



**January 29, 2023**

# **The Presentation of the Lord**

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## **EVENING PRAYER**

**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.

### Assisting with tonight's Liturgy

**Officiant:** The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

**Reader:** Muriel Ryan

**Welcomer:** Carol Denton

**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.*

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## ORDER OF SERVICE

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

### Opening Song

## The Invitatory

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Alleluia.**

*Please be seated to join in the singing of the psalm, following the cantor's lead.*

## Psalm

132

- 1 God, remember David, \* and all the hardships he endured;
  - 2 How he swore an oath to God \* and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:
  - 3 "I will not come under the roof of my house, \* nor climb up into my bed;
  - 4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep, \* nor let my eyelids slumber;
  - 5 Until I find a place for, \* a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."
  - 6 "The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; \* we found it in the fields of Jearim.
  - 7 Let us go to God's dwelling place; \* let us fall upon our knees before God's footstool."
  - 8 Arise, O God, into your resting-place, \* you and the ark of your strength.
  - 9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; \* let your faithful people sing with joy.
  - 10 For your servant David's sake, \* do not turn away the face of your Anointed.
  - 11 God has sworn an oath to David; \* in truth, God will not break it:
  - 12 "An heir, the fruit of your body \* will I set upon your throne.
  - 13 If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, \* their children will set upon your throne for evermore."
  - 14 For God has chosen Zion; \* God has desired it for his habitation:
  - 15 "This shall be my resting-place for ever; \* here will I dwell, for I delight in it.
  - 16 I will surely bless its provisions, \* and satisfy its pour with bread.
  - 17 I will clothe its priests with salvation, \* and its faithful people will rejoice and sing.
  - 18 There will I make the horn of David flourish; \* I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.
  - 19 As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; \* but as for him, his crown will shine."
- 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 Reading

Haggai 2:1-9

*After the reading, please stand to sing:*

## Magnificat



1. My soul gives glory to my God,  
my heart pours out its praise;  
Gpd lifted up my lowliness  
in many marvellous ways.
2. My God has done great things for me:  
yes, holy is God's name;  
whose people will declare me blessed,  
and blessings they shall claim.
3. From age to age, to all who fear,  
such mercy love imparts,  
dispensing justice far and near,  
dismissing selfish hearts.
4. Love casts the mighty from their thrones,  
promotes the insecure,  
leaves hungry spirits satisfied,  
the rich seem suddenly poor.
5. Praise God, whose loving covenant  
supports those in distress,  
remembering past promises  
with present faithfulness.

*Text: Miriam Therese Winter (1938- ). All rights reserved, Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.*

*Music: MORNING SONG, Kentucky Harmony, 1816.*

*Please be seated.*

## Second Reading

John 2:18-22

*After the reading, please stand to sing:*

## Nunc Dimittis

1. Lord, let your servant go in peace:  
your promises have been fulfilled;  
your saving power has been displayed  
before the face of all the world.
2. My eyes have seen salvation's dawn:  
the Sun of life ascending bright;  
your people's glory evermore,  
the nations' everlasting light.

*Text: Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32); para. Paul Gibson (1932- ) © All rights reserved, Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605*

*Music: SONG 34, Melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625), alt. .*

## 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.

## Prayers

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

**All: 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.**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

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

*T.E.C.*

BLESSED are you, O Lord our God, for you have sent us your salvation. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit to recognise him who is the glory of Israel and the light for all nations, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collect, for Peace:*

MOST HOLY GOD, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Saviour. **Amen.**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Collect, for Aid Against All Perils:*

BE OUR LIGHT in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Song

1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness.  
2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled.  
3. Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry.  
4. Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less.  
5. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple,  
Long - ing for truth, we turn to you.  
Long - ing for hope, man - y de - spair.  
Long - ing for wa - ter, man - y still thirst.  
Long - ing for warmth, man - y are cold.  
man - y the hearts that yearn to be - long.  
Make us your own, your ho - ly peo - ple,  
Your word a - lone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your bread, bro - ken for oth - ers,  
Make us your build - ing, shel - ter - ing oth - ers,  
Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er,  
light for the world to see.  
Make us your liv - ing voice.  
shared un - til all are fed.  
walls made of liv - ing stone.  
mak - ing your king - dom come.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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

## Intercessions

*Please stand to sing:*

## Song

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:  
\*The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise:  
when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O  
all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song, the  
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O  
Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life. The

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*Please be seated.*

## Sermon



Please stand to sing:

## Song

With-in our dark-est night, you kin-dle the  
fire that ne-ver dies a-way, ne-ver dies a-  
way. With-in our dark-est night, you kin-dle the  
fire that ne-ver dies a-way, ne-ver dies a-way.

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## The Blessing or Grace

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Thank you for your support.



Bellini, Giovanni, (d. 1516). *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.