

ST. JOHN THE DIVINE ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Incumbent: The Rev. Alastair Hunting

Deacon: The Rev. Marion Edmondson

Music Director: Dagmar Kilian

Music Assistant: Trish McCaffrey

<https://www.sjtdcourtenay.ca>

Holy Communion
Sunday December 21st, 2025
Advent 4 (Love)



*We are a church in the Anglican Diocese of Islands and Inlets,
following Christ with renewed hearts, renewed spirits,
and as a renewed people*



*A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.
God with us. -Matthew 1.23*

Processional Hymn: #89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Welcome & Acknowledgment of Land

Advent Candle Lighting LOVE

Love shines as a solitary star.

Faith is the inner light.

You and I together mirror the Light of lights

And illumine the pathway home.

(We prepare our hearts for worship in silence)

The Gathering of the Community (Service begins on p. 185)

Kyrie Eleison p. 186

Collect: Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word (Led by Chris Chance)

First Reading: ISAIAH 7:10-16

PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18 **R: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Second Reading: ROMANS 1:1-7

Gradual Hymn: #269 Heavenly Message (vs. 1-2)

The Gospel: MATTHEW 1:18-25

Gradual Hymn: #269 Heavenly Message (vs. 3)

Homily: "God With Us: A Gospel Reflection"

Affirmation of Faith (Iona Community): **We believe, O God of all life, that you are the origin of all things and the end of all things. We believe, O Christ of humanity, that you speak the Word of God made flesh. We believe, O Spirit of grace, that you kindle the fire of love in our souls. One God in three, Three in One, shaping us now and always. Amen**

Prayers of the People (Led by Patrick Warden)

Confession and Absolution p. 191

The Peace: p. 192

Offertory Hymn: #485 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Prayer over the Gifts: Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharist prayer #3, p.198 (preface p. 223)

The Lord's Prayer (see handout & *please stand as able*)

The Breaking of the Bread (prayer # 5) p. 212

The Communion (*all are welcome to receive communion, or to come up to the altar for a blessing*)

Communion Hymn: (*parish remains seated*) #494 Not For Tongues of Heavens Angels

Prayer after Communion: Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen**

Doxology (Sung): **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: #91 People Look East, The Time Is Near

The Dismissal p. 215

*All are welcome to join us in the hall after the service
for a fellowship & refreshments*

SJTD SUNDAY QUOTE:

“Justice is what love looks like in public.”

—Cornel West

Announcements:

- December Outreach Focus: Alongside Hope (PWRDF)
- Restaurantours, Crown Isle Golf Course Restaurant, 12 30pm, TODAY
- Blue Christmas Service, TODAY, 4pm, church
- Blessing Boutique closed Dec22 & 29th
- No Chair Yoga, Dec 24 & 31
- Givings Tree, Narthex: pick tag, buy gift, return to tree, this years focus: Seniors
- Bishop's Dinner, Jan 27, 5:30-9:30pm, Tickets: \$200, Laurel Point Inn, Victoria
- Donations - Winter Coats/Blankets, drop off the hall Mon-Thurs, 9am-noon.
- Blessing Boutique: Mondays, 9am-1pm, hall, need men's/women's clothing
- DONATIONS NEEDED Blessing Box, non-perishable food items



Christmas Services

Dec 21 - Blue Christmas w/Threshold Choir
& Celtic Labyrinth, 4pm

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve - Morning Prayer
10am

Christmas Eve - Lessons & Carols,
4pm

Christmas Eve - Midnight Mass
11pm

Dec 25 - Christmas Day Holy Communion,
11am