

*Growing in*  
**GRACE,**  
*Giving with*  
**JOY.**



Commitment Sunday

*On the traditional land of the Semiahmoo*

the Parish of St. Mark

O C E A N  P A R K

*November 16, 2025*

*The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost*



# Welcome!

*We are so glad you have come to St. Mark's today!*

*In this place we do two primary things: we give thanks to God and pray for the world. If there is something on your heart you need to share with God, this is the right place to share it.*

*You are God's Beloved Child, and you belong **here**.*



## This morning in worship...

Today we conclude our Stewardship Campaign: Growing in Grace, Giving with Joy. We will focus on the reading in Isaiah where God calls us to "be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating." It is also Commitment Sunday; an opportunity to hand in our commitment cards as we plan for the next fiscal year.

The altar flowers are given this week by Margaret and Lorne Appleton to the glory of God and in loving memory of parents Martha, Fred, Margaret and Cecil. To dedicate flowers, please sign up on the flower chart in the hall.

### Today's Scripture

*From Introductions to the Lessons by Bill Bennett.*

**Isaiah 65:17-25** The Third Isaiah presents a vision of hope and social transformation as the Jews return from their 6<sup>th</sup> century exile in Babylon.

**2 Thessalonians 3:6-13** Paul rebukes those in the church who, because of Christ's supposedly imminent return, have become idle.

**Luke 21:5-19** Jesus predicts the destruction of the temple and the persecution many followers of the faith will suffer.

### For Children

Children will gather after the opening songs for a commissioning and then return for communion. All of our staff and volunteers have had a criminal record check and have been approved for ministry with vulnerable people.

### For Youth

Following the opening songs, the youth will gather for a spiritual conversation.

### Coffee Hour

Please gather in the hall for coffee and refreshment following the service.

## Next Week: November 23

### The Reign of Christ

Jeremiah 23.1-6; Luke 1.68-79; Colossians 1.11-20;  
Luke 23.33-43

The Reverend David Taylor preaches.

JOYFULLY

give thanks to the Father,  
who has enabled you  
to share in the inheritance  
of the saints in the light.

# the Gathering of the Community

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

Almighty God,  
**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.**

City of God  
*Dan Schutte*

**Awake from your slumber!  
Arise from your sleep!  
A new day is dawning  
for all those who weep.  
The people in darkness  
have seen a great light.  
The Lord of our longing  
has conquered the night.**

*Let us build the city of God.  
May our tears be turned into dancing!  
For the Lord, our light and our love,  
has turned the night into day!*

**We are sons of the morning;  
we are daughters of day.  
The One who has loved us  
has brightened our way.  
The Lord of all kindness  
has called us to be  
a light for his people  
to set their hearts free.**

Common Praise 502

**You are salt for the earth, O people:  
salt for the kingdom of God!  
Share the flavour 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!*

**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!**

Common Praise 321

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him Lord of all.  
bring forth the royal diadem  
to crown him Lord of all.**

**O that, with heaven's sacred throng,  
we at his feet may fall,  
lift high the universal song  
and crown him Lord of all.  
lift high the universal song  
and crown him Lord of all!**

O God,  
in Christ you give us hope for a new heaven and a new earth. Grant us wisdom to interpret the signs of our times, courage to stand in the time of trial, and faith to witness to your truth and love. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you!**

## Commissioning of the Children

*We have a wonderful program for your child this morning. They will return for Communion.  
Please note that all our children's workers have had a criminal record check  
and are approved by the Diocese of New Westminster to work with vulnerable people.*



# the Proclamation of the Word

*We have large-print versions of the Scripture available for those who need one. Please ask a greeter for one.*

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah (65:17-25)

Listen for God's Word.

**Our hearts are open.**

Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

*Jack Noble White*

***Surely it is God who saves me;***

***I will trust and not be afraid.***

***For the Lord is my stronghold***

***and my sure defense,***

***and God will be my Saviour.***

*Listen, as the choir sings the verses,*

Therefore you shall draw water

with rejoicing

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

give thanks to the Lord

and call upon God's name.

