



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 19, 2021

Lessons and Carols for the Christmas Novena

“I am the servant of the Lord;
let it be to me according to his word.” *Luke 1.38*

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 peoples. 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.

10:00am Service

Presider & Preacher:	The Rev'd Canon Craig Hiebert
Ministers of Welcome:	Karen Wilson, Pat Taylor
Music Director:	Curt Bergen
Musicians:	The St. Mary Singers: Alexa Ste Marie, Rachel Bergen, Rain Mahendra, Bob Gill, Pamela Whiston

*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

Of the Father's love Begotten, arr. Gilbert Martin.
Pamela Whiston, piano, Curt Bergen, organ

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.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Reader #1: Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world. God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

Reader #2: A reading from the prophet Micah: "The Lord will choose one of your people to rule the nation—someone whose family goes back to ancient times. The Lord will abandon Israel only until this ruler is born, and the rest of his family returns to Israel. Like a shepherd taking care of his sheep, this ruler will lead and care for his people by the power and glorious name of the Lord his God. His people will live securely, and the whole earth will know his true greatness, because he will bring peace."

Purify us, O God, by your daily visitation, so that when your Son Jesus Christ comes, he will find in us a mansion prepared for himself. We thank you for this time of waiting. We thank you that our time of waiting for Jesus is almost over. May we await the Light of the World with joyful anticipation, through Christ our Lord.

Reader #1: We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Each Sunday during Advent, we have begun in the dark, then we have lit candles. Today, we light all four candles.

All four Advent candles are lit. While this is being done, the following is read:

Reader #1: Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of Jesus. Now, at the end of Advent, all four candles burn bright with the hope of God who will come to us. Later this week, when we celebrate the birth of our Lord, we will finally light the center candle that symbolizes the Christ Child.

Our time of waiting is almost over. Blessed are we who, with Mary and Elizabeth, believe there will be a fulfillment of God's promise to us. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus. When he comes to us, may we be ready to help him scatter the proud, bring down the powerful, lift up the lowly. May God fill the hungry with good things. May all of God's people know fullness, justice, peace and love when the Light shines its brightness over our world, when the Word becomes flesh and dwells among us. Amen.

The Christmas Novena

INTRODUCTION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.

Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge this world,

that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever proclaim the glory of your name:

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

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

HYMN

Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth, arranged Stuart Forster

Soprano Solo:

1. *Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest Thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.*

Choir only:

2. *Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, Thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,
The promised Fruit to man displayed.*

Congregation joins the hymn:

3. *The virgin womb that burden gained
With virgin honor all unstained;
The banners there of virtue glow;
God in His temple dwells below.*
4. *Forth from His chamber goeth He,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now His course to run.*

Choir Only

5. *From God the Father He proceeds,
To God the Father back He speeds;
His course He runs to death and hell,
Returning on God's throne to dwell.*
6. *O equal to the Father, Thou!
Gird on Thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.*

Congregation joins the hymn:

7. *Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.*
8. *All laud to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;
All glory, as is ever meet,
To God the Holy Paraclete.*

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, fill us with Joy! The birth of any child is a cause for joy and so much more is the birth of You, our Savior. We pray for a greater joy this Christmas.

And we also pray for these intentions, offered in silence or aloud... *(State your intentions here)*

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

***All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

O SAPIENTIA (O WISDOM)

*O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,
reaching from one end to the other mightily,
and sweetly ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.*

cf Ecclesiasticus 24.3; Wisdom 8.1

LESSON

Ecclesiasticus 24.1-9, Jackie Hiebert

- ¹ Wisdom praises herself,
and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.
- ² In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth,
and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory:
- ³ “I came forth from the mouth of the Most High,
and covered the earth like a mist.
- ⁴ I dwelt in the highest heavens,
and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.
- ⁵ Alone I compassed the vault of heaven
and traversed the depths of the abyss.
- ⁶ Over waves of the sea, over all the earth,
and over every people and nation I have held sway.
- ⁷ Among all these I sought a resting place;
in whose territory should I abide?
- ⁸ “Then the Creator of all things gave me a command,
and my Creator chose the place for my tent.
He said, ‘Make your dwelling in Jacob,
and in Israel receive your inheritance.’
- ⁹ Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me,
and for all the ages I shall not cease to be.”

HYMN

Of Eternal Love Begotten (132)

1. Of eternal love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he is the source, the ending he,
of all the things that are and have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.
2. At his Word the worlds were framed.
He commanded, it was done:
heaven and earth and depths of ocean
in their threefold order one;
all that grows beneath the shining
of the moon and burning sun,
evermore and evermore.

3. O that birth for ever blessed,
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bare the Saviour of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.
4. This is he whom seers in old time
chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, long-expected;
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore.
5. O ye heights of heaven, adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
all dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and king;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore.
6. Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be,
honour, glory, and dominion
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore.

