The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost Season of Creation September 21, 2025

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 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.



Merchant taking accounts, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55705 [retrieved September 17, 2022]. Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:BLW_Stained_Glass_-_Roundel_showing_a_Merchant.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 – with choir and organ), 4:30 pm (BCP Choral 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. You may also conveniently use our tap machine (no tax receipt) which is available at the garden door entrance, or the bank machine (tax receipt with envelope completion) available at the office. Envelopes for regular giving are available from the church office. 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 Reverend Pam Worthington

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

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

Presider: The Reverend Pam Worthington **Greeters:** Barbara Jenks, Karyn Lehmann

Crucifer: Susanna Peterson **Sacristan:** Penny Holt

Readers: Barry Salter, Margaret Walker

Gospel: Gary Moss

Sermon: The Reverend Pam Worthington

Intercessor: Mary Kennedy

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Nancy Baal,

Virginia Miller, Iris Elsdon

Verger: David Pupak

Streaming Technician: Karen Coverett

Music: The Choristers of St. John the Divine
David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

Char Hodgins, Assistant Director

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.

The Gathering of the Community

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

Announcements

Introit

We shall walk through the valley in peace; we shall walk through the valley in peace.

If Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there; there will be no trials there.

If Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace.

African American Spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)

Processional Hymn (CP 384)

LOBE DEN HERREN



1. Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
beloved family draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.



2. Praise the the Lord,

who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth: has thou not seen how thy entreaties have been granted in what he ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord,

who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee: ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if with his love he befriend thee.

4. Praise to the Lord,

who, when tempests their warfare are waging, who, when the elements madly around thee are raging, biddeth them cease, turneth their fury to peace, whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

5. Praise to the Lord,

who when darkness of sin is abounding, who when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding, sheddeth his light, chaseth the horrors of night, saints with his mercy surrounding.

6. Praise to the Lord!

O let all that is in me adore him!
All that half life and breath
come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him.

Gathering

Blessed be the One who creates all things.

All: The Holy One's love is new every morning.

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.

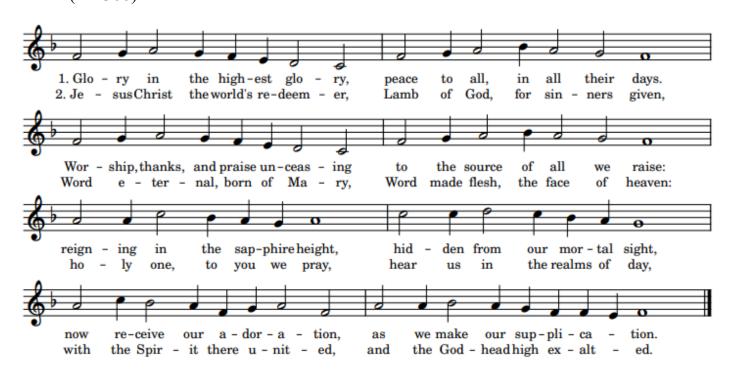
Almighty God,

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 (CP 366)
PSALM 42



Text: Glory to God (Gloria in excelsis, Greek Hymn, 200?); para. Paul Gibson (1952-) ©.

Music: Melody – Geneva, 1551.

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The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

O God,

you are rich in love for your people: Show us the treasure that endures and, when we are tempted by greed, call us back into your service and entrust us with the wealth that never fails. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) alt.

The Proclamation of the Word

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

The First Reading

Jeremiah 8:18—19:1

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land:

'Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?'

('Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?')

'The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.'

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?
Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance; they have profaned your holy temple; * they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.

They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air, * and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.

They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, * and there was no one to bury them.

We have become a reproach to our neighbours, * an object of scorn and derision to those around us.

How long will you be angry, O GOD? * Will your fury blaze like fire for ever? Pour out your wrath upon the heathens who have not known you * and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your Name.

For they have devoured Jacob * and made their dwelling a ruin.

Remember not our past sins; let your compassion be swift to meet us; * for we have been brought very low.

Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; * deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.

