



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2025,

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.” Luke 3. 4. 6

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).*

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

At St Mary's it is our tradition to refrain from displaying memorial flowers during Advent and Lent. If you would like to schedule a memorial arrangement at the next opportunity, contact Anne Underhill, 250-370-5027

10:00am Service

From the Church of England, Common Worship

Minister of Welcome:	Chris Moeckl	Organ:	Oriel Chapman
Presider & Preacher:	The Venerable Craig Hiebert	Music:	St. Mary Singers
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	John McCann David Stewart		

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

WELCOME

BLESSING OF THE LIGHT

The Lord is my light and my salvation:

Our God shall change the darkness to light.

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As darkness falls you renew your promise

to reveal among us the light of your presence.

By the light of Christ, your living Word,

dispel the darkness of our hearts

that we may walk as children of light

and sing your praise throughout the world.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessed be God for ever.

The Advent Wreath is lighted.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.
2. Hail him, the heir of David's line,
whom David Lord did call,
the God incarnate, life divine,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.
3. Crown him, you martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
praise him whose burning path you trod,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.
4. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go, spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.
5. Let every tongue and every tribe,
delivered from the fall,
to Christ all majesty ascribe,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.
6. O that, with heaven's sacred throng,
we at his feet may fall,
lift high the universal song,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (322)

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

God of justice, ***clear our lives of hatred and despair and sow in us seeds of joy and peace; so that shoots of hope may spring forth in us as we await the coming of the Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

FWM Proposed Collects (2004) alt.

The congregation sits.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 11. 1-10, Gillian Fosdick

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Holy word, holy wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72. 1-7, 18-19



In his time shall — peace and just - ice flou - rish.

Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness. *R*

He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
He shall live as long the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth. *R*

In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
Blessed be God, the Holy One of Israel,
who alone does wondrous deeds!
And blessed be that glorious name for ever!
and may all the earth be filled with God's glory. Amen. Amen. *R*

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

Romans 15. 4-13, Pauline Samoszynski

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the

God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding (108)

1. Hark, a herald voice is sounding:
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say.
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!"
2. Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ our sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us all, with deep repentance,
pray that we may be forgiven,
4. that when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
with his mercy he may shield us,
and with words of love draw near.
5. Honour, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3. 1-12

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God is with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

On Jordan's Bank, arr. Malcolm Archer

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.

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us.

In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Colin, Elizabeth F, Emma, Jeff, Gerald, Gary, Gina, Ken, Richard, Samantha, Scott, Scottie, and Sherry. 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 Trinity Anglican & Lutheran Church, Port Alberni. In our province, pray for Bishop Clara Plamondon and The Territory of the People. In our Anglican Church of Canada pray for the members of the Council of General Synod. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, pray for the National Church Council, and in the Moravian Church pray for the Board of Elders of the Canadian District.

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

Silence is kept.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Presider reminds us of God's healing and forgiveness

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

O Come, Divine Messiah (95)

1. O come, divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph,
and sadness flee away.
*Dear Savior haste! Come, come to earth.
Dispel the night and show your face,
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.
O come, Divine Messiah;
the world in silence waits the day
when hope shall sing its triumph,
and sadness flee away.*
2. O Christ, whom nations sigh for,
whom priest and prophet long foretold,
come, break the captives' fetters;
redeem the long-lost fold. *R*
3. You come in peace and meekness
and lowly will your cradle be;
all clothed in human weakness
shall we your God-head see. *R*

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*Common Worship (CW) Prayer A
with Advent Extended Preface M1*

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

God is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

The prayer continues until:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,***

sung 735

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The prayer continues until:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death,

rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

The prayer continues until:

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. 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

God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The gifts of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

*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

People, Look East! The time Is Near (91)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. People, look east! The time is near
 of the crowning of the year.
 Make your house fair as you are able,
 trim the hearth and set the table.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the guest, is on the way.</p> <p>2. Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare,
 one more seed is planted there:
 give up your strength the seed to nourish,
 that in course the flower may flourish.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the rose, is on the way.</p> | <p>3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
 guard the nest that must be filled;
 even the hour when wings are frozen
 God for fledging time has chosen.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the bird, is on the way.</p> <p>4. Stars, keep the watch: when night is dim
 one more light the bowl shall brim,
 shining beyond the frosty weather,
 bright as sun and moon together.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the star, is on the way.</p> <p>5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
 Christ who brings new life to earth.
 Set every peak and valley humming
 with the word, the Lord is coming.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.</p> |
|---|---|

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

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

When the King Shall Come Again (109)

1. When the King shall come again,
all his power revealing,
splendour shall announce his reign,
life and joy and healing;
earth no longer in decay,
hope no more frustrated,
this is God's redemption day
longingly awaited.
2. In the desert, trees take root,
fresh from God's creation;
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit
join the celebration;
rivers spring up from the earth,
barren lands adorning.
Valleys, this is your new birth;
mountains, greet the morning!
3. Strengthen feeble hands and knees;
fainting hearts, be cheerful!
God, who comes for such as these,
seeks and saves the fearful.
Deaf ears, hear the silent tongues
sing away their weeping;
blind eyes, see the lifeless ones
walking, running, leaping!
4. There God's highway shall be seen
where no roaring lion,
nothing evil or unclean,
walks the road to Zion:
ransomed people homeward bound
all your praises voicing,
see your Lord with glory crowned,
share in his rejoicing!

DISMISSAL

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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.



St Mary's ✠ **Oak Bay**
1701 ELGIN RD | WWW.STMARYSOAKBAY.CA

Notes of Joy

Wednesdays
12-1pm



10

DEC

REFLECTIONS OF SOUND

Bennett Chiu, violin; Jany Lu, violin and Alex Chernata, clarinet present pieces by traditional and contemporary composers.

17

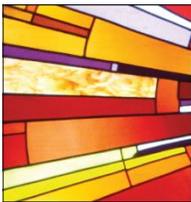
DEC

JOYFUL NOISE

Pianist and singer Tony Booker plays Bach and Brahms and sings traditional Spanish, Russian and German favourites.

Admission by donation,
all proceeds to Victoria Hospice Society





1701 ELGIN ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8R 5L7
250-598-2212 • INFO@STMARYSOAKBAY.CA
WWW.STMARYSOAKBAY.CA

Incumbent: The Venerable Craig Hiebert
incumbent@stmarysoakbay.ca

Priest Associate: The Reverend Dyan Davison
associate@stmarysoakbay.ca

Parish Administrator: Marianne McGahon, 250-598-2212
admin@stmarysoakbay.ca

Honorary Associate: The Reverend Dr John Macquarrie
jmacquarrie@stmarysoakbay.ca

The Stewards of St Mary's

wardens@stmarysoakbay.ca

Rector's Warden: Lorna Bampton, *lbampton@stmarysoakbay.ca*

People's Warden: Jane Anderson, *janderson@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Deputy People's Warden: Amanda Bolt, *abolt@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Envelope Secretary & Flower Dedications: Anne Underhill, *givings@stmarysoakbay.ca*