

THE YEAR OF
invitation



LET EVERYONE
WHO IS THIRSTY
COME.

THE REVELATION TO JOHN 22:17

On the traditional land of the Semiahmoo

the Parish of St. Mark

O C E A N  P A R K

February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent



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 give special thanks to God for this place and renew our dedication to the ministry God has entrusted to us. Following this service, please enjoy a coffee and a treat, then return to the sanctuary for the **Annual General Meeting**.



Today's Scripture
From Introductions to the Lessons by Bill Bennett.

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 This second parable or tradition about creation addresses God's lordship and human obedience, and particularly human temptation, all of which is seen as the 'Fall of Humanity.'

Romans 5:12-19 The language and imagery in this reading may be rather challenging to follow. Paul talks of the origin of sin in Adam, and the free gift of forgiveness and hope in Jesus.

Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus is single-minded in his mission to humanity, despite the attractions of finding easier ways to achieve his hopes.

Junior Church

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. **Teens** that are interested in volunteering as a helper or in any Sunday service ministry role all are welcome to reach out to Pastor Sarah.

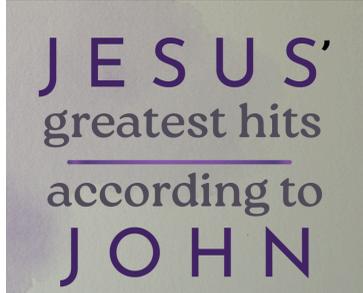
Coffee Hour

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

Next Week: March 1
Lent 2: Jesus' Greatest Hits, John 3:16

John 3:12-17

The Reverend David Taylor facilitates this **Wonder Sunday**.



the Gathering of the Community

Over Lent we will begin our service with soft music to prepare our hearts for worship. Once the choir and altar party have processed, we confess our sins using the Trisagion; an ancient prayer for God's mercy.

Common Praise 707

**Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.**

The cantor leads the congregation in the verses.

We confess to you, O God,
all the harm we have inflicted on our neighbours,
all the harm we have inflicted on the world,
all the harm we have inflicted on our selves.

We confess to you, O God,
all the fear that has divided us from neighbours,
all the fear that brings destruction to your world,
all the fear that turns our hearts away from love.

We confess to you, O God,
all the faith we place in Jesus' way of healing,
all the hope we have for healing for this world,
all our love by which our hearts are also loved.

The Absolution

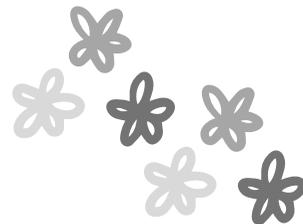
Commissioning of the Children

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

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 and everlasting God,
**by whose Spirit the whole body of
your faithful people is governed
and sanctified, receive our
supplications and prayers, which
we offer before you for all
members of your holy Church, that
in their vocation and ministry they
may truly and devoutly serve you;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ, who lives and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.**



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 Genesis (2:15-17; 3:1-7).

Listen for God's Word.

Our hearts are open.

You Are My Hiding Place

Michael Ledner

**You are my hiding place,
you always fill my heart
with songs of deliverance,
whenever I am afraid,
I will trust in you,
I will trust in you,
let the weak say, "I am strong
in the strength of the Lord."**

Paul's Letter to the Romans (5:12-19).

Listen for God's Word.

Our hearts are open.

Common Praise 179

**Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.**

**Seed that dies to rise in glory,
may we see ourselves in you;
if we learn to live your story
we may die to rise anew,
we may die to rise anew.**

**We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
every person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.**

**Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
come inflame our hearts anew.
We may all your joy inherit
if we bear the cross with you,
if we bear the cross with you.**

**Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.**

**From the dawning of creation
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone,
make us turn to you alone.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

