



## St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

Doing God's Love Since 1899

# September 7, 2025 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Feast of the Creator 10:00 a.m. Family Eucharist

Celebrant: The Reverend Patrick Blaney

## St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

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#### WELCOME

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We ask that you please turn all cell phones and other electronic devices to silent or "off". Thank you.

After the service, we invite everyone (especially newcomers!) to join us for coffee or tea, and visit our Welcome Table downstairs in the Lounge. This is a place where you can learn more about the various activities and groups here at St. John's, find contact information, ways to get involved and have fun! We look forward to getting to know you better!

#### The Anglican Church

As Anglicans we believe that God is eternal, the earth maker, the pain bearer, the life giver; source of all that is and shall be; father and mother of us all. We learn that God is one, yet revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer - a Holy Trinity.

We believe that Christians learn about God in the Bible, in the teaching of the Church summed up in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and through sharing in the living community of faith. We believe Jesus Christ was incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. We are an Apostolic Church, meaning that Bishops are a part of our leadership and we can trace our line of Bishops back to the 12 Apostles.

As Anglicans we get to know God by God's initiative in our thinking and understanding: by experiencing and reflecting on the wonder and mystery of creation, birth and death, love, forgiveness and the need to find meaning and worth beyond ourselves.

Everyone is welcome at St. John's, whether you were raised Anglican, or followed another faith, or you have no faith background at all. We hope you find what you are looking for in our service today.

#### **Our Service Today - Feast of the Creator, Season of Creation**

Christians around the world are invited to give particular attention to praying and caring for God's creation as part of the global Season of Creation, observed from September 1 to October 4 every year.

A new addition to the Church's liturgical life, the Feast of the Creator has been adopted as a major feast within the calendar of the Anglican Church of Canada. The feast may be celebrated on September 1, to usher in the Season of Creation, or transferred to a Sunday within the season. Today at St. John's, we celebrate the Feast of the Creator.

The Feast of the Creator gives praise and worship to the Trinity for the divine grace and power shown in the creation of the heavens and earth. God's loving generosity, as "creator of heaven and earth" is spoken in the Nicene Creed. As 2025 is the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, we include it in today's Feast of the Creator service.

As we proceed through the service, this bulletin will help you recognize when to stand and when to sit, when to speak and when to sing, when to pray silently and when to pray aloud. We invite you to read aloud with us anytime the bulletin says **All**.

#### **Chapel Candles**

At any time during the service, you are welcome to prayerfully light a candle in the chapel in honour of a loved one, or in a prayer of concern.

#### Ministering today at our 10:00 a.m. service:

Celebrant: The Reverend Patrick Blaney

Liturgical Assistant: Jill Parsons, Chaplain

Crucifer and Altar Server: Hazel Breakey
Choir Director: Christie Smith
Music Director: Galina Martyniouk
Guest Musician: Clara Lin Hui, piano

Readers: Kevin Benoy, Christine Williams

Intercessor: Donna Lawrence

Eucharistic Administrators: Christine Williams, Farid Madisa

Welcome Table Diane Johnson

#### Flowers in the Sanctuary

The official Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Please sign up for the Sunday that you would like to donate Altar Flowers, even if you signed up somewhere else previously. If you have any questions, please contact Donna in the office.

## The Offertory Plate sits at the back of the church:

We do not "pass the plate" at St. John's. We invite you to place your donation on the Offertory Plate at the back of the church anytime. During the Offertory Hymn the plate is brought forward to the altar.

Your thoughtful and generous gifts to St. John's enable our worship and ministries to our community. One-time or recurring donations can be made by visiting our website www.stjohnnv.ca, or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.

## **Prelude & Announcements**

## **Processional Hymn** - God the Creator

We stand for the Processional Hymn, as the ministry team enters the sanctuary.

## Territorial Acknowledgement

Celebrant We acknowledge with respect that we worship on the

traditional territories of the Squamish - Mother of the Wind, the Tsleil-Waututh - People of the Inlet, and the Musqueam -People of the River Grass. Let us pray that we may live more deeply into the calls to action from Canada's Truth and

Reconciliation Commission.

All May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of

reconciliation and peace. Amen

## The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant This is the day the Creator has made.

All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

be with you all.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All To you all hearts are open,

all desires are 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.

## Glory to God

All (sung) Glory to God in the highest And peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

#### The Collect

Celebrant O Creator and Potter of all,

All You formed the earth and shaped our lives with care.

When we distort Your design,

You do not discard but reshape in mercy. Mould us to be caretakers of Your creation,

humble, responsive, and full of hope.

