



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Season of Creation Week 1

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 7, 2025

“Let your countenance shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.” *Psalm 119.135*

Welcome

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

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.

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 available means of giving regularly: electronic donations on our website via CanadaHelps, or monthly direct debit donations via the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance program - details are available in a brochure at the entrance, or on the website: www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate).*

<p>If you would like to schedule a Memorial Flower Arrangement at the next opportunity, please contact Anne Underhill, aunderhill@stmarysoakbay.ca.</p>

10:00am Service

Liturgy for the Season of Creation

Minister of Welcome:	Chris Moeckl	Organ & Piano:	Janet Yonge
Presider & Preacher:	The Venerable Craig Hiebert	Music:	St. Mary Singers
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Karen Wilson	Livestream:	William Turner, Samantha Robbins

Please note that this service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending in person, you are acknowledging and consent to the fact that the video images of you may appear online.

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

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE

On Eagle's Wings, Joncas & I Love to Tell the Story, Fischer

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Awake, my soul, and with the Sun (8)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Awake, my soul, and with the sun
thy daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
to pay thy morning sacrifice. | 3. Let all thy converse be sincere,
thy conscience as the noonday clear;
think how all-seeing God thy ways
and all thy secret thoughts surveys. |
| 2. Redeem thy misspent time that's past,
and live this day as if thy last;
improve thy talent with due care;
for the great day thyself prepare. | 4. Wake, and lift up thyself, my heart,
and with the angels bear thy part,
who all night long unwearied sing
glory to the eternal King. |

GREETING

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

And also with you

CENTRING STILLNESS

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant us, **O God, the courage to choose Jesus' way even at great cost, bearing our cross and releasing our possessions, for the liberation and healing of your world; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.**

From Season of Creation: a celebration guide for Episcopal Parishes 2025, p. 40

The congregation sits.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 18. 1-11, Gillian Fosdick

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ²“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵Then the word of the Lord came to me: ⁶Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it.

⁹And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Holy word, holy wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139. 1-5, 12-17



When - ev - er I walk____ or rest, you know where I have been. _____

by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

God, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways. R.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O God, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it. R.

For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I will thank you because I am marvellously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well. R.

My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book;
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them. R.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
how great is the sum of them!
If I were to count them, they would be more in number
than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to
be like yours. R.

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

Philemon 1-21, Sherry Armstrong

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved coworker Philemon, ²to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus,
and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

²² One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

²³ Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, ²⁴ and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my coworkers.

²⁵ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

You Are Salt for the Earth (502)

The cantor sings the lines in italic:

1. *You are salt for the earth, O people:*
salt for the Kingdom of God!

Share the flavor of life, O people:
life in the Kingdom of God!

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,
bring forth the kingdom of peace;
bring forth the kingdom of justice,
bring forth the city of God!

2. *You are a light on the hill, O people;*
light for the city of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people:
shine for the kingdom of God! R

3. *You are a seed of the Word, O people:*
bring forth the kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice
grow in the kingdom of God! R

4. *We are a blest and a pilgrim people*
bound for the kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland:
love is the kingdom of God! R

GOSPEL

Luke 14. 25-33

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God is with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

If ye love me, T. Tallis

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

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

Gillian Fosdick

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Lord of creation,
in your mercy, hear us.

In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Colin, Dorothy, Gary, Gina, James, Katie, Ken, Lee, Maura, Rex, Seamus. In our diocese of islands and inlets pray for Anna, our Bishop, John, our Metropolitan, Chris, our National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, and Shane, our Primate, and for the church of St. Michael & All Angels, Royal Oak and their clergy. In our province, pray for The Diocese of Kootenay and the Right Reverend Lynn McNaughton. In our Anglican Church of Canada pray for the theological colleges and training programs within the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land: Arthur Turner Training School, the Centre for Christian Studies, the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, Henry Budd College for Ministry, Saint John's College, Dr. William Winter School for Ministry, James Settee College for Ministry. Together for the Season of Creation which continues in the month ahead and a renewed commitment to a healthy relationship with the Earth In the Church further afield, pray for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

A Note About Our Prayer Ministry: If you wish to request prayers for yourself or for someone else, please send the information to the office: admin@stmarysoakbay.ca. Requests received by end of day Wednesdays will be included in the leaflet for the following Sunday and for three weeks following. Prayers will also be included by the members of the Angel Wings Prayer Team. A new request may be made if you wish specific prayers to be continued. We require only a first name, but it is helpful if an area of need is included, eg, in need of prayer; sickness; awaiting surgery; recovering from surgery; ongoing treatment; death; grieving.

