The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

The 6th Sunday after Epiphany ***February 16, 2025***

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

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 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.

Brueghel, Jan, 1568-1625. Sermon on the Mount, from ***Art in the Christian Tradition****, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55346 [retrieved February 11, 2025]. Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Sermon_on_the_Mount_by_Jan_Brueghel_the_Elder,_Getty_Center.jpg.*

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.

Services at St. John's are: **8:00 am (Holy Communion – said service), 10:00 am (Holy Eucharist), 4:30 pm (BCP Evensong)** on Sundays as well as mid-week services (please see our website for times). If you can't attend in person we invite you to join us via Zoom (email admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca for the link) or through the livestream on the Website: www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

We continue to share daily prayer online with a link on our website.

Contacting Us: Please email us at admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca or call 250-383-7169. 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.

If you would like to give to support the work and ministries of St. John the Divine you can do so in the offering plate which is by the Garden door and will be presented as the Communion is prepared. There are also envelopes in the book stand which can make your gifts tax efficient. Alternatively, you can scan this QR code which will take you to our Canada Helps giving page.

Thank you for your support.

8:00 am Holy Communion

The order of service is found on page 67 in the Book of Common Prayer

Presider: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

*The congregation is invited to join in the hymns, responses and prayers marked in **bold** print.*

Presider: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum
Greeters: Bill Huzar, Karyn Lehmann
Crucifer: Susanna Peterson
Sacristan: Terry Needham
Readers: Sarah Kell, Al Lehmann
Gospel: Jim Harlick
Intercessor: David Buckman
Sermon: The Reverend Dr. John Thatamanil (Zoom)

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Virginia Miller, Patrick Samuel, Nancy Baal
Verger: David Pupak
Streaming Technician: Karen Coverett
Music: The Choristers of St. John the Divine
Char Hodgkins, Assistant Director
David Stratkauskas, Director of Music
Setting: Darke in F

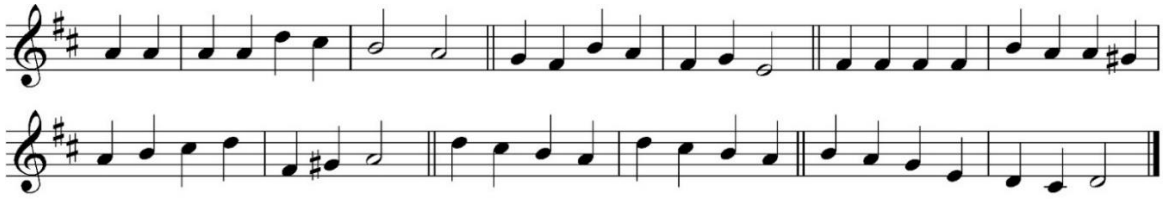
This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending this service, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

Announcements

The choir may sing an Introit

Processional Hymn (CP 381) PRAISE, MY SOUL



1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise him for his grace and favour
to our forebears in distress;
praise him, still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless;
alleluia, alleluia,
glorious in his faithfulness.

3. Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Alleluia, alleluia,
widely as his mercy flows.

4. Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on:
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise the high eternal one.

5. Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise with us the God of grace.

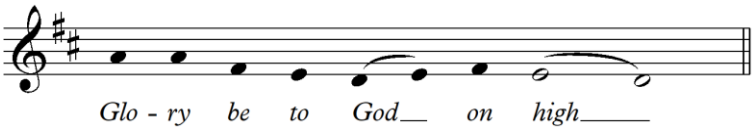
Text: Ps. 103; para. Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847), alt. Music: John Goss (1800-1880).

