

The Church of St. John the Divine

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

As people of God, we celebrate Christ in the heart of Victoria through joyful worship, building inclusive community, and putting faith into action.

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

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.



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.

Worship in a time of COVID-19 : In these times when we must be careful in any gathering, we have careful protocols in place for our limited gatherings on a Sunday – the plans are available to download on the Website, and for those unable to attend in person our services are also livestreamed there: <https://www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca/>

We will continue to meet on Sundays at 10am for our Parish Eucharist and at 5:30 pm for a service of Evensong. Please check details on the website as to how to book for each service and the information needed to comply with Provincial requirements.

We continue to share daily prayer online with a link on our website daily.

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.

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

The congregation is invited to join in the responses and prayers marked in bold print.

Presider: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

Greeters: Heather Lee

Reader: John McLaren

Gospel: Stephanie Wood

Musician: Ryan Qu

Intercessor: Karen Coverett

Sermon: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

Streaming Technicians: Karen Coverett, Ryan Qu

Cantor: Ariana Hall

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude

Welcome to all who are gathering online.

The Church Family Prayer

Loving God,

**All: you have called us to be your family
and to celebrate our life together in worship.
We pray now, for all members of our family
as we gather in our church buildings, our homes, and online.
Through your spirit keep us united in love.
Bless each of us with your beloved friendship.
Teach us, gracious God,
how to be your church in these times.
Help us to know that we are your people,
that we are your Family, always. Amen.**

Opening Hymn (CP 3)

BUNSEN BURNER

- 1. Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**
- 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!**

Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). © David Higham Associates Ltd.

Gathering

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Almighty God,
**All: to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Gloria

John Merbecke (1510-1585), adapted

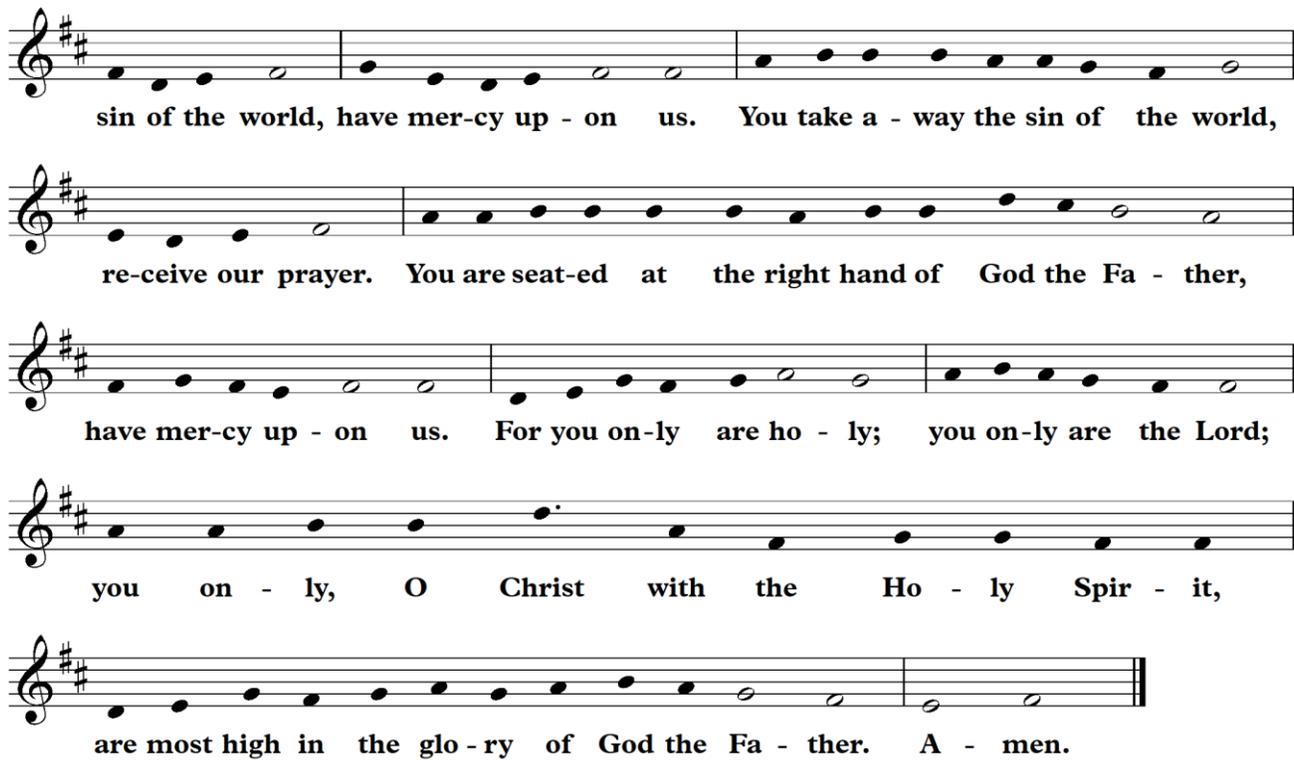
Glo - ry be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will to-wards all.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glo - ri - fy you,

