



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church,

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Season of Creation 2, September 12, 2021

“I do not glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.”

Galatians 6. 14

Welcome

The Parish of St. Mary the Virgin is a member of the Diocese of British Columbia and the Anglican Church of Canada. We are an inclusive and welcoming 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. As a parish we acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work and play on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen speaking people. We commit ourselves, as a settler church and people, to continue with our First Nations hosts on the journey of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

VISITORS *Welcome!* We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

COMMUNION All are invited to receive communion. For your safety, only the bread will be shared. Be assured that in the Anglican Church of Canada it has always been our tradition that receiving only one of the elements is considered full Communion.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request it from the person who is distributing the bread.



FLOWER DEDICATIONS

in Memory or Celebration . . .

To make arrangements contact:

Anne Underhill – 250-370-5027

10:00am Service

Scottish Liturgy 1982, with material for the Season of Creation 2021

Presider:	The Rev'd Canon Craig Hiebert
Preacher:	The Rev'd Dyan Davison
Pianist:	Pamela Whiston
Greeters:	Chris Moeckl, Mary Huxley
Musicians:	Bob Gill, Craig Hiebert (prerecorded)

*Note: in the service order, words set in **bold italic type** are said by the congregation.*

*Congregational singing is now permitted while wearing a mask indoors,
with or without outdoors this is in order to maintain the safety of all.*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

WELCOME

PRELUDE & PROCESSION

Andante cantabile from Sonate KV 330, W.A. Mozart

GREETING

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

And also with you.

We gather in the image of the Creator
who is a community of love.

We gather in the name of the Redeemer
who reconciles all of creation.

We gather in the presence of the Life Giver
who inspires new life and renews it.

CENTRING STILLNESS

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God.

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Holy God, *Creator of the world and fount of all life, you never abandon the creatures formed by your wisdom: remain with us always, we pray, working for our good, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

From the Scottish Liturgy 1982, Season of Creation

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

James 3. 1-12, Carmen Stansberry

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116. 1-8

I love the Lord

who has heard the voice of my supplication,

who has listened to me

whenever I called.

The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

***Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”***

Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.

***The Lord watches over the innocent;
I was brought very low, and the Lord helped me.***

Turn again to your rest, O my soul,
for the Lord has treated you well.

***For you, O Lord, have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GOSPEL HYMN

Be Thou My Vision (505)

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom,
and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.
3. Riches I heed not,
nor the world's empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. High King of heaven, when victory is won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

GOSPEL

Mark 8. 27-38

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God be with you.
And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’ ²⁸ And they answered him, ‘John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.’ ²⁹ He asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered him, ‘You are the Messiah.’ ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.’

After the Gospel, the reader says:

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

Beauty In God's Creation, A.F. Schultz © St. James Press

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, (+) the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Carmen Stansberry

We pray in thanksgiving for Mother Earth in whom all life is rooted, Brother Sun whose energy radiates life, Sister Water who nurtures and revives us, and co-creatures with whom we live, and for whom we are called to till and keep this garden.

Creative Spirit, ***enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.***

[adapted from A prayer for the Earth, Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*]

In your prayers this week remember the following: those in need of healing and care, including Carrie, Cody, Isobel, Colin, Janice, Robby, Terry, Ian, Sandy, Brynn, Dorothy, Mary, Rachel, Monty, Brad and Sue; our diocese of islands and inlets and Anna, our bishop, Lynn, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate; the parish of St. Philip, Oak Bay and their clergy Christopher Page. Diocese of Caledonia and Bishop David Lehmann; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Bishop Susan Johnson. In the Church further afield, pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania. Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan. Pray for all of us in our communities as we seek to reverse decades of systemic discrimination. Pray for those who lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods in the fires in BC and elsewhere. Pray for the continued work of vaccination clinics and all health care workers, and for businesses and individuals beginning the economic recovery from the global pandemic. Pray for the ongoing work of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

Silence is kept.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation. God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Father, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

“Let All Things Their Creator Bless”: Liturgy for Use During the Season of Creationtide, Diocese of Guilford

The Presider reminds us of God’s healing and forgiveness

PEACE

The congregation stands

The Peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Remaining in our places, we share physically-distant signs of Peace with those around us.