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

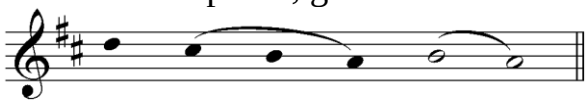
All: **And also with you.**

Almighty God,

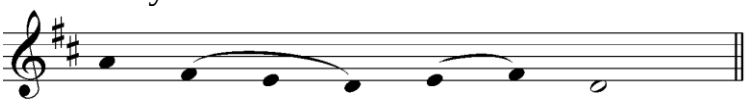
All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

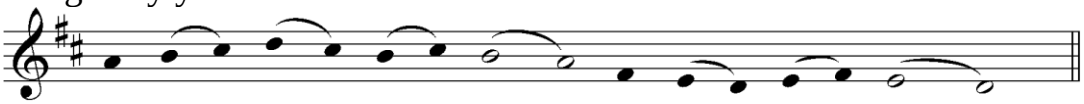
Gloria

Cantor:

Choir: And on earth peace, good will towards all.

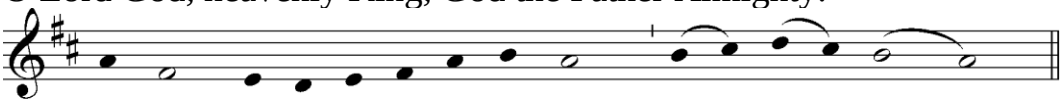


All:

Choir: We bless you.

All:

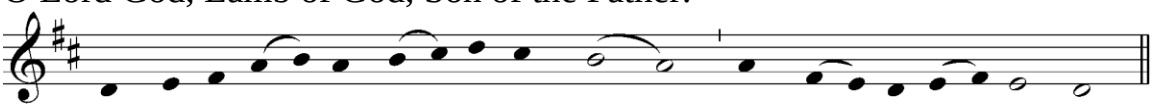
Choir: We glorify you.

All:

Choir: O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.



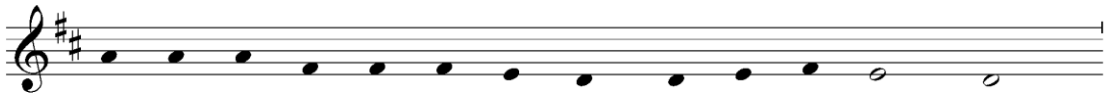
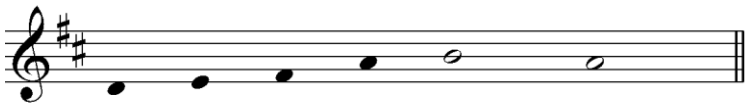
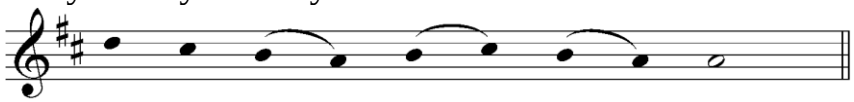
All:

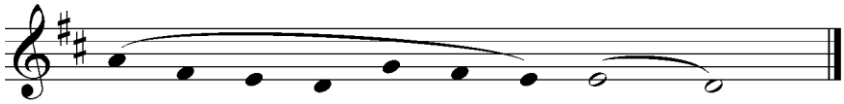
Choir: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.



All:

Choir: You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

All:

Choir: For you only are holy.

All:

Choir: You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father.

All:

Music: Missa viii, '*De Angelis'*

The Collect of the Day

God of blessing and woe,
disturbing the deadly order of the world:
Give us faith tested in poverty,
hunger for what really satisfies,
eyes softened by tears and hearts ready to laugh
at all that is false and pompous,
so that we might be witnesses to the dignity of life:
Through Jesus Christ, who turns the world upside down.

All: **Amen.**

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)alt.

The Proclamation of the Word

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

The First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-10

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * nor lingered in the ways of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of GOD, * and they meditate on GOD's law, day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; * they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

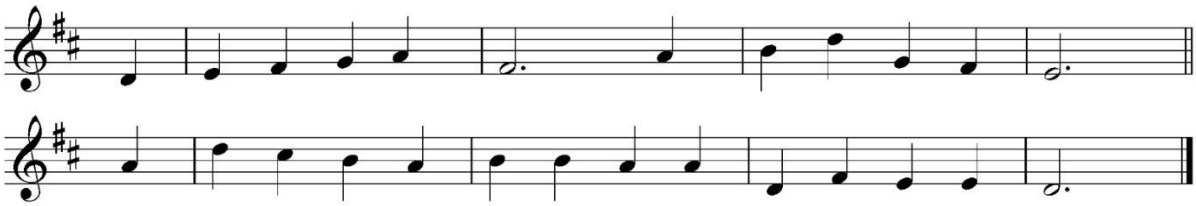
For GOD knows the way of the righteous, * but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn (CP 439) FRANCONIA

1. Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode.