Let our lives reflect Your restoring hands, through Christ, who makes all things new. Amen

Season of Creation 2025, Anglican Church of South Africa

## Peace With Creation Prayer

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Celebrant Creator of all,

we praise you for the gift of life

and for the faith that unites us in care for our common home.

All We confess how estranged we have become from one another, from your Creation,

and from our truest selves.

Celebrant We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses

have fractured our relationships with you,

with others, and with the Earth.

All Fertile fields have become barren,

forests lie desolate,

oceans and rivers are polluted.

Thriving communities have become places of suffering,

and the earth cries out.

Celebrant Beloved Christ,

who spoke "Shalom" to frightened hearts,

stir us to compassionate action.

All Inspire us to work for the end of conflict,

and for the full restoration of broken relationships—

with you, with the ecumenical community,

with the human family, and with all Creation.

Celebrant Prince of Peace,

through your wounds, teach us to stand in solidarity

with the woundedness of others, of creation, and of the world.

All Through your resurrection, make us people of hope—

## All with a vision of swords turned into ploughshares and tears transformed into joy.

Celebrant May we come together as one family,

to labour for your peace—

a shalom where all your people

may dwell in safety, and rest in quiet places.

#### All Amen.

Please be seated.

### The Proclamation of the Word

**The First Reading:** Read by Kevin Benoy. A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The 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. Then the word of the Lord came to me: Can 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. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but 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. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but 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. Now, 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.

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139 - Psalmic Hymn - Lord, You Have Searched Me

The Second Reading: Read by Christine Williams.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet 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. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no 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. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do more than I say.

Philemon 1-21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

#### All Thanks be to God.

## **Gradual Hymn** - Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Before the reading of the Gospel, we sing the first two verses of the Gradual Hymn. Please stand for the Gradual Hymn and the Gospel if you are able.

We turn to face the Liturgical Assistant as they read the Gospel from the centre of the sanctuary. Then we sing the last part of the Gospel Hymn facing the altar.

## The Gospel - Feast of the Creator

Liturgical Assistant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Liturgical Assistant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke.

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "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. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. 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? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' 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? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Luke 14:25-33

Liturgical Assistant The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** 

At the conclusion of the Gospel, we sing the last verse of the Gradual hymn.

#### Sermon

The Reverend Patrick Blaney

## Time for Reflection Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

creator of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of

God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true

God,

begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from

#### heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son

he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the People** - Hear Our Prayer

**The Church:** We pray for Archbishop John Stephens our Metropolitan, and Archbishop Shane Parker, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. We pray for Archbishop Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop and Presiding Elder of the Sacred Circle. Also, we pray for Patrick our Priest. For Jill in her discernment, work and studies to become an Anglican Priest. For St. Mary Magdalene, Vancouver - The Reverend Tasha Carrothers; The Archdeaconry of Lougheed - Archdeacon Andrew Halladay, Regional Archdeacon. For Primate Brent Alawas, Bishop Benny Lang-akan and the Clergy and People of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines. Our companion parish, St. John the Evangelist Mission and Outstations, Pasnadan, The Reverend Tristan Bati-el.

**The Local Community:** City & District of North Vancouver, Queen Mary Community School, Lookout Housing and Health Society of the North Shore.

#### The World: Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end of violence and the establishment of peace, we also call to you to bring justice and equality to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people Are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

-Archbishop Hosam March 2024

**Those in Need:** For those who are sick, hospitalized and in need of our prayers. This week, our prayers are requested especially for these members and friends of our St. John's faith community: Laurie Stringer, Mir and his family, Madeline Cooper.

**The Dearly Departed:** We pray for all who have passed on from this life and live forever in our hearts.

**In Thanksgiving:** In our cycle of prayer, we pray for these members of our faith community: Karen and Bert Coppin, Joan Curtis, Howard and Cathy Dallimore, Reza Dana, Ali and Zara Davar, Pat Dean, and their families.

#### Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

(A prayerful silence is kept)

Celebrant **All** 

Holy and merciful God,
we confess that we have failed to honour you
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.
We have walked heavily on your earth,
overused and wasted its resources,
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,
holding future generations hostage to our greed.
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve
your earth as you desire and intend,
with grateful and compassionate hearts,
through your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Season of Creation: Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

## Sharing of The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

All Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Celebrant May the peace of Christ always be with you.

All And also with you.

The members of the community may greet each other in the name of the Lord. Many of us will simply smile and say "Peace be with you".

## The Offertory

The Offertory Plate can be found at the back of the church by the double doors, and you may place your donation there anytime before or during the service. Your thoughtful and generous gifts enable our worship and ministry to our community and the world. We sincerely thank you.

We stand for the Offertory Hymn. After the Offertory Hymn, the Offertory Plate will be presented to the altar.

