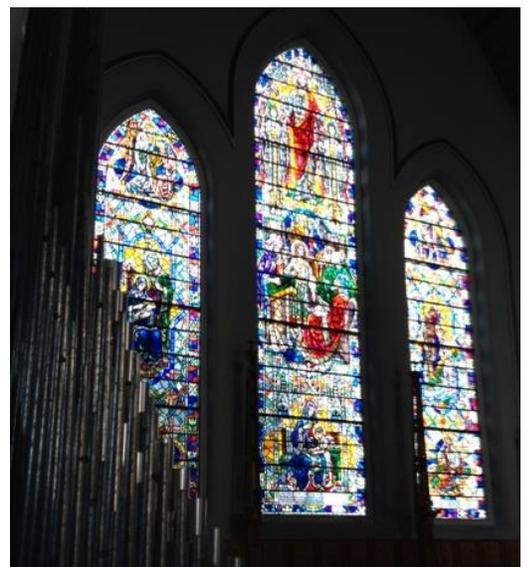


**September 19th 2021  
Seventeenth Sunday  
after Pentecost**

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**CHORAL EVENSONG**  
**Church of St. John the Divine**



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

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### 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.stjohndivine.bc.ca> or contact [admin@stjohndivine.bc.ca](mailto:admin@stjohndivine.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@stjohndivine.bc.ca](mailto:admin@stjohndivine.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:** Kieran Wilson, Intern

**Sermon:** The Venerable Alastair McCollum

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

**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.*

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# 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 119.137-144*

137 Righteous art thou, O Lord \*  
and true is thy judgement.

138 The testimonies that thou hast commanded \*  
are exceeding righteous and true.

139 My zeal hath even consumed me \*  
because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.

140 Thy word is tried to the uttermost \*  
and thy servant loveth it.

141 I am small, and of no reputation \*  
yet do I not forget thy commandments.

142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness \*  
and thy law is the truth.

143 Trouble and heaviness have taken hold upon me \*  
yet is my delight in thy commandments.

144 The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting \*  
O grant me understanding, and I shall live.

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

*Text: Exodus 19.10-end*

The LORD said to Moses: 'Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow. Have them wash their clothes and prepare for the third day, because on the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. You shall set limits for the people all around, saying, "Be careful not to go up the mountain or to touch the edge of it. Any who touch the mountain shall be put to death. No hand shall touch them, but they shall be stoned or shot with arrows; whether animal or human being, they shall not live." When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they may go up on the mountain.' So Moses went down from the mountain to the people. He consecrated the people, and they washed their clothes. And he said to the people, 'Prepare for the third day; do not go near a woman.'

On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled. Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the LORD had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently. As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder. When the LORD descended upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, the LORD summoned Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Go down and warn the people not to break through to the LORD to look; otherwise many of them will perish. Even the priests who approach the LORD must consecrate themselves or the LORD will break out against them.' Moses said to the LORD, 'The people are not permitted to come up to Mount Sinai; for you yourself warned us, saying, "Set limits around the mountain and keep it holy."' The LORD said to him, 'Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you; but do not let either the priests or the people break through to come up to the LORD; otherwise he will break out against them.' So Moses went down to the people and told them.

## Magnificat

*Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music: Olivia Sparkhall (b. 1976)*

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: Matthew 8.23-end*

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you of little faith?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?'

When he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. Suddenly they shouted, 'What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?' Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. The demons begged him, 'If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine.' And he said to them, 'Go!' So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and perished in the water. The swineherds ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs. Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighbourhood.

## Nunc Dimittis

*Text: Luke 2:29-32. Music: Amy Beach (1867-1944)*

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 us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; 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**

*Text: Compline. Music John Sheppard (1515-1558)*

In manus tuas, Domine, commendo spiritum meum.  
Redemisti me Domine, Deus veritatis.

*Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. You have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.*

## **Intercessions**

## **Reflection**

*Words and music, Latin, Ps.118.1; Music and paraphrase, Taizé Community/Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).*

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**Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus.**

**Confitemini Domino, alleluia.**

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.*

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia.*

## **Sermon**

**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.**

**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?**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

## **The Blessing or Grace**

## **Organ Voluntary**

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*The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine  
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