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

For safety, the Collection Plate has been placed at the back of the church for use as you arrive. It will be moved to the front of the church during the Offertory hymn and placed in a location where you may place your gifts as you come to receive Communion.

Please also consider one of the other means of giving that do not require our volunteers and staff to handle cash and cheques: electronic donations on our website via CanadaHelps, or bi-weekly or monthly direct debit donations via our diocesan Electronic Collection Plate (details are available in a brochure at the entrance, or on the website: www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate).

OFFERTORY HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations (576)

Text: Fred Kaan, © 1968 Hope Pub. Co.

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.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Holy God, ***accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.***

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Scottish Liturgy 1982, Season of Creation

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, O God, Creator of all things visible and invisible, Source of life and immortality, Whom the heavens praise, the sun and moon and all the stars, the earth, the sea and all that is in them, in every place and at all times.

By your holy Word you brought order out of chaos. You divided light from darkness, created the heavens and established the earth; you divided the sea from the dry land, and caused all life to come into being. When you had made the plants and the animals, you formed humanity in your own image, and entrusted us with the priesthood of your Creation.

In Christ your holy Word became flesh, took our human form, lived among us, and, through dying on the cross, overcame sin and death, that your creation might be restored in him.

Through your life-giving Holy Spirit Who first moved over the waters, you renew your creation, call us to new birth, in a world restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, with all your creatures throughout space and time we offer you our praise, together with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Repeat each line after the cantor:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full,
Are full of your glory.***

***Blessed is the one who comes
In the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.***

St. Bride Setting, The Iona Community

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, God our creator, for the gift of your Son born in human flesh. Christ is your holy Wisdom, existing beyond time, present at creation. Through Christ you revealed yourself in the world, and bring your saving work to its completion. Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross. By your power you raised him from the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me." We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

***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.***

Silence is held after the Lord's Prayer

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

"I am the bread which has come down from heaven," says the Lord.

Give us this bread for ever.

"I am the vine, you are the branches."

May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE COMMUNION

Please follow the direction of the greeters as they invite rows to receive communion. Please maintain a single flow: approach via the main aisle and return via the side aisles. If you do not wish to receive communion, but someone else in your aisle wishes to pass by you, please exit your pew temporarily to allow them to pass at a safe distance. You are also welcome to approach the presider for a blessing only—this is traditionally indicated simply by crossing your hands over your chest as you approach.

One of the ministers will bring the Bread out into the garden to serve those worshipping outside.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, Creator of the world and fount of all life, you never abandon the creatures formed by your wisdom: remain with us always, we pray, working for our good, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTES

AFFIRMATION

The congregation stands

Glory to God, ***Whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God, from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.***

BLESSING

HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (384)

1. Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.
2. Praise to the Lord,
who o'er all things so wondrously
reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings,
yea, so gently sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
how thy entreaties have been
granted in what he ordaineth?
3. Praise to the Lord,
who doth prosper thy work and
defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy
here daily attend thee:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord,
who, when tempests their warfare are
waging,
who, when the elements madly
around thee are raging,
biddeth them cease,
turneth their fury to peace,
whirlwinds and waters assuaging.
5. Praise to the Lord,
who when darkness of sin is abounding,
who when the godless do triumph,
all virtue confounding,
sheddeth his light,
chaseth the horrors of night,
saints with his mercy surrounding.
6. Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath
come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him.

DISMISSAL

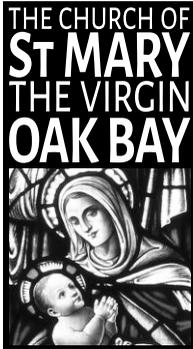
Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Nocturne Op. 37, No. 1, F. Chopin

The musical postlude is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for our encounter with God's Word as it has been experienced this day. You are invited to use this time for reflection, remaining seated.



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