Inclusive Language Psalter: A New Gender-Inclusive Adaption of the Book of Psalms,
Based on the 1979 Book of Common Prayer Text (Version for Congregational Use)
Edited and adapted by Adam Waddell, Hannah Bowman, the Rev. K.D. Joyce, and the Rev. Bailey Pickens.

The Epistle 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.



- 1. A spendthrift lover is our God
 who never counts the cost
 or asks if heaven can afford
 to woo a world that's lost.
 Our lover tosses coins of gold
 across the midnight skies
 and stokes the sun against the cold
 to warm us when we rise.
- 2. Still more is spent in blood and tears
 to win the human heart,
 to overcome the violent fears
 that drive the world apart.
 Behold the bruised and thorn-crowned face
 of one who bears our scars
 and empties out the wealth of grace
 that's hinted by the stars.
- 3. How shall we love this heart-strong God who gives us everything, whose ways to us are strange and odd; what can we give or bring?

 Acceptance of the matchless gift is gift enough to give.

 The very act will shake and shift the way we love and live.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger (1945-). © 1985 Oxford University Press, Inc. Music: Alfred V. Fedak (1953-). © 1990 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.

Gospel Luke 16:1-13



Cantor: You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9



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.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God,

All: who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, adapted by Keld B. Hansen, 2009, as provided in "Listen to the Voice of Creation," *Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2022*, 33.

Prayers of the People

Those who have asked for our prayers are listed at the end of the leaflet.

The Peace

Peace with yourself.

Peace with Creation.

Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always 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) which is available at the garden door entrance, or the bank machine (tax receipt with envelope completion) available at the office. Envelopes for regular giving are available from the church office.

Offertory Anthem

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

> Text: Maundy Thursday antiphon. Music: Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978).

Hymn at the Presentation (SNC 92)

TEAGUE



In sacred manner may we walk upon the fair and loving earth in beauty move, in beauty love the living round that brought us birth. We stand on holy ground. We stand on holy ground.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1997 ©; admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music: Thomas Pavlechko, 2008 © Augsburg Fortress.
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The Prayer over the Gifts

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts, so that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

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

All:

Eucharistic Prayer 4, Book of Alternative Services

May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

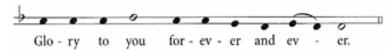
Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

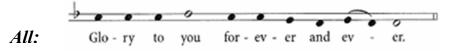
Let us give thanks to our Creator God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

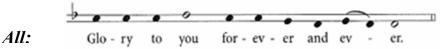
It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.



At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.



From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.



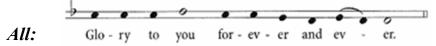
But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return.

Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law.

In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour.

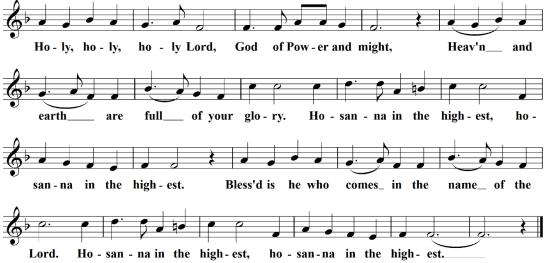
He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities.

By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.



Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:





Music: Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937- 2010). © 1971, 1977 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-719605.

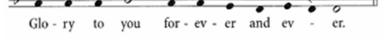
Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it:

This is my body which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me."

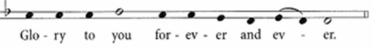
In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."





Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

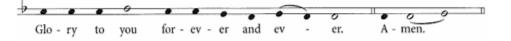




Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation.
Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,

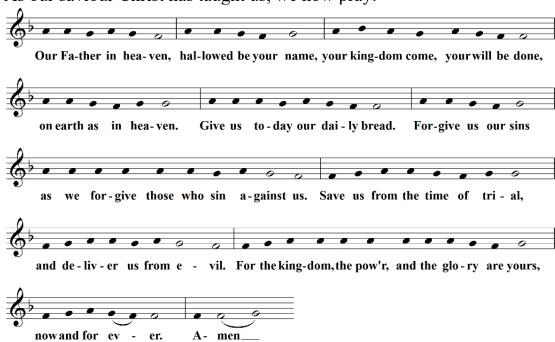
all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.





