



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Third Sunday after Epiphany, January 25, 2026

“Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom and healed every infirmity among the people.” *See Matthew 4. 23*

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).*

If you would like to schedule a **Memorial Flower Arrangement** at the next opportunity, please contact Anne Underhill, aunderhill@stmarysoakbay.ca.

10:00am Service

From the Book of Alternative Services

Minister of Welcome:	Scott MacKenzie	Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Tony Barlow
Presider:	The Reverend Dyan Davison		Karen Wilson
Preacher:	The Reverend Dr John Macquarrie	Organ:	Oriel Chapman
		Music:	St. Mary Singers

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (306)

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace.
2. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.
3. He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
4. Hear him, ye deaf, ye voiceless ones,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy!
5. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name.

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

Almighty God, ***by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

The congregation sits.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 9. 1-4, Gillian Fosdick

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Holy word, holy wisdom. ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 27. 1, 5-13

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?

***For in the day of trouble, O God,
you shall keep me safe in your shelter;
you shall hide me in the secrecy of your dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.***

Even now you lift up my head
above my enemies round about me.
Therefore I will offer in your dwelling
an oblation with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

***Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.***

You speak in my heart and say , “Seek my face.”
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

***Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.***

***You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.***

Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the Lord will sustain me.

***Show me your way, O Lord;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.***

Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.

***What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

1 Corinthians 1. 10-18, Sherry Armstrong

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Will You Come and Follow Me (430)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me? | 2. Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me? |
|--|--|

3. Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?
4. Will you the love the “you” you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4. 12-23

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.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death

light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

Almighty and Everlasting God, Orlando Gibbons

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.

Lord, our light and our salvation,

Lord, be the strength of our life.

In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Ann, Beth, Brian, Callum, Colin, Dorothy, Frances, Gina, Ken, Nancy, Rex, Rita, Rod, Samantha, Scott, Seamus, 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 the parish of St. Saviour, Denman Island. In our province, pray for Bishop David Lehmann and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Caledonia, and we pray for The Anglican Church of Chile.

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.

Most merciful 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 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

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.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Loving God, before the world began you called us. Make holy all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in that calling. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Book of Alternative Services, Eucharistic Prayer 3

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

The Lord is 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 prayer continues until:

Therefore with angels and archangels
we raise our voices in joyful praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

The prayer continues until:

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

The prayer continues until:

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for 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

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

The gifts of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

sung 747

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

Strengthened for Service, Lord (87)

1. Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
that holy things have taken;
let ears that now have heard thy songs
to clamour never waken.
2. Lord, may the tongues which “Holy” sang
keep free from all deceiving;
the eyes which saw thy love be bright,
thy blessed hope perceiving.
3. The feet that tread thy holy courts
from light do thou not banish;
the bodies by thy body fed
with thy new life replenish.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, our hands have taken holy things; our lives have been nourished by the body of your Son. May we who have eaten at this holy table be strengthened for service in your world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (383)

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
doth its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
3. Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
the prisoners leap to lose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.
4. Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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.



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