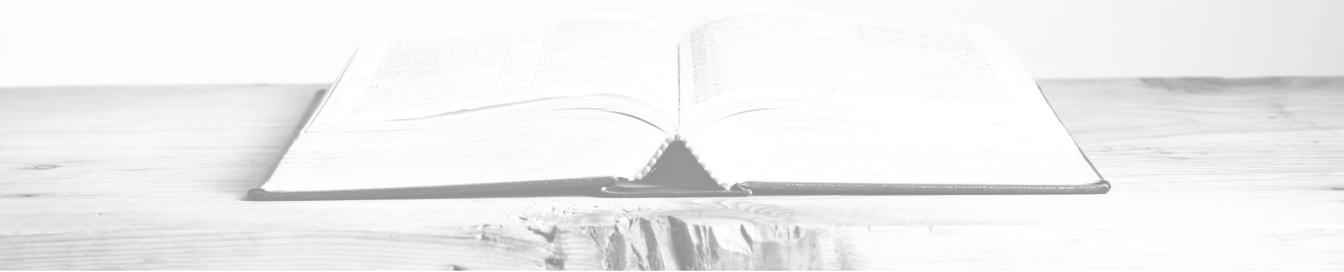
Matthew 4:1-11

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Sermon Notes



The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary; who suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; who descended to the dead; who, on the third day, rose again; who ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; who 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.

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 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 2 in the Book of Alternative Services, page 196.

Common Praise 468

To Abraham and Sarah

the call of God was clear:

**"Go forth and I will show you
a country rich and fair.**

**You need not fear the journey,
for I have pledged my word
that you shall be my people
and I will be your God."**

From Abraham and Sarah

arose a pilgrim race,

dependent for their journey

on God's abundant grace;

and in their heart was written

by God this saving word,

**"That you shall be my people
and I will be your God."**

We of this generation

on whom God's hand is laid

can journey to the future

secure and unafraid,

rejoicing in God's goodness

and trusting in this word,

**"That you shall be my people
and I will be your God."**

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 he 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,

communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your church be the wheat which bears
its fruit in dying.

**If we have died with him, we shall live
with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign**

with him.

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.*

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.**

Lead Me Forth

based on Psalm 5:8 and 4:8

**Lead me forth.
Lead me in thy righteousness.
Make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, God, thou, God only
that makest me dwell in safety.**

I Surrender All

Judson W. VanDeVenter

**All to Jesus I surrender,
all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him,
in his presence daily live.**

*I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to thee, my blessed Saviour,
I surrender all.*

**All to Jesus I surrender,
humbly at his feet I bow,
worldly pleasures all forsaken,
take me, Jesus, take me now.**

**All to Jesus I surrender,
make me, Saviour, wholly thine;
may thy Holy Spirit fill me,
may I know thy power divine.**

**All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to thee;
fill me with thy love and power,
let thy blessing fall on me.**

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

Let us Build a House

Marty Haugen

**Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live, a place where
saints and children tell how hearts learn to
forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and
visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions;**

***All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.***

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true, where all
God's children dare to seek to dream God's
reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as
witness and a symbol of God's grace; here
as one we claim the faith of Jesus:**

**Let us build a house where love is found in
water, wine and wheat: a banquet hall on
holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is
revealed in time and space; as we share in
Christ the feast that frees us:**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone to heal and
strengthen, serve and teach, and live the
Word they've known. Here the outcast and
the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:**

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard and loved
and treasured, taught and claimed as
words within the Word. Built of tears and
cries and laughter, prayers of faith and
songs of grace; let this house proclaim
from floor to rafter:**

Go in peace to live the gospel,
extending God's invitation to all.
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

Have you noticed the Lent Tree!?

This tree is lit with an invitation to you to share your prayers of hope, peace, petition, lament and love during Lent. Each Wednesday, The prayers will be gathered and prayed for.

I hope you will join us in prayer this Lent.

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 with any inquiries.



The Lunch Basket is given this week to the Glory of God with thanks for His many blessings.



Prayer Chain & Sunday Intercessions

If you, or someone you know is in need of prayer, please connect with **Lynne** at lynnehl@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, or contact the office.

Library News

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Random Acts of Kindness

by Amy Newmark

The best way to make yourself feel great? Do a random act of kindness for someone! It's easy. Just think outside the box and look around. Scientific studies have shown that "doing good" is not only good for the recipient of the good deed, but also for the person doing it, making that person happier and healthier.



News & Events

This week at the Parish

Wednesday	Holy Communion, 10 am
Thursday	Lenten Lunch Noon Contemplative Prayer 7 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Friday	Sr. Youth Group 7:00 pm
Saturday	Parish Council Retreat 9am

Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Pain Thursdays, February 19 - March 26, 1:00 - 3:30 PM

St. Mark's - Family Room

All are welcome to this free workshop series.