The Disciple's Prayer

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



The Breaking of the Bread

This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

All: All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.

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. 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 (sung by the choir)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, miserere nobis. have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, dona nobis pacem. grant us peace.

Anthem (sung by the choir)

Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren

mit Trauren, sei stille!

Wie Gott es fügt, so sei vergnügt mein Wille.

Was willst du heute sorgen

auf morgen? Der Eine steht allem für,

der gibt auch dir

das Deine.

Sei nur in allem Handel

ohn Wandel, steh feste!

Was Gott beschleußt,

das ist und heißt

das Beste.

Let nothing afflict you

with grief; be calm!

As God ordains, so may my will be content.

Why worry today about tomorrow?

The One is in charge,

who gives also to you

what is yours.

In all your doings be steadfast; stand firm!

What God decrees

is, and is acknowledged,

the best.

Text: Paul Flemming (1609-1640) Music: Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

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

O God,

we give you thanks

that you have set before us this feast,

the body and blood of your Son.

By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Woorshi

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve God's Creation.

All: Thanks be to God the Creator.

Recessional Hymn (NEH 339)

SLANE



- 1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art, Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord, Be thou my great Father, and I thy true child, Though once far away now by love reconciled.
- 3. Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight, Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might, Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower, O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.
- 4. Riches I heed not, nor world's empty praise, Be thou my inheritance now and always, Be thou and thou only the first in my heart, O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 5. High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun, O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won, Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish c. 8th century; tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931); Versified Eleanor Hull (1860-1935).

*Vers. © courtesy of the estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd.

*Music: Traditional Irish Melody.

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Voluntary

Parts of todays service were taken from Season of Creation A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes (TEC) Perennial Edition 2025

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

Choral Evensong today at 4:30pm

Readings: Psalm 129; Ezra 1; John 7:14-36

Officiant: Ruth MacIntosh

Music: Members of the Choristers of St. John the Divine Responses: Kathryn Rose; Canticles: J. E. D'esterre Paul

Anthem: Bonum est confiteri Domino, et psallere nomini tuo, Altissime

Flowers

Offered to the glory of God's Creation and in gratitude for the Autumnal equinox bringing fall rains after a long, hot, and dry summer, from Bill Williamson.



BLUE ENVELOPE FOR SEPTEMBER: The Food Bank at St. John's

The Food Bank at St. John's provides staple food items to those in need in our community.

Readings for September 28th – The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 The prophet purchases land as an act of faith in God's future.

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 Knowledge of God's sheltering love helps us in adverse times.

1 Timothy 6:6-19 Money is valuable, but not the ultimate value.

Luke 16:19-31 Jesus tells a parable about a rich man and a poor man, stressing the great distance between them in life, death, and after.

The following people have asked for our prayers.

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

Chuck Val & family Bill & family Charles & Frances Carin & David Paul C-S. Nancy B. Mallory Justin Louise Susan Moses Jill & family Samantha Jane Zoe Dawson, Bennett & family Robyn Clara Mike Andrew John & family John & Pat Elspeth & family Jacob

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

Stewards

People's Warden: Jim Harlick jharlick@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca Associate Warden: Lorraine Gates lgates@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca Givings Coordinator: Jim Harlick givings@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca Incumbent's Warden: Jamie Lawson jlawson@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Associate Warden: Carol Anne Harper charper@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Treasurer: David Buckman treasurer@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

Parish Council

Jaqueline Gillespie, Murray Harris, Ann McLaren Pam Plummer, Ruth Swinton, Cornelia van Voorst

Synod Delegates

Jim Harlick, Jamie Lawson, Michael Zenger

Staff Supporting the Ministry of St. John's

Incumbent: The Ven. Alastair Singh-McCollum incumbent@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Volunteer Priest Associate: The Rev. Dr. John Thatamanil jthatamanil@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Pam Worthington
Please contact the office for email.

Director of Music: David Stratkauskas sjdchoirs@gmail.com Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh familyministry@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

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