Make God's deeds known

among the peoples;

see that they remember

that the Lord is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord,

for God has done great things,

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion;

ring out your joy,

for the great one in the midst of you

is the Holy One of Israel.

The Second Letter of Paul to the  
Thessalonians (3:6-13).

Listen for God's Word.

**Our hearts are open.**

Alleluia

*Norah Duncan*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Luke 21:5-19*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

# Sermon Notes



## The Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker 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 whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation came down from heaven: who by the power of the Holy Spirit became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made human. Who for our sake was crucified under Pontius Pilate; who suffered death and was buried. Who, on the third day, rose again in accordance with the scriptures; who ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. Who will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and whose kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified. Who 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.**

## The Prayers of the People

*While we have chiefly come to give thanks to God, our second purpose for gathering is to intercede for the world. We know that "the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).*

## The Confession & Absolution

**Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

# the Celebration of the Eucharist

*Please be seated as we gather our offering to present to God. You can give using an envelope, by signing up to our Pre-Authorized Debit program, or by using the terminal in the foyer. Today we use a Eucharistic Prayer 5 in the Book of Alternative Services, page 204*

## Commitment Cards Presentation

### Common Praise 615

**Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou biddest me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, and waiting not  
to rid my soul of one dark blot,  
to thee, whose blood  
can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am – thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down –  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The priest continues in prayer.*

### Sanctus

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

*The priest continues in prayer.*

### 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.**

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

**We, being many, are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

The gifts of God for the Children of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All are invited to receive Communion.*

*If you would like to learn more about baptism, please connect with the minister.  
Prayer for healing is offered during communion on the right side of the sanctuary.*

Don't Be Afraid

*John Bell*

**Don't be afraid.**

**My love is stronger,  
my love is stronger than your fear.**

**Don't be afraid.**

**My love is stronger  
and I have promised,  
promised to be always near.**

I Lift My Eyes Up

*Brian Doerkson*

**I lift my eyes up to the mountains.**

**Where does my help come from?**

**My help comes from you,  
maker of heaven, creator of the earth.**

***Oh how I need you, Lord.***

***You are my only hope.***

***You're my only prayer.***

***So I will wait for you***

***to come and rescue me.***

***Come and give me life.***

Faithful One

*Brian Doerksen*

**Faithful One, so unchanging;**

**Ageless One, you're my Rock of peace;**

**Lord of all, I depend on you;**

**I call out to you again and again;**

**I call out to you again and again.**

**You are my Rock in times of trouble;**

**you lift me up when I fall down;**

**all through the storm,**

**your love is the anchor;**

**my hope is in you alone.**

If You Believe and I Believe

*John Bell*

**If you believe and I believe**

**and we together pray,**

**the Holy Spirit must come down**

**and set God's people free,**

**and set God's people free,**

**and set God's people free;**

**the Holy Spirit must come down**

**and set God's people free.**

Announcements

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

I've Got the Joy!

*Traditional*

**I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy  
down in my heart!  
Down in my heart to stay!**

***And I'm so happy! So very happy!  
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart!***

**I've got the peace that passeth  
understanding down in my heart!  
Down in my heart to stay!**

His Eye is on the Sparrow

*Traditional*

**I sing because I'm happy!  
I sing because I'm free!  
His eye is on the sparrow  
and I know he watches me!**

Common Praise 154

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
let earth receive the King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love.**

**Go in the peace and joy of the Holy Spirit.  
Thanks be to God!**

*Lyrics are printed with permission through:  
CCLI 445657, OneLicense A-727134*



## Financial Support

We are grateful for your stewardship of this place through your tithes and offerings. They ensure that St. Mark – Ocean Park will be a centre and a light to the community for generations to come.

If you would like to become a regular steward of the ministry of this place, please fill out a welcome card and give it to the greeter, or the priest.

