



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church,

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Season of Creation 4, September 26, 2021

“Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.” *Psalm 124. 8*

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 & Preacher:	The Rev'd Canon Craig Hiebert
Organist:	Curt Bergen
Greeters:	John McCann, Kat McCann
Musicians:	St Mary's Singers and Pamela Whiston
Live Stream Manager:	Barry Whiston

Welcome to the 2021-2022 Choral Scholars!

Introducing CCPA students Marlie Ngotta, Lara Mullings, Rain Mahendra, Timothy Cameron, and Jeremy Sinclair. And we are delighted to have Alexa Ste Marie as occasional guest soprano.

Welcome!

*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

Allegro moderato 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

O God, *in whose wisdom all things have been established in order: enlighten the people you have saved, that they may consider the greater wonder of your new creation, brought forth in the fullness of time, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord, 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 5. 13-20, Jackie Hiebert

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19. 7-14

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

***The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.***

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

***More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.***

By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

***Who can tell how often they offend?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.***

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

***Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable in your sight;
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.***

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

There's a Spirit in the Air.

Text: Brian Wren © 1979, Hope Publishing Co.

1. There's a spirit in the air,
Telling Christians ev'rywhere:
"Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world!"
2. Lose your shyness, find your tongue,
Tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!

3. When believers break the bread,
When a hungry child is fed,
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world!
4. Still the Spirit gives us light,
Seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!
5. When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world!
6. May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!
7. There's a spirit in the air,
Calling people ev'rywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world!

GOSPEL

Mark 9. 38-50

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.

³⁸ John said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' ³⁹ But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me.

⁴⁰ Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴² 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹ ‘For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.

After the Gospel, the reader says:

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

A Song for the Season of Creation,
words Malcolm Guite, music Ian Stephens

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

Jackie Hiebert

Let us pray to God, to bring to fruition all that God desires for creation.

Lord of Creation,

in your mercy, hear us.

From New Patterns for Worship © The Archbishops' Council 2002, The Church of England.

In your prayers this week remember the following: those in need of healing and care, including Gary, Judy, Barbara, 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. Mary Magdalene, Mayne Island and their clergy Blair Haggart & St. Margaret, Galiano Island and their clergy Sarah Tweedale. Diocese of New Westminster and Bishop John Stephens; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Bishop Susan Johnson. In the Church further afield, pray for the Episcopal Church. 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

Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works (407)

Text: Dakota Hymn. English text: Joseph R. Renville (1779-1846);

para. Philip F. Frazier (1892-1964), © South Dakota conference, United church of Christ.

1. Many and great, O God, are your works,
maker of earth and sky.
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;
your fingers spread the mountains
and plains.
Lo, at your Word the waters were formed;
deep seas obey your voice.
2. Grant unto us communion with you,
O star-abiding one.
Come unto us and dwell with us;
with you are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end,
eternal life in you.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ we behold your glory. Receive the offering of your people gathered before you, and open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation, the same Jesus Christ our 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.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, the source of all that is, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy. **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

O Healing River (578)

Text and Music: Fred Hellerman (1927-) and Fran Minkoff (19??-)

©1964(renewed) Appleseed Music, Inc. Arr. Melva Treffinger Graham (1947-) ©

1. O healing river,
send down your waters,
send down your waters
upon this land.
Oh healing river,
send down your waters,
and wash the blood
from off the sand.
2. This land is parching,
this land is burning,
no seed is growing
in the barren ground.
O healing river,
send down your waters,
O healing river,
send your waters down.
3. Let the seed of freedom
awake and flourish,
let the deep roots nourish,
let the tall stalks rise.
O healing river,
send down your waters,
O healing river,
from out of the skies.

DISMISSAL

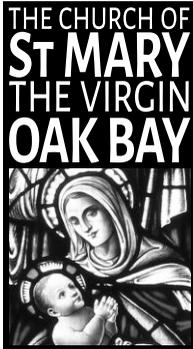
Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in a BWV 543, J.S. Bach

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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