



April 19, 2026

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

St. John's acknowledges these lands of the Lekwungen people.

Welcome to the Parish Church of St. John the Divine, Victoria

We are a community of faith in the Anglican Tradition, seeking to live lives of faith, hope and love as part of this community in Downtown Victoria. We are on a journey of learning to be a welcoming, inviting, inclusive and serving community which is open to all.

Our worship reflects our rootedness in the Anglican tradition, whilst drawing on liturgies that reflect the long history and heritage of our Christian faith. Please join in as you feel able, and enjoy the words, music and opportunity for prayer and to be a part of our community.

We are an inclusive and affirming 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.

Worship

Service times: **8:00 am (Holy Communion – said service), 10:00 am (Holy Eucharist with choir and organ), 4:30 pm (BCP Choral Evensong)** on Sundays as well as mid-week services (please see our website for times). If you can't attend in person we invite you to join us via Zoom (email admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca for the link) or through the livestream on the Website: www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

Daily prayer online is shared daily with a link on our website either live or via recording.

Contacting Us: The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm. The main email for contact is: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Pastoral Care Team who will offer their prayers. Please contact the church office at the above email address. You are very welcome here. We don't always get it right; please let us know when we do, and when we don't. Please stay and be a part of our family, for however long you would like.

Assisting with this afternoon's Liturgy

Officiant: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Welcomer: Ruth Swinton

Reader: Karen Coverett

Music: Quartet

David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

Char Hodgkins, Assistant Director

Streaming Technician: Vanessa Whyte

A note about language

In our worship, we use language which is poetic and filled with metaphor and wonder – realising that any language about God is limited. We use some ancient words which may seem odd, or may seem to refer to God as male, or in terms which elsewhere we might not choose to use. The poetry and the metaphor are there not to restrict or define our understanding of God, but to remind us that our words are never enough to talk about the Divine: instead, we use the beauty of the words and music in our worship to help us glimpse just a little of the God beyond all words.

Listed music is subject to substitution in the event of changes of personnel or situation.

Cover Image : Photo by David Stratkauskas



If you would like to give to support the work and ministries of St. John the Divine you can do so in the offering plate which is by the Garden door. There are also envelopes in the book stand which can make your gifts tax efficient. Alternatively, you can scan this QR code which will take you to our Canada Helps giving page. You may also conveniently use our tap machine (no tax receipt) which is available at the garden door entrance, or the bank machine (tax receipt with envelope completion) available at the office. Envelopes for regular giving are available from the church office.

Donations may be emailed to givings@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca If you are a new donor and wish a tax receipt, please include your mailing address in the comment section.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand as you are able.

Prelude

The officiant gives a short welcome.

Please stand as you are able.

The Responses

Katherine Burk Webb (b.1990)

Cantor: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Cantor: O God, make speed to save us.

Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Cantor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Choir: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord. (The Lord's name be praised.)

Please be seated for the singing of the psalm.

Psalm

48

- 1 Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised * in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.
- 2 The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth * upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King; God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.
- 3 For lo, the kings of the earth * are gathered, and gone by together.
- 4 They marvelled to see such things * they were astonished, and suddenly cast down.
- 5 Fear came there upon them, and sorrow * as upon a woman in her travail.
- 6 Thou shalt break the ships of the sea * through the east-wind.
- 7 Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God * God upholdeth the same for ever.
- 8 We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God * in the midst of thy temple.
- 9 O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end * thy right hand is full of righteousness.
- 10 Let the mount Sion rejoice, and the daughter of Judah be glad * because of thy judgements.
- 11 Walk about Sion, and go round about her * and tell the towers thereof.
- 12 Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses * that ye may tell them that come after.
- 13 For this God is our God for ever and ever * he shall be our guide unto death.

Please stand as you are able for the Gloria Patri:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son * and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be * world without end. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Lesson

1 Corinthians 3:10-17

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

Please stand as you are able.

Magnificat

Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: Healey Willan (1880-1968)

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and the meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Please be seated.

Second Lesson

John 2:13-22

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."

The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Please stand as you are able.

Nunc Dimittis

Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Healey Willan (1880-1968)

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou has prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

All: I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Responses, Lord's Prayer, and Collects

Cantor: The Lord be with you;

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Cantor: Let us pray.

Please remain standing, kneel, or be seated as is your preference for prayer.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Cantor: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

Choir: And grant us thy salvation.

Cantor: O Lord, save the King;

Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Cantor: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

Choir: And make thy chosen people joyful.

Cantor: O Lord, save thy people;

Choir: And bless thine inheritance.
Cantor: Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Cantor: O God, make clean our hearts within us;
Choir: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

1st Collect, of the day:

O GOD, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

2nd Collect, for Peace:

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

3rd Collect, for Aid Against All Perils:

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please be seated.

Anthem

(sung by the choir)

If ye be risen again with Christ, seek those things which are above,
where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
Set your affection on heavenly things, and not on earthly things.
For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
Whensoever Christ, which is our life, shall show himself,
then shall we also appear with him in glory.

Music: Peter Skellern (1947-2017)

Please remain seated, kneel, or stand as is your preference.

Intercessions

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn (CP 389)

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr. (1944-). © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: KING'S LYNN, Melody English trad.; coll, and arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958).

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1. **O God of font and altar,
of music, grandeur, light;
toward whom the soaring arches
aspire beyond their height:
as beauty draws us to you
within this house of prayer,
let worship form and feed us
to help us show your care.**
2. **O life-bestowing Spirit,
inspire this hallowed space;
breathe through us with new fervour
and fill us with your grace.
Arouse our lagging spirits,
enflame our hearts with joy;
here let a love be kindled
that death cannot destroy.**
3. **O Christ, who cleansed the temple,
baptize us with your zeal,
and teach us your compassion
to love, forgive, and heal.
Be in our midst to claim us
and mark us as your own;
then send us forth in witness
to make your mercy known.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn (CP 214)

Text: Latin (*Ad cenam Agni*, 6th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Music: ST. VENANTIUS, Melody - Melody – Antiphoner, Rouen, 1728.



1. The Lamb's high banquet called to share,
arrayed in garments white and fair,
the Red Sea past, we long to sing
to Jesus our triumphant king.
2. Upon the altar of the cross,
his body hath redeemed our loss;
and, tasting of his precious blood,
our life is hid with him in God.
3. Protected in the paschal night
from the destroying angel's might,
in triumph went the ransomed free
from Pharaoh's cruel tyranny.
4. Now Christ our Passover is slain,
the Lamb of God without a stain;
his flesh, the true unleavened bread,
is freely offered in our stead.
5. O all-sufficient sacrifice,
beneath thee hell defeated lies;
thy captive people are set free,
and endless life restored in thee.
6. We hymn thee rising from the grave,
from death returning, strong to save;
thine own right hand the tyrant chains,
and paradise for us regains.
7. All praise be thine, O risen Lord,
from death to endless life restored;
all praise to God the Father be
and Holy Ghost eternally.

The Blessing or Grace

Please be seated.

Organ Voluntary

Christ lag in Todesbanden

J. Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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