we give thanks to you for your great glo - ry, O Lord god, heav-en - ly King,

God the Fa-ther al-migh - ty. O Lord the on - ly be-got ten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the



sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. You take a - way the sin of the world,
re-ceive our prayer. You are seat-ed at the right hand of God the Fa - ther,
have mer-cy up - on us. For you on-ly are ho - ly; you on-ly are the Lord;
you on - ly, O Christ with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
are most high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

Blessed are you, O Lord and Lover,
source of beauty and depth of passion.
Strengthen and inspire us to do the word we hear
and live the faith we confess,
through Jesus, our Saviour and Friend.

All: Amen.

Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002)

The Proclamation of the Word

Let us listen for the Word of God in Holy Scripture.

The First Reading

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

45:1-2, 7-10

My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king;
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.

You are the fairest of men;
**grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.**

Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever,
**a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.**

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia,
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.

Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court;
**on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.**

The Gospel
Before the Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Cantor: Alleluia. The Father brought us forth by the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Alleluia.

God is with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Hear the Good news of Jesus Christ according to John.

All: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honours me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.' For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

The Gospel of Christ.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Following the address there will be a pause for silence.

1. **I believe in God almighty,
Author of all things that be,
maker of the earth and heavens,
keeper of the sky and sea.
I believe in God's Son, Jesus,
now for us both Lord and Christ,
of the Spirit and of Mary
born to bring abundant life.**
2. **I believe that Jesus suffered,
scourged and scorned and crucified;
taken from the cross, was buried—
true life there had truly died.
I believe that on the third day
Christ was raised up from the grave,
then ascended to God's right hand.
He will come to judge and save.**
3. **I believe in God's own Spirit,
bonding all the saints within
one church, catholic, and holy,
where forgiveness frees from sin;
in the body's resurrection,
for the breaking of death's chain
gives the life that's everlasting:
this the faith that I have claimed.**

Text: *The Apostles' Creed*; para. Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993).
All rights reserved. Used under OneLicense.net # A-719605.

Prayers of the People

Those who have asked for our prayers are listed at the end of the leaflet.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Motet “Ave Verum Corpus”

translation:

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary:

You who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for the sake of humankind.

From whose pierced flank flowed water and blood:

Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death.

O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary

Text and Music: Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

The Prayer over the Gifts

In the name of all of us gathered, near and far, we present these our gifts to God.

Let us pray:

Merciful God,

receive all we offer you this day.

Give us grace to love one another

that your love may be made perfect in us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Book of Alternative Services

As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist, we remember that we are the people of God. Near or far we are gathered together by the love of Christ. We remember that we are incorporated into the body of Christ. We join together in this celebration of our union in Christ.