2. The Lord, who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us,
our pattern and our King;

3. still to the lowly soul
his presence doth impart,
and for a dwelling and a throne
chooseth the pure in heart.

4. Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for thee.

Text: St. 1, 4, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; st. 2-3. *Mitre Hymn Book,* 1836, alt.
Music: Melody – Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758); adapt. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870).
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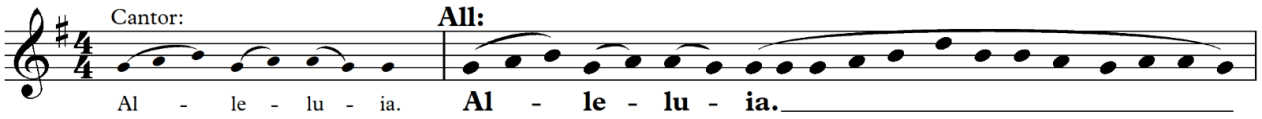
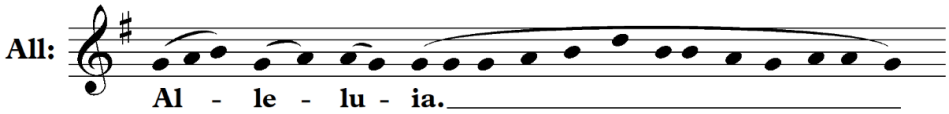
The Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

Before the Gospel

Cantor: Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. *Luke 6:23*



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.**

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God, Creator who made all things?

All: **We believe and trust in God.**

Do you believe and trust in God, living Word,
who embraces all creation?

All: **We believe and trust in God**.

Do you believe and trust in God, life-giving Spirit,
who inspires the people of God?

All: **We believe and trust in God.**

This is the faith of the Church.

All: **This is our faith.**
We believe and trust in one God,
Creator, Word, Spirit. Amen.

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.

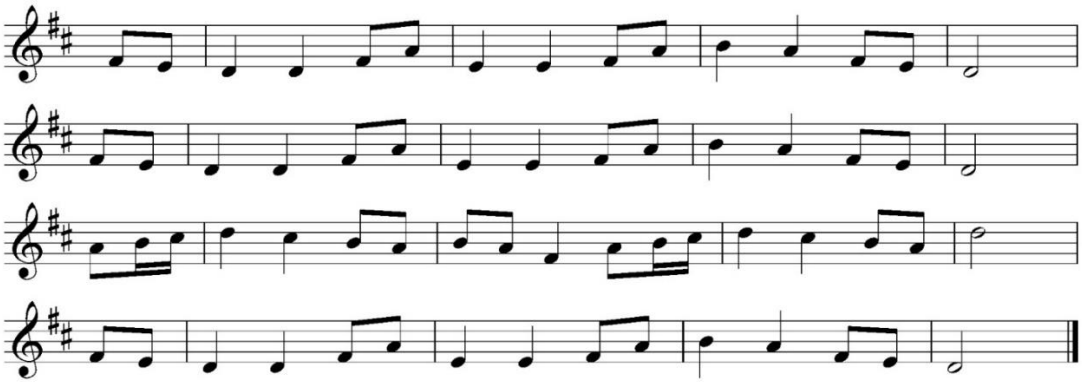
All: **And also with you.**

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

We don't pass the offertory plate at St. John's, but we are grateful for your support of our ministry and heritage building. There are several ways you can contribute financially. You may use the QR code printed on page 2 of this leaflet to contribute via Canada Helps (tax receipt included). There is a donation box by the garden door entrance and collection plates at the front and back entrances for people to leave offerings or envelopes. You may also conveniently use our tap machine (no tax receipt) or the bank machine (tax receipt with envelope completion), which is available at the garden door entrance. Envelopes for regular giving are available from the church office.

