

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross!

For more information, visit our website
www.Lutheranvictoria.ca



The audio for worship will be muted until
worship begins

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Pastor

January 25, 2026 – 10:00 AM

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Reconciling in Christ Sunday

Today we renew our commitment as a Reconciling in Christ congregation, lifting up the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in the church and beyond.

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Land Acknowledgement

Created out of nothing,

We come here to be reminded of who we are.

Created for goodness,

We come with open hearts to be filled with everlasting love.

Created as a beloved child of God,

We come in celebration of the diversity of the body of Christ.

Created with a heart for celebrating the rich diversity of creation, we come trusting in the one who creates, redeems, and sustains us as we acknowledge and honour the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Xʷsepsəm/Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the congregation stands, and the Lək̓ʷəŋən and WSÁNEĆ Peoples upon whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who continue to care for this place – this land - and call it their home.

As we live into the diversity that God has created, may we be bold to tell the whole story, for in knowing the truth of who we have been, we come to know more fully who we are called to be. Amen.

Gathering Song

Gather Us In – No. 532

Vs. 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Vs. 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Vs. 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Vs. 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

¹ The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom
then I shall I fear?

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

⁴ **One thing I ask of the Lord; one I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all
the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of
the Lord and to seek God I in the temple.**

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will ¹ give me shelter,
 hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary,
 and raise me high up- ¹ on a rock.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my
 enemies ¹ who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the
 sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and
 make music ¹ to the Lord.**

Refrain: ***The Lord is my light and my salvation.***

⁷ Hear my voice, O Lord, ¹ when I call;
 have mercy on me and ¹ answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message—** I “Seek my face.”

Your face, O Lord, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from
your ser- I vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper;
forsake me not, O God of I my salvation.

Refrain: ***The Lord is my light and my salvation.***

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hymn of the Day

God, We Gather as Your People – No. 1038

Vs. 1 God, we gather as your people to raise our song above, and we dare to claim the promise of your love.

Though the day may not yet be here,
we trust it soon will be, when your children will be
free.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.

May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.

For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.

May that welcome be our song.

Vs. 2 Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day
they be free;
and we sing for generations yet to be,
that they never have a reason to doubt that they are
blest. May they, in your love, find rest.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.

May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.

For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.

May that welcome be our song.

Vs. 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by
fear and shame,

so afraid of who they are and whom they love.

May the message now be banished that your love is
for the few; may their faith in you renew.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.

May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.

For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.

May that welcome be our song.

Vs. 4 God, we're working for the future when children
far and wide can live their lives with dignity and pride.
As they grow in strength and stature, may they join
us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.

May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.
For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.

Peace Sharing

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering Song
***Come Now, O God* – No. 902**

Vs. 1 Come now, O God, when our love is forsaken.
Come, when our bedrock of faith has been shaken.
Come, when our deepest of hopes are mistaken.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Vs. 2 Come, when we squander the freedom you
gave us.

Come, break the systems of sin that enslave us.

Come, though we wonder if you can still save us.

Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Vs. 3 Come, put an end to our self-serving madness.

Come, while the world is enshrouded in sadness.

Come, turn the tears of our mourning to gladness.

Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

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Great Thanksgiving

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.

Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of 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.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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 forever. Amen.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Songs

As a Mother Comforts Her Child – No. 1015

As a mother comforts her child,
so God will comfort you.

As a hen gathers her brood,
so Christ will gather you.

As a wise one counsels her friend,
so the Spirit will counsel you.

The Trinity of love will be with you.

Sending Song

***We Are Marching in the Light* – No. 866**

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,
marching,)

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,
marching,)

we are marching in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing . . .

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .

Worship Leaders and Assistants

Assisting Minister and Preacher: Jashan Khandal

Kantor: Nathan McDonald

Musician: Cloud Iris

Choral Scholars: DJ McGrath, Madison Blackman

Livestream: Braeden McKenzie

Readers: Liz Babbick, Skylar Smith

Communion: Marge Adams, Jane Wicksteed,
Vicki Zilene

Ushers: Jack Braniff, Don Storch

*You are invited to Holy Communion Worship, Sundays,
10 AM PT in-person and online.*

*For more information, please check the website
www.lutheranvictoria.ca*

for the Crossroads newsletter, calendar and events.

*Follow us at **facebook.com/lutheranvictoria** and
Instagram @lutheranvictoria*

☺ Give Online ☺

Visiting www.Lutheranvictoria.ca.

Select “Give Online” on the top right corner and follow the instructions.



The image shows a screenshot of the Lutheran Church of the Cross website. At the top right, there is a navigation bar with links for "Contact", "Calendar", "Give Online", and social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The "Give Online" button is highlighted with a purple circle. Below the navigation bar, the church's logo, a stylized cross composed of four colored arms (red, green, blue, and yellow), is displayed next to the text "Lutheran Church OF THE CROSS". At the bottom of the screenshot, a horizontal menu bar lists various website sections: HOME, ABOUT/VIDEOS, EVENTS, SERMONS, KIDS, YOUTH & STUDENTS, LGBTQ2+, NEWS, PROGRAMS, GIVING, and LIVE STREAM.

HOME ABOUT/VIDEOS EVENTS SERMONS KIDS, YOUTH & STUDENTS LGBTQ2+ NEWS PROGRAMS GIVING LIVE STREAM