For more information, please contact Barb Grantham.

Lenten Lunch

Thirsday, February 26, 12pm

This week the Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park hosts the annual peninsula Lenten lunch. Drop by for a time of community, great food and prayer.

Mark your calendars:

March 12th at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

March 19th at Star of the Sea Roman Catholic

March 26 at St. John's Presbuterian Church



Coldest Night of the Year

Saturday, February 28th, 4pm

Memorial Park, White Rock Beach

Register, fundraise, and walk 2 km or 5 km with the St. Mark's Walkers team for the 17th Annual Sources Community Coldest Night of the Year.

Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific, family-friendly fundraising walk supporting people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness.

Sign up to walk and/or fundraise at en.cnoy.org/home.

2025 Tax Receipts

Please help reduce our mailing costs by picking up your 2025 Tax Receipt, located in the Narthex this Sunday.

Parish Council Retreat

Saturday February 28th, 9am

Please pray as the new council elected today meet for the first time on Saturday.

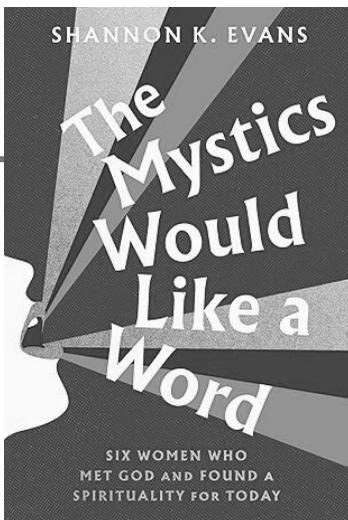
Gracious God, you call this council to serve your people at the Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park. Give each member clarity of thought and inspiraiton by your Holy Spirit that they may know best how to guide your peopl ein this place; thourgh Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



AGM Agenda - February 22nd



Call to order
Charge to "Vestry"
Adoption of agenda
Vestry 2025 minutes (motion #1 to adopt)
Annual ministry reports (motion #2 to receive)
2025 financial report (motion #3 to receive)
2026 parish operating budget (motion #4 to adopt)
Parish structure (motion #5 to adopt)
Forest meditation path (motion #6)
Nominating committee report (motion #7 to adopt)
Ratification of appointments:
 Trustees (motion #8 - if motion #5 is adopted)
 Treasurer (motion #9)
 Signing officers (motion #10)
 Screening in faith coordinator (motion #11)
 Donations secretary (motion #12)
 Lay administrators of the sacrament of holy communion (motion #13)
 MacCormac & Company for a review engagement (motion #14)
Adjournment (motion #15)



Lent/Easter Book Study with Father Dara **Thursdays at 6pm beginning March 12, ending April 16**

The Mystics Would Like a Word:

Six Women Who Met God and Found a Spirituality for Today

Journey with Teresa of Ávila, Margery Kempe, Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, Catherine of Siena, and Thérèse of Lisieux into the story of the Church and into a Christian spirituality that speaks into today's unique experiences, leading us to wholeness, healing, and spiritual vitality.

the Prayer Corner

Lenten Devotions: Almsgiving

Almsgiving is an old word for an ancient practice of compassionate generosity. It comes to us from the Greek word, eleison, which means to have mercy. In Lent we often pray, Lord, have mercy. Which, again, in Greek is Kurie elieson. When we give money to those in need, we are sharing economic mercy to others as a sign of the spiritual mercy God has given us. We do this in a variety of ways in our culture, mostly third-hand. That is, we give money to institutions who support those in need - foodbanks, shelters, soup kitchens, etc.

This Lent, consider one of the two ways to share mercy (give alms).



Give some financial aid to a charity. You can do this through the church by designating your gift to Alongside Hope, Care+Care, Sources Food Bank, Mission to Seafarers, or the Lunch Basket Program.



care  share



SOURCES



Alongside Hope



Take a roll of loonies from the bank and give one or two to people in need through the Lenten season.



Daily Bible Readings

Monday Mark 1:1-13
Tuesday Mark 1:14-28

Wednesday Mark 1:29-45
Thursday Mark 2:1-12

Friday Mark 2:13-22
Saturday Mark 2:23-3:6



the Parish of St. Mark - *Ocean Park*
STMARKBC.ORG

Office Hours:

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

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