Offertory Hymn (CP 354)

NETTLETON

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious measure,
sung by flaming tongues above;
O the vast, the boundless treasure
of my God's unchanging love.

2. Here I make faith's affirmation:
Thus far by thy help I've come,
and I hope, by thy compassion,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
take my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.
Music: *A Repository of Sacred Music: Part Second,* Harrisburg, 1813.

Prayer over the Gifts

Eternal God, you are the strength of the weak
and the comfort of sufferers,
receive all we offer you this day;
turn our sickness into health
and our sorrow into joy.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: **Amen.**

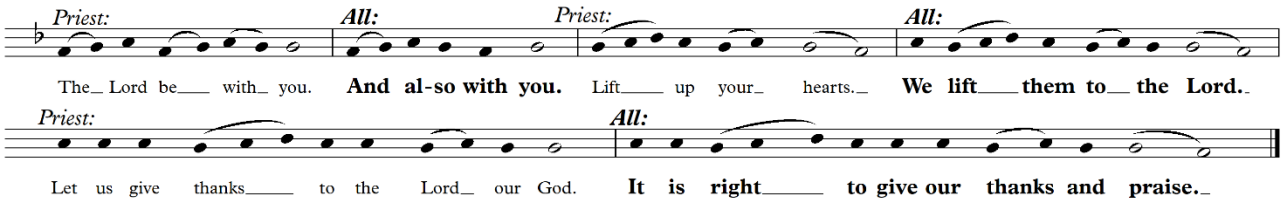
The Book of Alternative Services

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Common Worship, Church of England, altd.



Creator, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
Who, by the power of the Holy Spirit took flesh;
and as your Son, born of Mary,
lived on earth and went about among us;
opening wide his arms for us on the cross;
Jesus put an end to death by dying for us;
revealing the resurrection by rising to new life;
fulfilling your will and winning for you a holy people.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus and Benedictus

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Creator,
through Jesus Christ, our brother;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

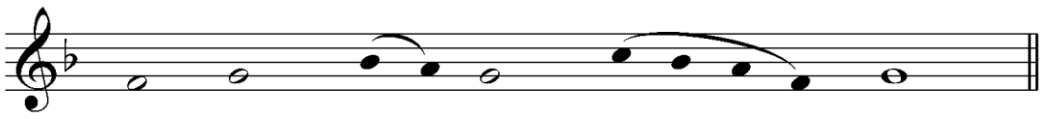
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this for the remembrance of me.
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, for the remembrance of me.

So, Loving God, we remember all that Jesus did,
His life and teaching, his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

