



March 2, 2025

The Last Sunday after Epiphany

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

St. John's acknowledges these lands of the Lekwungen people.

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

Service times: **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

Daily prayer online is shared daily with a link on our website either live or via recording.

Contacting Us: The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9:30am-12:30pm. 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 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 this afternoon's Liturgy

Officiant: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Welcomer: Bill Williamson

Music: A Small Ensemble of Singers

David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

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: Friesach, Konrad von. Jesus Casts Out the Unclean Spirit, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56402> [retrieved February 28, 2025]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fastentuch_Gurker_Dom_Daemonenaustreibung_30032007.jpg.



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, 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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand at the entrance of the clergy.

Prelude

The officiant gives a short welcome.

The Responses

Plainsong

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

89:1-18

- 1 My song shall be alway of the loving kindness of the Lord * with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth from one generation to another.
- 2 For I have said, Mercy shall be set up for ever * thy truth shalt thou stablish in the heavens.
- 3 I have made a covenant with my chosen * I have sworn unto David my servant;
- 4 Thy seed will I stablish for ever * and set up thy throne from one generation to another.
- 5 O Lord, the very heavens shall praise thy wondrous works * and thy truth in the congregation of the saints.
- 6 For who is he among the clouds * that shall be compared unto the Lord?
- 7 And what is he among the gods * that shall be like unto the Lord?
- 8 God is very greatly to be feared in the council of the saints * and to be had in reverence of all them that are round about him.
- 9 O Lord God of hosts, who is like unto thee * thy truth, most mighty Lord, is on every side.
- 10 Thou rulest the raging of the sea * thou stillest the waves thereof when they arise.
- 11 Thou hast subdued Egypt, and destroyed it * thou hast scattered thine enemies abroad with thy mighty arm.
- 12 The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine * thou hast laid the foundation of the round world, and all that therein is.
- 13 Thou hast made the north and the south * Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy Name.
- 14 Thou hast a mighty arm * strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.
- 15 Righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat * mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

16 Blessed is the people, O Lord, that can rejoice in thee * they shall walk in the light of thy countenance.

17 Their delight shall be daily in thy Name * and in thy righteousness shall they make their boast.

18 For thou art the glory of their strength * and in thy loving-kindness thou shalt lift up our horns.

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.

First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-6

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Please stand.

Magnificat

Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: Plainsong

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.

Second Lesson

John 12:27-36a

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all

people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, ‘We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?’ Jesus said to them, ‘The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.’

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

Please stand.

Nunc Dimittis

Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Plainsong

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.

1st Collect, of the day:

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

2nd 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.

3rd 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

An anthem may be sung.

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

Intercessions

Please stand to sing the hymn:

Hymn (CP 347)

Text: The Yigdal of Daniel ben Judah (1400?); st. 1-3, para. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.;
st. 4, rev. *Hymns for Today's Church. St. 4* © 1982 Hope Publishing Co
Music: LEONI, Melody – Yigdal trad.; trsc. Meier Leon (1751-1797) and Thomas Olivers (1725-1799).
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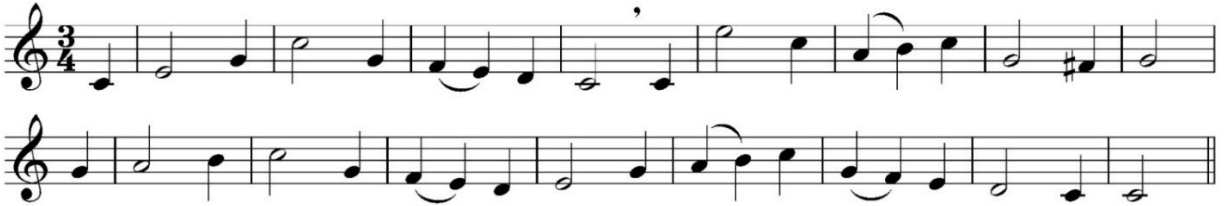


1. **The God of Abraham praise
 who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting Days, and God of love;
 Jehovah, great I AM!
 by earth and heaven confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.**
2. **The great I AM has sworn;
 I on this oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heaven ascend.
 I shall behold God's face;
 I shall God's power adore,
and sing the wonders of God's grace for evermore.**
3. **The goodly land I see
 with peace and plenty blest;
a land of sacred liberty, and endless rest.
 There milk and honey flow,
 and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.**
4. **Triumphant hosts on high
 give thanks eternally
and "Holy, holy, holy" cry, "great Trinity!"
 Hail Abraham's God and ours!
 One might hymn we raise:
All power and majesty be yours and endless praise!**

Sermon

Hymn (Evangelical Lutheran Praise)

Text: Latin, 15th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
Music: **DEUS TUORUM MILITUM**, "The Agincourt Song" c. 1415.



1. O wondrous image! O vision fair
Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows,
Where brighter than the sun He glows!
2. With Moses and Elijah nigh
The incarnate Lord holds converse high;
And from the cloud the Holy One
Bears record to the only Son.
3. With shining face and bright array
Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above
Who joy in God with perfect love.
4. And faithful hearts are raised on high
By this great vision's mystery,
For which in joyful strains we raise
The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
5. O Father, with the eternal Son
And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace
To see Thy glory face to face.

The Blessing or Grace

Organ Voluntary Organ Concerto in Am (ii)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750) / Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

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Ash Wednesday (March 5th) is one of the Holiest times of the Christian Year, and we mark it with special services of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) at which we will listen to readings from the Bible, have a sermon or reflection to start the season, and (at our Evening service) join together in special hymns for the day and with the choir leading our worship.

Both Services take place in the Church of St. John the Divine with the morning a [Said Eucharist at 10am](#) and the evening a [Sung Eucharist at 7pm](#).