Donations can be made  
by **cash** or **cheque**

(made out to the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park),

by **Pre-Authorized Debit** (PAD),  
at the **Electronic Donation Station** (EDS) in  
the foyer (please ask the usher for assistance),  
by **e-Transfer** at

stmark.op.treasurer@gmail.com, or  
through **CanadaHelps** on our website.

If you would like donation **envelopes**, please  
connect with the office.

All donations will receive a tax-receipt in  
February of the following year.





# The Pulse

## Children Youth & Family Ministry

**Did you know!?**

**The Youth Group is working with the outreach committee to raise funds for Patricia Hope House this Christmas. See the poster for more details!**

**Sunday Junior Church Program  
Come and explore the Gospel with us!**

**Group 1: Grades K to 7**

**Group 2: Grades 8-12**

***A sensory space is available for all those who would like to use it.***

**Youth Group Fridays  
Grades 8 - 12, 7 - 9 pm**

**All are welcome!  
email [yministryrsvp@gmail.com](mailto:yministryrsvp@gmail.com) with any inquiries.**



The Lunch Basket is given this week by Margaret and Lorne Appleton with thanks to God for His great glory, His many blessings and His special love for all children.



## Prayer Chain & Sunday Intercessions

If you, or someone you know is in need of prayer, please connect with **Lynne** at [lynneh1@telus.net](mailto:lynneh1@telus.net). She will share your request with a community of faithful intercessors!

To have a name mentioned in the Sunday Intercessions, please write their name on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary, connect with **Michael** at [michael@klaverrealtor.ca](mailto:michael@klaverrealtor.ca), or contact the office.

## Library News

Rectors Choice

Love Wins – Rob Bell

In Love Wins, bestselling author, international teacher, and speaker Rob Bell (Velvet Elvis, Drops Like Stars) addresses one of the most controversial issues of faith—hell and the afterlife—arguing, would a loving God send people to eternal torment forever?



# News & Events

## This week at the Parish

Tuesday	Guild Meetings
Wednesday	Holy Communion, 10 am
Thursday	Contemplative Prayer 7 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Friday	Sr. Youth Group 7:00 pm

## Holly Berry Fair

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 11am to 2pm  
Please join us for a delicious lunch and check out the crafts, bake sales, gift baskets, treasures, collectibles, jewelry, Christmas items and raffle.

To donate items, please drop them into the marked bins in the parish hall before December 4<sup>th</sup> or email Linda at [lindaodee@hotmail.com](mailto:lindaodee@hotmail.com) to arrange a pick up. Come help set up on December 5<sup>th</sup>! Help serve on December 6<sup>th</sup>! Help tidy up on December 7<sup>th</sup>! Contact **Linda O'Donovan** or **Lynne Brownridge** to volunteer.

## Christmas on the Peninsula

Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10am to 5pm  
White Rock Community Centre

A Christmas market, live entertainment, crafts, carolers in Victorian costumes and a Christmas Parade at 4pm. At 4:30 the Mayor of White Rock will light the Christmas Tree followed by Carol singing. All are welcome!

## Mission to Seafarers Donations

The ACW is collecting items to send to the Mission to Seafarers. Please place your donations in the baskets before the altar.

The donations being sought include:

Socks, Mitts, Gloves, Toques, Cowls (no scarves), Various Toiletries, Magazines (Canadian content), Calendars, Canadian Souvenirs, Stuffed animals to take home to children, etc.

Visit [flyingangel.ca](http://flyingangel.ca) for more information! Or connect with Kathryn at [hkmasmith@shaw.ca](mailto:hkmasmith@shaw.ca)



## The Ladies Guild is offering PURDY'S CHOCOLATES

For sale this Christmas season. Order your Christmas chocolates early and help support the work we do around our church. Pick up a catalogue and paper order form, OR order online at

[fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/932138-130983](http://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx/932138-130983) Our account number is 41550

Order deadline **NEXT** Sunday November 23.

Pickup Sunday December 7

QUESTIONS: any Guild member

# 2025 Stewardship Campaign

A graphic featuring a stylized sun with rays rising over a silhouette of a person standing on a beach. The text "Growing in GRACE, Giving with JOY." is overlaid on the sun and rays.