## Offertory Hymn - My Life Flows On

#### The Celebration of the Eucharist

## Preparation of the Gifts

The liturgical assistants set the Altar and prepare the gifts of bread and wine for the Eucharist. The Offertory Plate, that holds our donations for the needs and responsibilities of the Church, is then brought forward to be blessed before the Altar.

## The Doxology

All (sung) Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## The Prayer Over the Gifts

Celebrant Great and holy God,

All accept our offering of labour and love.

May we bring you true and spiritual worship

and be one with you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen.

Please remain standing as you are able.

## **Eucharistic Prayer 5**

Celebrant The Creator be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Creator.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,

for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe.

All Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant You created us to love you with all our heart,

and to love each other as ourselves,

but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son,

you bring healing to our world

and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you

on earth and in heaven,

we praise your wonderful name, as we sing (say),

All (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. Celebrant

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected. Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

AII

#### Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant

On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you." After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven.

Do this in memory of me."

All

## Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Celebrant Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,

that we may know the presence of Jesus

in the breaking of bread, and share in the life

of the family of your children.

All Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant Father, you call us to be your servants;

fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,

that all the world may gather in joy

at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father,

through Jesus, our Lord,

in the power of the Holy Spirit,

now and for ever.

All Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

Our Father and Mother in heaven

All You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans

Celebrant Hallowed be your name

All By the care we take of your Creation

Celebrant Your kingdom come

All that you see is good

Celebrant Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven

All Your will to till and care
Celebrant Give us today our daily bread

All That all may have enough to live life in fullness

Celebrant Forgive us our trespasses

All Our greed, our exploitation,

our lack of concern for other species

and for future generations

Celebrant As we forgive those who trespass against us

All By reconciliation with justice and peace

Celebrant Lead us not into temptation

All The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation

Celebrant And deliver us from evil

All The evil of destroying your gift of creation

Celebrant For yours is the kingdom **Yours, Lord, not ours**Celebrant The power and the glory

All In the cross and resurrection

Celebrant Forever and ever

All You are the beginning and you are the end.

Amen.

Season of Creation: Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes

## The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All We, being many, are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

#### The Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God, for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Please be seated as the Communion is prepared.

All who love God and desire Christ are welcome to receive communion. Glutenfree wafers are available. Please let the Eucharistic Administrator know if you wish to receive one. Please note intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine), is not permitted.

## **Communion Hymns**

- This Is The Body Of Christ
- Before I Take The Body Of My Lord
- Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

The Eucharistic administrators will first serve Communion to the choir. Then they will stand at the front of the church and the congregation will come forward in two lines down the centre aisle to take Communion. If you want to come forward for a blessing, please line up for the minister and cross your arms over your chest.

#### Celebrant Takes Communion

After the congregation has been served, the celebrant takes Communion at the altar, saying the following.

Celebrant: The body of Christ, food for our journey.

The blood of Christ, the cup of love.

And now I invite you here, and you at home, to put your

hand over your heart and accept the communion of God.

All Amen.

The communion hymns continue as the Liturgical Assistants clear the altar.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Holy One,

All 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.

All And may you always walk among us as friend.
Amen.

Please be seated.

## The Thanksgiving Box

On the first Sunday of the month we invite everyone who wants to give thanks for particular blessings in their lives (birthdays, anniversaries, new job, etc.) to come forward and share their story with the congregation. All donations placed in the Thanksgiving Box will go to the minister's discretionary fund.

Celebrant Prayer of Thanksgiving Everyone returns to their pews.

Please stand as you are able.

## The Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,

All 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.

## The Blessing

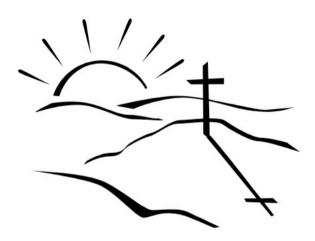
Recessional Hymn - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

## Dismissal

Liturgical Assistant Words of dismissal

All Thanks be to God.

There is a brief musical postlude for those who wish to stay.



Thank you for blessing us with your presence today.

Please do join us downstairs in the Lounge
for our tea and coffee fellowship.

## **Faithful Friends**

Activity Page for Any Age

#### Feast of the Creator

| Today we celebrate all of God's creations: the land, the sea, the air, and all who live there. We celebrate ourselves as the true gifts of God that we are. What are some of your favourites of God's creations. |   |
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| Music  | ike best?                                 |
| - (Song) ala you i   |   |
| Word Play  | form words or phrases from shursh         |
| EOATRRC  | form words or phrases from church.  SFTEA |
|  | ENCAOTIR                                  |
| Draw a Picture   |   |
| Draw your favourite animal, o  | one of God's precious creations.          |
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