CONFESSION OF SIN

***God of compassion, have mercy upon us.
Heal our relationship with all creation.
Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect
of the creatures who share the earth with us.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent
for what we have done to harm them,
and for what we have not done to help them.***

***Fill us with your Spirit,
that we may care for one another and for all creatures,
according to your will and in the fullness of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.***

The presider pronounces assurance of God's forgiveness:

God the Creator brings you new life,
forgives and redeems you.
Take hold of this forgiveness

and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

The congregation stands

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

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 HYMN

You servants of the Lord (93)

1. You servants of the Lord,
each in his office wait,
observant of his heavenly Word,
and watchful at his gate.
2. Let all your lamps be bright,
and trim the golden flame;
attentive stand, as in his sight, for
awesome is his name.
3. Watch; 'tis your Lord's command,
and while we speak, he's near;
mark the first signal of his hand,
and ready all appear.
4. How happy shall we be if in his service
found!
We shall our Lord with rapture see,
and be with honor crowned!
5. Christ shall the banquet spread
with his own royal hand,
and raise each faithful servant's head
amid the angelic band.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Bless these gifts and our lives, O God, that we may share ourselves and our belongings with those in need. Lift up our voices with those of all creation that sing out in praise for your grace and love. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*Salal + Cedar Watershed Discipleship Community,
Anglican Diocese of New Westminster*

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

Jesus invites us to come to the table. Here, in this bread and wine, may we encounter Christ who calls us to care for the poor, the earth, and all who are in need. All who long for Christ are welcome at this table.

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right at all times and in all places
to thank and praise you, Creator of all.

We praise you here on this Island
where city and farm, wilderness and industry are side by side.
We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation.
Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration.

They depended on the land,
were displaced from the land
and displaced others from their lands.
They knew you in tents and cities,
on mountains and by wells,
in families and in dreams,
and through wilderness prophets
who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors,
orca and salmon, camas and cedar
we join our voices with all creation
in this ancient honour song:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest***

We give thanks to you for Jesus,
whose first bed was a feed trough.
He was baptized in the Jordan,
tested in the wilderness;
he traveled in fishing boats
and told parables of farmers and seeds,
labour and wages, yeast and bread.
On the night before he died,
Jesus took bread,
food of the poor,
the work of field and hearth.
He gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends
saying: Take and eat,
this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.
Again after supper he took the cup of wine,
fruit of the land,
gave thanks and gave it to his friends
saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you.
When you do this, do it in memory of me.
Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection
and awaiting his coming kingdom,
we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts
so that we know Jesus in them
and are gathered together
with everyone who shares this sacred meal
of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,
that we may strive for justice and peace,
respect the dignity of every human being,
and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with all your saints
to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily,
child and beggar
which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours,
Creator, Christ and Spirit,
now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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

Christ meets us at this table.

Today, salvation comes to this community.

***As bread is broken, and wine shared,
we are thankful.***

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

sung 747

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

***Jesus redeemer, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace, give us your peace.***

THE COMMUNION

All are invited to receive Communion.

The sacrament will be offered in both kinds (bread and the common cup) but 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.

If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are also welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. This is signified by folding your hands across your chest as you approach the presider.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Thou Who Camest from Above (624)

1. O thou who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.
2. There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.
3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.
4. Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal
and make the sacrifice complete.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven and the gifts of mother earth. In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace and you call us to friendship with one another. You have given us the gift of reconciliation. May we who have tasted that gift from you, offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another. And may you always walk among us as friend. **Amen.**

Postcommunion prayer 3 from *Lenni Lenape Algonkian Iroquoian Council, Diocese of Huron (Huron LAIC)*, 2001, as published in "Worship in the Vision of New Agape – A Collection of Resources" (Anglican Church of Canada, 2004), 44.

COMMUNITY NOTES

DOXOLOGY

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

HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee (425)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day. | 2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee. |
|--|--|

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

DISMISSAL

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

"Let All Things Their Creator Bless": Liturgy for Use During
the Season of Creationtide, Diocese of Guilford, pp. 38-39

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C Major, 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.



autumn BOOK SALE

***Celebrating Indigenous Writers,
History and Culture***

**SATURDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER
10am – 2pm**



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