



Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary Church St. Stephen Church

Faith - Family - Friendship



**Welcome To
PARISH OF CENTRAL SAANICH
St. Mary Church**



APRIL 26, 2026 – EASTER 4

We acknowledge that we gather to worship on the traditional lands of the WSÁNEĆ and Coast Salish peoples

St. Mary's Service:

Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday Service 10:00 a.m.

St. Stephen's Service:

Sunday Service: 11:15 a.m.

Continue to monitor our website – www.ParishCS.ca

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Incumbent

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Logan McMenamie, Honorary Assistant

Associated Clergy:

The Ven. Bob Baillie

The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane

The Rev. Paul Schumacher,

The Rev. Gil Shoosmith, deacon

HOLY EUCHARIST

Island and Inlets Liturgy - A

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Presiding

A Warm Welcome to all who worship with us, especially visitors.

With thanks, please mute your cell phones during the service.

The congregation says or sings the items in **bold** typeface.

Prelude – Joanne Lambert

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Gathering Song: ♪ *Praise to the Lord Almighty (CP #384)*

**1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Sing now in glad adoration!**

**2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth, sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how thy desires all have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?**

**3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy doth send thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who with His love doth befriend thee.**

**6 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.**

The Gathering of the Community

Leader: In this time and place we gather on the ancestral lands of the
WSÁNEĆ and Coast Salish Peoples.

**All: From many places and Peoples we come to this house
in prayer.**

Leader: In this time and place we are not alone for we meet in the
presence of the living God.

All: For we meet in the presence of the living God.

Leader: In this time and place we are not alone for the Risen Jesus
stands in our midst.

All: The Risen Jesus stands in our midst.

Leader: In this time and space we are not alone for the wind of the
Spirit moves in and through us.

All: The wind of the Spirit moves in and through us.

Leader: In this time and space we are not alone for we gather with

the whole company of heaven. In this time and in this space heaven and earth are one.

All: In this time and in this space heaven and earth are one.

Leader: In this time and place together, one People in Jesus Christ.

All: In the name of God, Creator, Saviour and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

♪ *Glory to God on High CP #365*

Glory to God on high, and peace to all on earth.

We worship you, we give you thanks, our heavenly King.

**We give you praise, almighty God and Father
blessed in glory bright.**

Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, the Father's only son,

**The sacrificial Lamb, who saves the world from sin,
have mercy Lord.**

Beside the Father's hand enthroned, now hear our prayer.

You only are the Lord. You only are most high.

You only are the holy one, Lord Jesus Christ.

**And now you reign with Father and with Spirit one
in glorious light.**

Centering Stillness & Prayer of the Day

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God. (*Silence*)

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE READINGS

First Lesson: Ezekiel 34: 7-15 – Lynn Schumacher

⁷Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ⁸As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep,⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁰Thus says the Lord God: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them. ¹¹For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out.¹² As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep.

I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 – Lynn Schumacher

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. ³He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of His name.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2: 19-25 – Barb Baillie

¹⁹ For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual: ♪ *I heard the Voice of Jesus Say CP#508*

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was, weary, and worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.

2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quench'd, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s Light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;
And in that Light of life I’ll walk, till trav’ling days are done.

Gospel Lesson: John 14: 1-14 – Ken Pedlow

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader : The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

♪ **Alleluia**

10 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

♪ **Alleluia**

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

The Apostle's Creed:

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: 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.

The Prayers of the People – Rev. Gil Shoesmith

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The members of the community offer a sign of peace to one another.

Offertory: ♪ Come and Find the Quiet Center

**Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:**

**clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,**

**let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare.**

Prayer over the Gifts

God of wisdom, may the light of the eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, guide us to your glory. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Presider: God is here

People: The Spirit is with us.

Presider: Lift up your hearts and minds

People: We lift them to God

Presider: Let us give thanks to God the Creator.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider:

Great Creator, with wit and wisdom you formed the universe. In expectation, your Spirit brooded over all: the midwife of transformation. At your Word, the skies, the seas, the lands and all life came to be. In you, all created things shared life with one another. In ceremony and song, dance and art, these relationships were portrayed and honoured by the first peoples of these Islands and Inlets. The plants, the cedars, the creatures of forest, sea and air revealed your wonder and majesty. When we turned from you, connections were broken and creation suffered. Still, you continued to bring light from night, freedom from slavery, and life from death. Therefore, together with our ancestors in faith and with your beloved creation we sing:

♪ **Sanctus & Benedictus – CP #735 Schubert**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might (x2)**

**Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest; Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider:

We praise you, Source of all, for the living Word: Jesus. Born in poverty, a child refugee, a worker with his hands. He gathered disciples and taught and healed the people. He freely shared our sorrow, joy, and pain. In vulnerability, he showed power over sin and triumphed over death. On

the night before Jesus died, he feasted with his companions. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you, do this to remember me."

After supper he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to his companions saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and the world for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me."

Entering into the mystery of faith we call:

Come Source of life. Come, transforming Word. Come, Creator Spirit.

With his sacred presence unbounded by space and time,
we offer to you this bread and cup.

Send your Breath of Life, like wind, blowing where it will, north, east, south and west. May your Spirit brood over these gifts and all who feast at this table offering a foretaste of the eternal feast to come.

