

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 26, 2023

"I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." *John* 11.25, 26

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. The sacrament will be offered in both kinds (bread and the common cup). Regarding the cup: since there has been no indication that COVID-19 has spread via swallowing, it is our view that properly-distributed wine from the silver chalice poses no additional risk to safety. That said, please feel free to receive the bread only, and 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

Minister of Welcome: Karen Wilson Organist: Curt Bergen Presider & Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Craig Hiebert Musicians: St Mary's Singers The Rev'd Dyan Davison Nathan Turner Assistant: Server. Lav Eucharistic Ministers: Sean Steele Live Stream: William Turner, Samantha Robbins

Because the service includes congregational singing, which continues to be a higher-risk activity, we thank you for maintaining everyone's safety by wearing your mask during the worship service and remembering to keep a respectful distance from others.

Note: in the service order, words set in **bold italic type** are said by the congregation.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Christe, aller Welt Trost, BWV 670, J.S. Bach

PROCESSION

The congregation stands as the Choir & Clergy enter in silence.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Note: Especially during Lent, but also at other times of the year, we say or sing the prayer 'Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy'—or in its most ancient Greek form, 'Kyrie eleison' (pronounced **key-ree-ay el-lay-ee-zon**). This prayer is a recurring theme in both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, which expresses our confidence in a merciful and transforming God.

Eternal Spirit, Living God, you know the secrets of our hearts.



We recognize our brokenness.



We trust in your merciful love.



CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

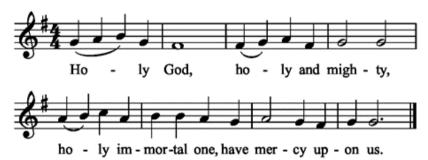
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

TRISAGION (707)

Repeated three times



The Presider reminds us of God's healing and forgiveness.

CENTRING STILLNESS

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God.

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

God of compassion, you call us out of the bindings of death on this, our resurrection day: make us ready to surrender the fear in which we hide to step into your future alive and unashamed; through Jesus Christ, the life of the world. Amen.

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

The congregation sits.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel 37. 1-14, Bob Gill

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, 'Mortal, can

these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' ⁴Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breath upon these slain, that they may live.' ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

"Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130

Out of the depths have I called you, O Lord;

Lord, hear my voice;

let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, O Lord, who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits for you; in your word is my hope.

My soul waits for you, O Lord, more than sentinels for the morning, more than sentinels for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy;

with whom there is plenteous redemption, and who shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

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

sing with exultation;
rejoice and praise our mighty Lord,
whose arm hath brought salvation.
His works of love proclaim
the greatness of his name,
for he is a God alone who hath his
mercy shown;
let all his saints adore him!

Rejoice Today with One Accord (318)

2. When in distress to him we cried, he heard our sad complaining. O trust in him, whate'er betide; his love is all sustaining. Triumphant songs of praise to him our hearts shall raise; every voice shall say, "O praise our God alway;" let all his saints adore him!

GOSPEL John 11. 1-45

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' ⁹Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' ¹¹After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' ¹²The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ³⁷But some

of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

God So Loved the World, Bob Chilcott

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

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Let us pray to the Lord for the strength we need to journey into the future God envisions for us and the whole world:

Come, Lord, restore, renew,

revive your people.

In your prayers this week remember those in need of healing and care, including Allison, Angela, Bill S., Bonnie & Danny, Chad, Debra, Dorothy, Gail, Greg, Jean, Jennifer, Judy J, Kat, Lach, Peter, Robert, Tracy, Vic. In our diocese of islands and inlets, please pray for Anna, our Bishop, Lynn, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate, for the Parish of St. Barnabas, Victoria and their clergy The Rev'd Canon Dr Travis O'Brian Diocese of New Westminster and Bishop John Stephens; and in the Church further afield, for the Anglican Church of South America. Pray for the Staff of the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and for the Teachers of the Oak Bay Preschool. Pray for individuals and organizations helping to settle refugees across our nation.

PEACE

The congregation stands.

He who raised Jesus from the dead, will give life to your mortal bodies.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

and also with you.

Remaining in our places, we share 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

- Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy, the praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.
- O magnify the Lord with me, exalt the sacred name; when in distress to heaven I called, God to my rescue came.

Through All the changing Scenes of Life (501)

- The guardian hosts encamp around the dwellings of the just; deliverance they provide to all who in God's shelter trust.
- 4. O make but trial of God's love; experience will decide how blest and favoured are they all? who in this love confide.

- 5. Fear God, you saints, and you will then have nothing else to fear; let service be your life's delight; your wants shall be God's care.
- 6. To Father, Son, and Spirit blest, the God whom we adore be glory, as it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.

Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006)

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Book of Alternative Services, Prayer 5

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.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we sing,

Cantor: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might,

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.

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me." Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as our Saviour has 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread,

Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

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

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage; may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

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

Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus (246) Descant copyright Kenneth Hull

HYMN

- Hail, thou once despised Jesus!
 Hail, thou Galilean King!
 Thou didst suffer to release us;
 thou didst free salvation bring.
 Hail, thou universal Saviour!
 Thou hast borne our sin and shame;
 by thy merits we find favour;
 life is given through thy name.
- 2. Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, all our sins on thee were laid; by almighty love anointed, thou hast full atonement made. All thy people are forgiven through the virtue of thy blood; opened is the gate of heaven; peace is made 'twixt us and God.
- 3. Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory, there forever to abide, all the heavenly host adore thee, seated at they Father's side.

 Worship, honour, power, and blessing thou art worthy to receive; loudest praises, without ceasing, meet it is for us to give.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671, Johann Sebastian 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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