Growing in  
**GRACE,**  
Giving with  
**JOY.**

This fall, we are focusing on the stewardship of our ministry at St. Mark – *Ocean Park*.

**Today we present our Commitment Cards to God by placing them in the offering plate. All Commitment Cards are private and will only be processed by the Donation's Secretary. If you have not brought your Commitment Card today, please bring it to any future service and place it in the offering plate.**

**These Commitment Cards represent our investment into the future of St. Mark's. Everyone will receive a phone call in the next three weeks to check in and to ask if you need any support.**

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## The Ordination of Father Dara Crandell to the Sacred Order of Priests.

God willing, on the morning of December 6<sup>th</sup> (exact time to be determined) Father Dara will be ordained to the priesthood at Christ Church Cathedral by the Most Reverend John Stephens.

Please keep Father Dara in your prayers as she prepares for this exciting moment in her life.

She will preach and preside at her first Communion the 8am and 10am Eucharists on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> (Advent 2).

All are welcome to attend this service. We are sorry that the Ordination falls on the same date and time as the Holly Berry Fair, but may the coincidence of these two events be a sign that Dara's ministry will be filled with joy and wonder!

A logo featuring a stylized figure with arms raised, followed by the word "inspire" in a large, lowercase, cursive font. Below "inspire" are the words "CHRISTIAN FORMATION" in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font.

**inspire**  
CHRISTIAN  
FORMATION

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This week: **The Book of Revelation (Part 9)**

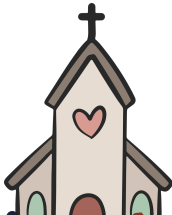
*As we come to the end of our study we read words of incredible hope: the source of evil, violence, sin and suffering is not eternal, but will have an end. Hallelujah!*

**Go to [STMARKBC.ORG](http://STMARKBC.ORG) and click on the Weekly Video & Guide Button for this week's video.**

# the Prayer Corner

## Stewardship of our Church

Stewardship is just a fancy word meaning taking responsibility of the things that are important to us. Over the stewardship season we will explore stewardship of a variety of things in our lives.



God's strategy for healing the world is to bring his beloved children together into one great family—the Church. In doing this, God accomplishes two things. First, he brings healing to the individual members of his family, for we find true healing only in community. Second, he equips his family—the Church—to carry on the work of healing that he began in us.

We are called to a beautiful, God-inspired ministry in a sacred place—a building and a forest—gifted to us by our spiritual ancestors. Now it is our turn to care for it faithfully and to pass it on to those who come after us.

How do we ensure we are faithful stewards of God's Family, the Church?

First, let's remember that the church is primarily people. We need to tend to our relationships with everyone who is part of this community. Encouraging, forgiving, helping, and loving with the same grace that God showed to us in Jesus Christ. **I wonder how you can support your Christian colleagues in this place.**

Second, we do our part to ensure that what we have inherited from our spiritual ancestors is tended to, loved, kept up so that our spiritual descendants have the same strong foundation for ministry as we had. **I wonder how you can dedicate time to caring for the space in which our Parish stands - the forest, the gardens, the windows, the floors, the storage rooms.** Is there time you can dedicate to maintaining this holy space?

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### Daily Gospel Readings

Monday Matthew 17:1-13  
Tuesday Matthew 17:14-21

Wednesday Matthew 17: 22-27  
Thursday Matthew 18:1-9

Friday Matthew 18:10-20  
Saturday Matthew 18:21-35



## the Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park

### STMARKBC.ORG

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#### Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9am to 2pm

12953 20th Avenue, Surrey B.C. V4A 1Z1

604.535.8841 [office@stmarkbc.org](mailto:office@stmarkbc.org)

the Reverend David Taylor: [dmatthew.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:dmatthew.taylor@gmail.com)

Father Dara Crandall: [fatherdarajoy@gmail.com](mailto:fatherdarajoy@gmail.com)