



**January 8, 2023**

# **Baptism of the Lord**

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**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**The Anglican 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. Although no longer mandatory, masks are still encouraged in all public areas, and we ask all to observe careful hand hygiene.

**The Sunday morning service** takes place in-person, is also live streamed and is accessible on Zoom.

**Sunday Evensong** also takes place in person, and livestreamed on the church website and Facebook pages

There is no need to pre-register to attend either service.

**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, 9:30am-12:30pm. The main email for contact is: [admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca). If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Pastoral Care Team 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:** The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

**Reader:** Bob MacDonald

**Welcomer:** Joel Hefty

**Music:** A Quintet of Choristers; Char Hodgkins, Conductor; David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

**Videographer:** Karen Coverett

### 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.*

Cover Image:

Valente, Liz. Baptism of Jesus, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59319> [retrieved January 4, 2023]. Original source: Liz Valente, <https://www.instagram.com/donalizvalente/>.

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please stand at the entrance of the clergy. The officiant gives a short welcome.*

## The Responses

*Music: Thomas Ebdon (1738-1811)*

*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.)

*Please be seated for the singing of the psalm.*

## Psalm

47

1 Clap your hands together, all ye people \*

O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

2 For the Lord is high, and to be feared \*

he is the great King upon all the earth.

3 He shall subdue the people under us \*

and the nations under our feet.

4 He shall choose out an heritage for us \*

even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

5 God is gone up with a merry noise \*

and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

6 O sing praises, sing praises unto our God \*

O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

7 For God is the King of all the earth \*

sing ye praises with understanding.

8 God reigneth over the heathen \*

God sitteth upon his holy seat.

9 The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham \*

for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

*Please stand for the Gloria Patri:*

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.

*Please be seated.*

Early in the morning Joshua rose and set out from Shittim with all the Israelites, and they came to the Jordan. They camped there before crossing over. At the end of three days the officers went through the camp and commanded the people, 'When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place. Follow it, so that you may know the way you should go, for you have not passed this way before. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, a distance of about two thousand cubits; do not come any nearer to it.' Then Joshua said to the people, 'Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.' To the priests Joshua said, 'Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass on in front of the people.' So they took up the ark of the covenant and went in front of the people.

The LORD said to Joshua, 'This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, "When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan." '

When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing towards the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

*Please stand.*

**Magnificat**

*Text: Lk. 1:46-55 Music: Melissa Dunphy (b. 1980)*

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.

*Please be seated.*

## Second Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, 'Let all God's angels worship him.' Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.' But of the Son he says, 'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.' And, 'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.'

*Please stand.*

## Nunc Dimittis

*Text: Luke 2:29-32. Music: Melissa Dunphy*

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.

*Please remain standing, kneel, or be seated as is your preference for prayer.*

*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 King;

*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.

*1<sup>st</sup> Collect, of the day:*

*T.E.C.*

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour; who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

*3<sup>rd</sup> 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

*Please be seated. The choir sings an anthem.*

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day:  
I would my true love did so chance  
This To see the legend of my place,  
To call my true love to my dance:  
*Sing, O my love, O my love;  
This have I done for my true love.*

Then was I born of a virgin pure,  
Of her I took fleshly substance;  
Thus was I knit to man's nature,  
To call my true love to my dance  
*Sing, O my love...*

In a manger laid and wrapped I was,  
So very poor, this was my chance,  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,  
To call my true love to my dance:  
*Sing, O my love...*

Then afterwards baptized I was;  
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,  
My Father's voice heard from above,  
To call my true love to my dance:  
*Sing, O my love....*

*Text: English, possibly 16<sup>th</sup>-century.  
Music: John Gardner (1905-1987)*

*Please remain seated, kneel, or stand as is your preference for prayer.*

## Intercessions

*Please stand to sing the hymn:*

### Hymn (CP 163)

*Text: Caelius Sedulius (5<sup>th</sup> cent.?); st. 1, tr. The Hymn Book, 1971; st. 2-5, tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866).*

*Music: ST. VENANTIUS, Melody Antiphoner, Rouen, 1728.*

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- 1. When Christ's appearing was made known,  
King Herod trembled for his throne;  
but he who offers heavenly birth  
sought not the kingdoms of this earth.**
- 2. The eastern sages saw from far  
and followed on his guiding star;  
by light their way to Light they trod,  
and by their gifts confessed their God.**
- 3. Within the Jordan's sacred flood  
the heavenly Lamb in meekness stood,  
that he, to whom no sin was known,  
might cleanse his people from their own.**
- 4. And O what miracle divine,  
when water reddened into wine!  
He spake the word, and forth it flowed  
in streams that nature ne'er bestowed.**
- 5. All glory, Jesus, be to thee  
for this, thy glad Epiphany:  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

*Please be seated.*

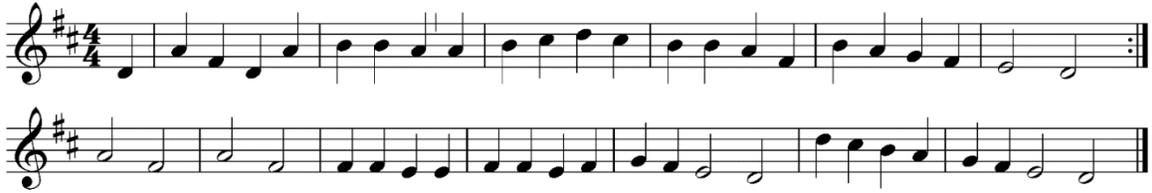
## Sermon

Please stand to sing the hymn:

**Hymn** (CP 622)

*Text: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. and adapt. William Mercer (1811-1873), alt.*

*Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Melody Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); adapt. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).*



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

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