Thanks be to you,

All: Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given us, and all that you have borne for us. In our sharing in this Eucharist, in Church or at home, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you. *All:* And al-so with you. *Priest:* Lift up your hearts. *All:* We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God,
 for you created all things.
 You formed us in your own image,
 In all the wonderful diversity of gender you created us.
 When we turned away from you in sin,
 You did not cease to care for us
 but opened a path of salvation for all people.
 You made a covenant with Israel,
 and through your servants Abraham and Sarah
 gave the promise of a blessing to all nations.
 Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom;
 through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation.

Therefore, with them, and with all your saints
 who have served you in every age,
 we give thanks and raise our voices
 to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus (CP 719)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Hosanna in the highest.*

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise.
 In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ,
 to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us,
 to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.
 He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners;
 he opened the eyes of the blind
 and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom
 to the poor and to those in need.
 In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

The Disciple's Prayer

Priest: As our saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray:

**All: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**All: We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei (CP 745)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

The Commissioning of the Community

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
you renew us at your table with the bread of life.
May your holy food strengthen us in love
and help us to serve you in each other.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Book of Alternative Services

One body are we.

All: For, though we are in many places, we spiritually share one bread.

Blessing

Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve our living God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Final Hymn (CP 601)

BLAENWERN

- 1. God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store –
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door –
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious Donor of our days.**
- 2. Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labour,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.**

3. **Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred,
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.**

Text: Robert L. Edwards (1915-2006). ©1961, renewal 1989 The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Hope Publishing Co.

Please stay and join us for our Zoom Coffee Hour.

Readings for September 5th – The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Selected verses express caution toward riches and sympathy for the poor. **Psalm 125** An upright life is commended as exemplary. **James 2:1-17** Christians are challenged to live up to their beliefs. **Mark 7:24-37** Jesus performs healings in Gentile territory.

EVENSONG

Every Sunday – sung by a small ensemble of Choral Scholars

Evensong is a contemplative, musical and prayerful liturgy, ideally suited to the end of the week and the close of day, and to this current time when we have been asked to avoid congregational singing, but still long for the depth and beauty of a choral liturgy.

Evensong is offered to a small in-person congregation (drop-in and limited to 40) and will continue to be livestreamed on the church Facebook page and available via the website www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

The following people have asked for our prayers.

Please keep them in your heart and mind as you go through your week.

Hagos, Tsigay & family

Richard

Elsie

Anthony

Lorraine

Marion

Cathy

Linda

Edna

Heather

Lorena

Kevin

Asher

Peter

Anne

Carolyn

Liz & Dawn

David & Pat

Richard

Blanche

John

Bill

Ray and family

Roy, Caroline, Jeremy

Angela & Nancy

Cat & Daphne

Martha

Sylvia

Florence

Nicholas

Aidan

Gary

Deborah

Ted

Asher

Jessie

David

Lyndon

Nancy

Carol

Barry

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

Stewards

People's Warden: Joan Huzar
Associate Warden: Lorraine Gates
Envelope Secretary: Jim Harlick

Rector's Warden: Michael King
Associate Warden: Karen Coverett
Treasurer: David Buckman

Parish Council

Susan Bangrove, Carol Denton, Marguerite Heppell,
Erin Kelly, Miles Motture, Wendy Suddaby

Synod Delegates

Karen Coverett, Joel Hefty, Bill Huzar, Joan Huzar

Staff Supporting the Ministry of St. John's

Rector: The Ven. Alastair McCollum
Associate Priest: The Rev'd Bill Tarter (on sabbatical)
Curate: Stephanie Wood

Director of Music: David Stratkauskas
Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh
Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger
Vocational Intern: Dr. John Thatamanil

Honorary Assistants

The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody / The Rev'd Canon Andrew Gates

1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2L5 Tel. 250-383-7169 / Fax 250-381-3573
pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca or **for urgent calls only**, use 250-516-9565
www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca facebook.com/StJohnVicBC
twitter.com/StJohnVicBC e-mail: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