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, grant us great humility! You gave us the model of perfect humility in your incarnation, life and death. We pray for a greater Humility this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... (*State your intentions here*)

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

***All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

O ADONAI (O MY LORD)

O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush
and gave him the law on Sinai:
Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

cf Exodus 3.2; 24.12

LESSON

Psalm 106. 1-13, 43-48

¹ Hallelujah!

Give thanks to the Lord who is good,
whose mercy endures for ever.

² **Who can declare your mighty acts, O Lord,
or show forth all your praise?**

³ Happy are those who act with justice
and always do what is right!

⁴ **Remember me, O Lord, with the favour you have for your people,
and visit me with your saving help;**

⁵ that I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people,
that I may glory with your inheritance.

⁶ **We have sinned as our ancestors did;
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.**

⁷ In Egypt they did not consider your marvellous works,
nor remember the abundance of your love;
they defied the Most High at the Red Sea.

⁸ **But you saved them for your name's sake,
to make your power known.**

⁹ You rebuked the Red Sea, and it dried up,
and you led them through the deep as through a desert.

¹⁰ **You saved them from the hand of those who hated them
and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.**

¹¹ The waters covered their oppressors;
not one of them was left.

¹² ***Then they believed your words
and sang you songs of praise.***

¹³ But they soon forgot your deeds
and did not wait for your counsel.

...

⁴³ ***Many a time did you deliver them,
but they rebelled through their own devices,
and were brought down in their iniquity.***

⁴⁴ Nevertheless, you saw their distress,
when you heard their lamentation.

⁴⁵ ***You remembered your covenant with them
and relented in accordance with your great mercy.***

⁴⁶ You caused them to be pitied
by those who held them captive.

⁴⁷ ***Save us, O Lord our God,
and gather us from among the nations,***
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.

⁴⁸ ***Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting and to everlasting;***
and let all the people say, "Amen!"
Hallelujah!

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, give us the gift of Faith! You, Lord, deserve our complete faith. We pray for deeper and more perfect faith in you this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... (*State your intentions here*)

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.

O RADIX JESSE (O ROOT OF JESSE)

*O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;
before you kings will shut their mouths,
to you the nations will make their prayer:
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.*

cf Isaiah 11.10; 45.14; 52.15; Romans 15.12

LESSON

Isaiah 11.1-9

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,

their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

HYMN

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming (117)

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.
2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Saviour,
when half spent was the night.
3. Flower, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels in glorious splendour
the darkness everywhere;
true man, yet very God,
from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, bring us the Hope that saves! Your birth to the Virgin Mary brought a Hope to the world that continues to sustain us. We pray for a saving Hope this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... *(State your intentions here)*

May Your Holy Will be done in my life and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

***All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

O CLAVIS DAVID (O KEY OF DAVID)

*O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;
you open and no one can shut;
you shut and no one can open:
Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.*

cf Isaiah 22.22; 42.7

LESSON

Psalm 89. 1-4, 15-18, Bob Gill



Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

Refrain: I will establish his line for ever.

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens. **R**

“I have made a covenant with my chosen;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
‘I will establish your line for ever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.’” **R**

Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.
They rejoice daily in your Name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness. **R**

For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favour our might is exalted.
Truly, the Lord is our ruler;
the Holy One of Israel is our King. **R**

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, inspire in us Your selfless love! You humbled yourself to become like us in all things but sin, and even humbled yourself to die on a cross. We pray that you will help us to love as You love this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... (*State your intentions here*)

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

***All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

O ORIENS (O MORNING STAR)

*O Morning Star,
splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness:
Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death.*

cf Malachi 4.2



Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

Refrain: O God is my light and my salvation.

God is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?
God is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid? **R**

One thing have I asked of you, O God; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life;
To behold your fair beauty, O God
and to seek you in your temple. **R**

For in the day of trouble you will keep me safe in your shelter;
you will hide me in the secrecy of your dwelling and set me high upon a rock.
Even now you lift up my head
above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to my God. **R**

Hearken to my voice, O God, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, O God, will I seek. **R**

Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation. **R**

HYMN

How Bright Appears the Morning Star (622)

1. How bright appears the morning star
with mercy beaming from afar;
the host of heaven rejoices.
O righteous Branch, of Jesse's rod,
true Light of Light and God of God,
we, too, will lift our voices.
Jesus, Jesus,
holy, holy,
yet most lowly,
ever near us,
great Emmanuel, swift to hear us.
2. Though circled by the hosts on high,
you looked on us with pitying eye
and saved your sinful creature;
the whole creation's head and Lord,
by highest seraphim adored,
you took our very nature.
Amen, amen,
alleluia,
alleluia,
praise be given
evermore by earth and heaven.

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, give us Your peace! You are the Prince of Peace and the ultimate fulfillment of your incarnation brings us to you in heaven where peace will come to perfection. We pray for peace this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... (*State your intentions here*)

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.

