

The Church of St. John the Divine

The 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

January 23, 2022

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.



Artist: Tissot, James, 1836-1902

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 hymns, responses and prayers marked in **bold** print.*

Presider: The Reverend Stephanie Wood

Greeters: Bill & Joan Huzar

Crucifer: Paul Gillan

Reader: John McLaren

Gospel: The Reverend Dr. John Thatamanil

Sermon: The Reverend Dr. John Thatamanil

Intercessor: Lorraine Gates

Safety Officer: Judith Reid

Vergers: Chuck Neilson

Streaming Technician: Karen Coverett

Music: A Quartet of Choral Scholars

David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

Setting: Missa Sancti Stephani – John Ireland (1879-1962)

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude

Territorial Acknowledgement and Welcome to all who are gathering in the church building and 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.**

1. **O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace.**
2. **Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.**
3. **He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**
4. **My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name.**

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

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.**

All: **Almighty God,
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

Glory to be God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards all.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

God of freedom,
make us impatient to greet
the time fulfilled,
the poor lifted up,
the oppressed set free
and your love made manifest
in Jesus Christ, the Anointed Servant.

All: Amen.

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009).

The Proclamation of the Word

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

The First Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn (CP 413)

- 1. The stars declare God's glory;
the vault of heaven springs,
mute witness of the Master's hand
in all created things,
and through the silences of space
their soundless music sings.**
- 2. The dawn returns in splendour,
the heavens burn and blaze,
the rising sun renews the race
that measures all our days,
and writes in fire across the skies
God's majesty and praise.**

3. **So shine the Lord's commandments
to make the simple wise;
more sweet than honey to the taste,
more rich than any prize,
a law of love within our hearts,
a light before our eyes.**
4. **So order too this life of mine,
direct it all my days;
the meditations of my heart
be innocence and praise,
my rock, and my redeeming Lord,
in all my words and ways.**

Text: Ps. 19; para. Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-). *Para.* © 1981 Hope Publishing Co.
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The Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Luke 4:14-21

Before the Gospel

Cantor: Alleluia.

All: Alleluia.

Cantor: The Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives. Luke 4:18

All: Alleluia.

God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Good news of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Following the sermon there will be a pause for silence.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe and trust in God the Creator.

We believe and trust in Jesus Christ, incarnate Word.

We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.

We believe and trust in the Three in One.

*(from *Creating Uncommon Worship* by Richard Giles, alt.)*

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 contactless sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn (CP 484)

MCKEE

- 1. In Christ there is no east or west,
in Christ no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**
- 2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find,
whose service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.**
- 3. Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
who serves my God in truth and love
is surely kin to me.**
- 4. In Christ now meet both east and west,
in Christ meet south and north;
all faithful souls are joined in one
throughout the whole wide earth.**

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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:

God of life and freedom,
we celebrate the revelation of Jesus
as the Christ who makes all creation new.
Accept all we offer you this day
and make us new in him,
who is Lord for ever and ever.

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer II b (The Incarnation)
The Scottish Episcopal Church (amended)

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff has four measures, each with a label above it: *Priest:*, *All:*, *Priest:*, and *All:*. The second staff has two measures, each with a label above it: *Priest:* and *All:*. The lyrics are written below the notes.

The_ Lord be___ with_ you. **And al-so 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, God our maker.
Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.
Day and night celebrate your glory, till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son, you have revealed yourself to the world.
By the guiding of a star, you made him known to the nations
as the son of David and king of Israel; that in following him,
we might be led from darkness and into marvellous light.

Filled with the Spirit,
who descended upon your Son at his Baptism in the Jordan,
we who are baptized strive for God's reign,
in whose radiance we are transfigured
and the earth is transformed.

As children by your loving hand
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Sanctus and Benedictus (*Sung by the choir*)

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord:
Hosanna in the highest.*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God.
In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us.
Our hope, in whom you are well pleased.
Having been shown to the world as your beloved Son,
he proclaimed the good news of your coming.
The blind received their sight, the lame walked,
the lepers were cleansed, and the captives set free.
At his word, water became wine, the hungry were filled with bread,
and the dead were raised.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
and 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 recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of God's reign.
Made one with God, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful God, and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your reign.

Help us, who are baptized 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 Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all peoples, living and departed.

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

All

A - men, A - men, A - - men.

The Disciple's Prayer

Priest: As our saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins
as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al,
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the glo-ry are yours,
now and for ev-er. A-men

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The Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

The deacon will have gluten-free wafers available to those who wish them.

After receiving communion, please move to your right to go back to your seat.

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

Motet

Ave, verum corpus
natum de Maria Virgine,
Vere passum immolatum
in Cruce pro homine,
Cujus latus perforatum
unda fluxit et sanguine,
Esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.

Hail, true body
born of the Virgin Mary,
Who truly suffered, sacrificed
on the Cross for humankind,
Whose pierced side overflowed
with water and blood,
Be for us a foretaste
In the test of death.

Text: Latin. Music: Stephanie Martin (b. 1962)

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

The Commissioning of the Community

Prayer after Communion

Please stand.

Gracious God, lover of all,
by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and blood,
one in the communion of his Spirit.
Help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ.
We ask this in his name.

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

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Final Hymn

MANNHEIM (CP 564)

- 1. God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith:
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit's healing breath.**
- 2. Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood:
move in us the power of pity
restless for the common good.**
- 3. Makes in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly loving kindred
of whatever race or creed:
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.**

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Please stay and join us for our Zoom Coffee Hour.

Readings for January 30th – The Presentation of the Lord

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 84

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

The following people have asked for our prayers.

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

Mark
John
Eric
Pat
Liz

Cathy
Daryl
Charlotte
Hagos, Tsigay & family
Eric & Carmen

Heather
Anne
Bob & Jean
Kat



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

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

Synod Delegates

Karen Coverett, Joel Hefty, Bill Huzar, Joan Huzar

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Incumbent: The Ven. Alastair Singh-McCollum
Assistant Curate: The Rev'd Stephanie Wood
Volunteer Curate: The Rev'd Dr. John Thatamanil

Director of Music: David Stratkauskas
Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh
Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger

Honorary Assistant

The Rev'd Canon Andrew Gates

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