either live or via recording.

Contacting Us: The church office is now open Monday-Friday, 9am-12 Noon. 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: Dr. John Thatamanil

Music: The MacRae Choral Scholars; Emily Markwart, Sutton Organ Scholar

Videographers: Karen Coverett and Ryan Qu

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

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 91.1-12

1 Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the most High *
shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope, and my strong hold *
my God, in him will I trust.

3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter *
and from the noisome pestilence.

4 He shall defend thee under his wings, and thou shalt be safe under his feathers *
his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night *
nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 For the pestilence that walketh in darkness *
nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day.

7 A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand *
but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold *
and see the reward of the ungodly.

9 For thou, Lord, art my hope *
thou hast set thine house of defence very high.

10 There shall no evil happen unto thee *
neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee *
to keep thee in all thy ways.

12 They shall bear thee in their hands *
that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.

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.

By his command he sends the driving snow and speeds the lightnings of his judgement.

Therefore the storehouses are opened, and the clouds fly out like birds.

In his majesty he gives the clouds their strength, and the hailstones are broken in pieces.

The voice of his thunder rebukes the earth; when he appears, the mountains shake.

At his will the south wind blows; so do the storm from the north and the whirlwind.

He scatters the snow like birds flying down, and its descent is like locusts alighting.

The eye is dazzled by the beauty of its whiteness, and the mind is amazed as it falls.

He pours frost over the earth like salt, and icicles form like pointed thorns.

The cold north wind blows, and ice freezes on the water;

it settles on every pool of water, and the water puts it on like a breastplate.

He consumes the mountains and burns up the wilderness, and withers the tender grass like fire.

A mist quickly heals all things; the falling dew gives refreshment from the heat.

By his plan he stilled the deep and planted islands in it.

Those who sail the sea tell of its dangers, and we marvel at what we hear.

In it are strange and marvellous creatures, all kinds of living things, and huge sea-monsters.

Because of him each of his messengers succeeds, and by his word all things hold together.

We could say more but could never say enough; let the final word be: 'He is the all.'

Where can we find the strength to praise him? For he is greater than all his works.

Awesome is the Lord and very great, and marvellous is his power.

Glorify the Lord and exalt him as much as you can, for he surpasses even that.

When you exalt him, summon all your strength, and do not grow weary, for you cannot praise him enough.

Who has seen him and can describe him? Or who can extol him as he is?

Many things greater than these lie hidden, for I have seen but few of his works.

For the Lord has made all things, and to the godly he has given wisdom.

Magnificat

Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music: Thomas Weelkes (1576-1623)

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: Hebrews 12.1-17

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children—

‘My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
or lose heart when you are punished by him;
for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves,
and chastises every child whom he accepts.’

Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as children; for what child is there whom a parent does not discipline? If you do not have that discipline in which all children share, then you are illegitimate and not his children. Moreover, we had human parents to discipline us, and we respected them. Should we not be even more willing to be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share his holiness. Now, discipline always seems painful rather than pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

Pursue peace with everyone, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and through it many become defiled. See to it that no one becomes like Esau, an immoral and godless person, who sold his birthright for a single meal. You know that later, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, even though he sought the blessing with tears.

Nunc Dimittis

Text: Luke 2:29-32. Music: Thomas Weelkes (1576-1623)

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:

The Episcopal Church

GRANT TO US, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot exist without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. 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 “Servant’s Prayer”

Text: Libby Larsen (1950 -).

Music: Eric Milner-White (1884-1963) and George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)

Please be seated. The choir sings the anthem.

Intercessions

Response to the Prayers

The choir sings a short choral response to the prayers.

Sermon

Final Hymn (CP 17)

*Text: Phos hilaron, Mozarabic paraphrase (10th c.); tr. Alan McDougall (1895-1964);
rev. Anne K. LeCroy (b. 1930). © The Church Pension Fund; all rights reserved. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.*

Music: ISTE CONFESSOR

**Christ, mighty Savior, Light of all creation,
You make the daytime radiant with the sunlight
And to the night give glittering adornment,
Stars in the heavens.**

**Now comes the day's end as the sun is setting,
Mirror of daybreak, pledge of resurrection;
While in the heavens choirs of stars appearing
Hallow the nightfall.**

**Therefore we come now evening rites to offer,
Joyfully chanting holy hymns to praise you,
With all creation joining hearts and voices
Singing your glory.**

**Give heed, we pray You, to our supplication,
That you may grant us pardon for offenses,
Strength for our weak hearts, rest for aching bodies,
Soothing the weary.**

**Though bodies slumber, hearts shall keep their vigil,
Forever resting in the peace of Jesus,
In light or darkness worshipping our Savior
Now and forever.**

The Blessing or Grace

Organ Voluntary

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

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