O REX GENTIUM (O KING OF THE NATIONS)

*O King of the nations, and their desire,
the cornerstone making both one:
Come and save the human race,
which you fashioned from clay.*

cf Isaiah 28.16; Ephesians 2.14

LESSON

Jeremiah 30. 7–11a, Jackie Hiebert

- ⁷ Alas! that day is so great
there is none like it;
it is a time of distress for Jacob;
yet he shall be rescued from it.
- ⁸ On that day, says the LORD of hosts, I will break the yoke from off his neck, and I will burst his bonds, and strangers shall no more make a servant of him. ⁹ But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.
- ¹⁰ But as for you, have no fear, my servant Jacob, says the LORD,
and do not be dismayed, O Israel;
for I am going to save you from far away,
and your offspring from the land of their captivity.
Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease,
and no one shall make him afraid.
- ¹¹ For I am with you, says the LORD, to save you.

HYMN

When the King Shall Come Again (109)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. When the King shall come again,
all his power revealing,
splendour shall announce his reign,
life and joy and healing;
earth no longer in decay,
hope no more frustrated,
this is God's redemption day
longingly awaited.</p> | <p>2. In the desert, trees take root,
fresh from God's creation;
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit
join the celebration;
rivers spring up from the earth,
barren lands adorning.
Valleys, this is your new birth;
mountains, greet the morning!</p> |
|---|---|

3. Strengthen feeble hands and knees;
fainting hearts, be cheerful!
God, who comes for such as these,
seeks and saves the fearful.
Deaf ears, hear the silent tongues
sing away their weeping;
blind eyes, see the lifeless ones
walking, running, leaping!
4. There God's highway shall be seen
where no roaring lion,
nothing evil or unclean,
walks the road to Zion:
ransomed people homeward bound
all your praises voicing,
see your Lord with glory crowned,
share in his rejoicing!

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, move us to forgive others as you forgive us! Your Divine Mercy is unending! We pray for Your Divine Mercy on us and that we may participate in Your mercy by forgiving others this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... (*State your intentions here*)

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

***All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

O EMMANUEL

*O Emmanuel, our King and our lawgiver,
the hope of the nations and their Saviour:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.*

cf Isaiah 7.14

LESSON

Matthew 1. 18–23, The Rev'd John Macquarrie

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”

MUSIC

Ave Maria, Franz Schubert

PRAYER OF INTENTION

O Lord, Word of God, You, whose glory is complete, came to us in perfect humility as a child in the womb. Your love for us and Your humility is unsurpassed and brings us to our knees in prayer and worship.

Your incarnation forever changed the world.

O Lord, infant Jesus, inspire us to be repulsed by sin! You, Lord, are holy but we are not. We pray that you will make us holy and keep us from temptation this Christmas.

We also pray for these intentions... (*State your intentions here*)

May Your Holy Will be done in our lives and with these intentions.

We pray that the work of salvation that Your first coming began will reach fulfillment in each of us.

***All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now and forever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Jackie Hiebert

God of love, God of glory,
be known among us.

In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Allison, Carrie, Derek, Dorothy, Mary, Kat, Peter, and Adeline. Our diocese of islands and inlets and for Anna, our Bishop, Lynn, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate. The parish of St. John the Divine, Courtenay & St. Andrew, Sandwick and their clergy Alastair Hunting & Marion Edmondson. Territory of the People Anglican Church and their Steering Committee. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and Bishop Susan Johnson. In the Church further afield, pray for the Province of Central Africa. Pray for all those whose lives have been disrupted by the recent storms and flooding. Pray for the continued work of all health care workers in the Coronavirus pandemic. Pray for the ongoing work of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

***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

BLESSING

HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (89)

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
2. O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go. **R**
3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law,
in cloud and majesty and awe. **R**
4. O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,
from every foe deliver them
that trust your mighty power to save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. **R**
5. O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. **R**
6. O come, O Dayspring from on high
and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. **R**

*Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our bitter conflict cease,
and be for us our Prince of Peace. **R**

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

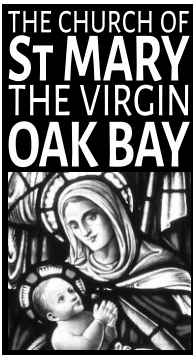
May Christ, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Toccata on “Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending”, Stuart Forster

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.



1701 ELGIN ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8R 5L7
250-598-2212 • INFO@STMARYSOAKBAY.CA
WWW.STMARYSOAKAY.CA

Incumbent: The Reverend Canon Craig Hiebert
incumbent@stmarysoakbay.ca

Priest Associate: The Reverend Dyan Davison
associate@stmarysoakbay.ca

Music Director: Curt Bergen,
music@stmarysoakbay.ca

Parish Administrator: Marianne McGahon, 250-598-2212
admin@stmarysoakbay.ca

Honorary Associate: The Reverend John Macquarrie
jmacquarrie@stmarysoakbay.ca

The Stewards of St Mary’s

wardens@stmarysoakbay.ca

Rector’s Warden: Dr. John McCann, *jmccann@stmarysoakbay.ca*

People’s Warden: Pamela Whiston, *pwhiston@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Associate Warden: Pat Taylor, *ptaylor@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Envelope Secretary: Anne Underhill, *givings@stmarysoakbay.ca*

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