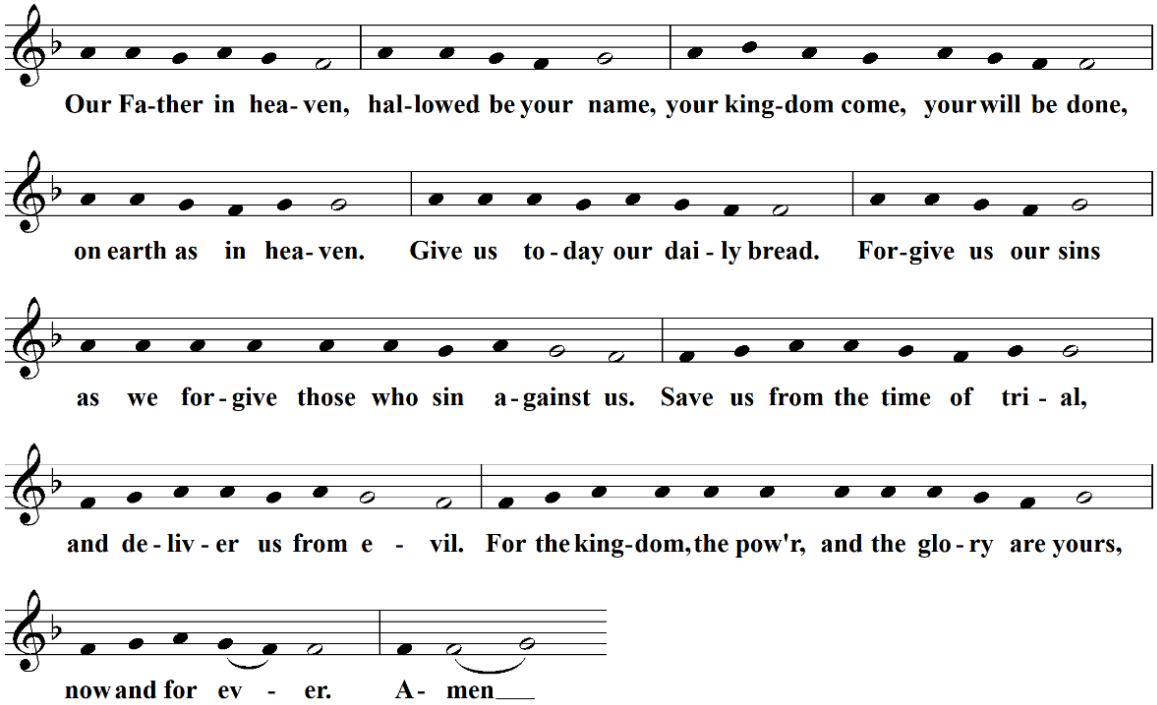
Praise to you, O Jesus:

***All*: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:**
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Giver of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Anna, Simeon, Joseph, and Mary and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All:

The Disciple's Prayer

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



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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.**

All are invited to receive communion. Receiving bread or wine is considered full communion. As it is considered unsafe, it is the practice of the ACC not to dip the bread into the wine. Any not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing, and to indicate that by holding their arms crossed on their chest.

If you are unable to come to a communion station please make this known to the Greeters and we will bring communion to you.

Gluten-free wafers for communion are available. Please request them from the person who is distributing the bread.

Agnus Dei

Choir: 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.

Anthem during Communion

Choir: Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:
for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
Amen.

Text: Matthew 5, 3–12
Music: Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

The Commissioning of the Community

One body are we.
All: **For, though we are in many places,**
spiritually we share one bread.

Prayer after Communion

God of tender care,
in this eucharist we celebrate your love
for us and for all people.
May we show your love in our lives
and know its fulfilment in your presence.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
All: **Amen.**

The Book of Alternative Services

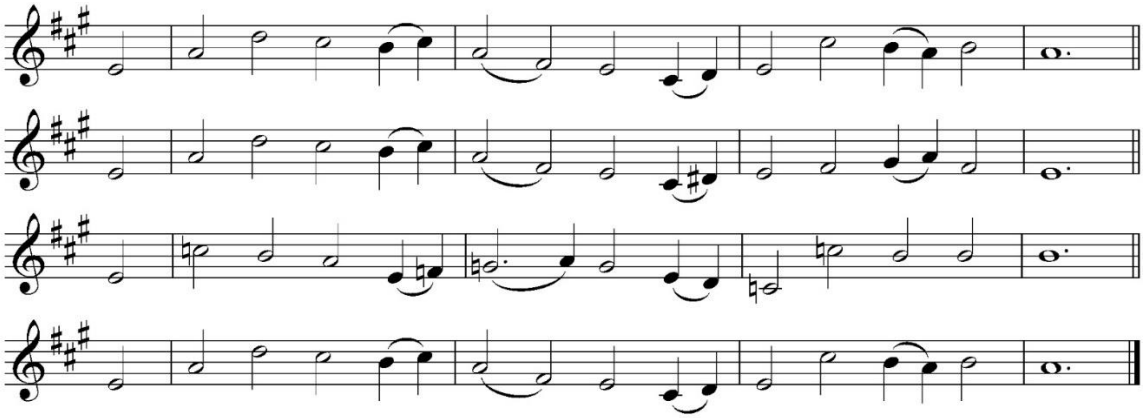
Blessing

Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve our living God!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn (CP 438)

WOLVERCOTE

1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my Friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me:
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer
and shield my soul from sin.

3. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end!
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.

4. O let me see thy footmarks
and in them plant mine own:
My hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

Text: John Ernest Bode (1816-1874).
Music: William Harold Ferguson (1874-1950). © *Oxford University Press.*
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Voluntary Prelude in C, BWV 545

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please join us on Zoom or at the back of the church
for refreshments and fellowship.

Sunday Reflections will be held in the Denson Lounge following coffee hour.

Choral Evensong
today at 4:30pm

Readings: Psalm 6; Wisdom 11:21—12:11; Galatians 4:8-20
Officiant: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum
Music: A Quartet of Choristers
Responses: Philip FitzHugh Radcliffe;
Magnificat: Plainsong; Nunc Dimittus: Mendelssohn, op 69
Anthem: Almighty and everlasting God – Orlando Gibbons

Flowers

Happy heavenly 80th birthday Rex. Gone but always in our hearts,
love Louise, Todd, Nathalie, Amelia and Marie.

Readings for February 23 – The 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 In a powerful reunion Joseph makes the decision not to seek retribution with the brothers who sold him into slavery but recognizes the hand of the Divine even in terrible circumstances, and seeks reconciliation and offers forgiveness.

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 The Psalmist reminds us of the promise of God's presence in all things, and that we should not fret about the fate of others but leave judgment to God.

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Paul tries to steer his readers away from pointless contention and over-literalization of the idea of resurrection, instead pointing to the wonder of God's work in the natural cycle, and the analogy of life and growth being at the heart of resurrected living.

Luke 6:27-38 In the middle of what is known as the 'sermon on the plain' Jesus expands on 'the golden rule' of love - that violence should not be met with violence, nor abusive behaviour met with abuse, but that the calling of love is to challenge both us, and those who may treat us badly. Likewise, to love is not to stand in judgment of others, but to love expansively and generously.

The Food Bank at St. John's is the Blue Envelope for February

The number of guests coming to the Food Bank continues to climb. In 2024 we provided 4,300 hampers, averaging about 56 guests per distribution day or 317 unique guests/households per month. This is a 7.5 percent increase in the number of guests served compared to 2023, and a whopping 29 percent increase since 2021. And we are seeing food prices continue to increase. So, it really is through the generosity and commitment of our donors that we volunteers continue to be able to meet the increasing need each distribution day. Please consider donating to support the Food Bank this month.

On behalf of all the volunteers and guests of the Food Bank, thank you for your ongoing support!

Annual Meeting

Next Sunday, February 23

Held in the parish hall following the 10:00 am Parish Eucharist

Bring a brown bag lunch, tea and coffee provided.

The following people have asked for our prayers.

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

Jean	Chuck & Gary	Kate
Val & family	Deb	Zoe
Bill & Joan	Charles & Frances	Ted & Vorna
Lisa	Jane	Andrew
Brent	Justin	Sheila
Erin	Anna	Joan
Karyn	Geoffrey	The Breen Family
Stephanie	Paul	Dayna
Graham M. & family	Dawson & family	Verna D.
Karen L.	Nancy B.	Michael

R.I.P.

Janet Torriani

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

Stewards

People's Warden: Jim Harlick
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Associate Warden: Lorraine Gates
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Givings Coordinator: Jim Harlick
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Incumbent's Warden: Jamie Lawson
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Associate Warden: Carol Anne Harper
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Treasurer: David Buckman
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Parish Council

David Buckman, Murray Harris, Ann McLaren
Pam Plummer, Ruth Swinton, Cornelia van Voorst, Merle Wall

Synod Delegates

Jim Harlick, Penny Holt, Jamie Lawson

Staff Supporting the Ministry of St. John's

Incumbent: The Ven. Alastair Singh-McCollum
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Volunteer Priest Associate: The Rev. Dr. John Thatamanil
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Please contact the office for email.

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