May all who share your abundant gifts be incorporated as one body and one holy people, joined in the offering of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection for the reconciliation of all things. Reveal the unity of your Church and the mystery of our communion with our holy forebears and those yet to be born, that we may be guided in faith and walk gently on the earth.

Glory and honour to you Triune God, dynamic of love, complete and perfect unity, now, and in all ages. **Amen**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

♪ **Lord's Prayer** – Gordon Light

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.**

Breaking of the Bread:

Presider: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: We, being many, are one body,

For we all share in the one bread.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Administration of Holy Communion

All are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.

Please cross your arms at the rail if you would like a blessing.

Gluten Free Wafers are available upon request.

Communion: ♪ Take Time to be Holy

**Take time to be holy, Speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in him always, And feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children, Help those who are weak,
Forgetting in nothing, His blessing to seek.**

**Take time to be holy, The world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, Like Him thou shalt be:
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.**

**Take time to be holy, Let him be thy guide,
And run not before Him, Whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, Still follow the Lord,
And, looking to Jesus, Still trust in His word.**

**Take time to be holy, Be calm in thy soul,
Each thought and each motive Beneath His control.
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.**

Prayer after Communion Creator of heaven and earth, we thank you for these holy mysteries, which bring us now a share in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Doxology

Glory to God, whose love, 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

Sending Song: ♪ *Praise the Lord with the Sound of the Trumpet* – CP #309

**Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
Praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
Praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.**

**Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
Praise the Lord in the city square,
Praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.**

**Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
Praise the Lord in the dark of night,
Praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.**

**Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
Praise the Lord on the highest hill,
Praise the Lord; never let your voice be still.**

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,

**Praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
Praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.**

**Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
Praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
Praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.**

**Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
Praise the Lord in the time of joy,
Praise the Lord every moment, nothing let your praise destroy.**

**Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
Praise the Lord in your work or play,
Praise the Lord everywhere in every way!**

Dismissal

Leader: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

CCLI# 245534

Please join us for coffee and conversation in the parish hall

Thank you to all who are assisting today:

♪ Joanne Lambert, David Cooper (sidesperson), Lynn Schumacher,
Barb Baillie, Ken Pedlow, Gil Shoesmith, Matty Stuart (Sound
Tech/Bell), Susan Pullan (Altar Guild), Sue Rumball (Flower Guild),
Judith Miriampillai (Coffee Host)

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Proverbs 4: 10-18, Psalm 119: 9-32, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14: 1-14

INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) We pray for Archbishop Sarah Mullally; the Anglican Church of Canada and Archbishop Shane Parker, Primate; John Stephens, Metropolitan of The Province of B.C and Yukon We also pray for Archbishop Chris and the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Anna, our bishop; Christ Church Cathedral School, Victoira.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the people of the Parish of St. Andrew, Sydney, the Rev. Kelly Duncan, the Rev. Rebecca Yeo, The Ven. Penelope Kingham, and the people of the neighborhood.

Our Parish Clergy: Lon, Logan, Brett, Bob, Paul and Gil, and postulants Gary & Richard

In our Parish: We pray for Diane Sexton, and Sharon & Steve Butler

For those ill or in need of prayer: Neville & Patricia, Roche, Diana A., Fern, Dennis, Glenda, Dawn, Sybil, Roy, Jillian, Willa, Brett, Jacqueline Stober

For Those with Long-Term Needs: Cheryl, Ted, Phil J., Natalie, Jamie, Jane & Paul, Margery, Courtney, Kristen, Brad, Kim, Lynn S.

For friends beyond the parish: Jennifer, Jo-Jo, Margot, Sharie, John K., Helen, Andrew, Sheila, Lynn W., David F., Dani R. & family, Hayden, Carlos, Bryan, Karen & family, Drew, Sheila P., Amy, Betty E., Alysha, Sue P., Michelle, Cassidy, Carl G., Keith & Lillian, Michael A., Jasmine, Kai, Chris P., Paula, Cathy Swinscoe, Arianne, Chad, Yvonne N.

In the greater community: We pray for all victims of sexual misconduct and abuse. We are all called to create communities where all children of God are safe and respected.

We pray for those impacted or endangered by the toxic drug supply crisis and also for their loved ones who are, or have been, impacted.

CLERGY CONTACT INFORMATION

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego
Cell Phone: (250) 208-9949
Email: ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Friday,
9:00-1:00

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Karen McColm and Bev Waterfield in loving memory of their parents, Ron and Anthea.

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT - There will be a funeral service for **Jim Crover**, at St. Mary on **Saturday, May 9th, 1:00 p.m.**

RETIREMENT TEA – There will be a celebratory tea for **Leslie Pedlow** at St. Mary. **Saturday May 2nd, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

ST. ELIZABETH'S CRAFT SALE & FLEA MARKET – **Saturday May 9th, 9:00-13:30** at St. Elizabeth's Church. RSVP and secure a table (\$30 per spot+\$10 per table) by email: StElizCraftSale@gmail.com

SPRING FLING – The annual Spring Fling will be held at St. Mary on **Saturday, May 23 from 9:30-12:00 (noon)**. Free admission. Please bring cash or cheque to pay for items (crafts, adult clothing, jewelry, housewares, home baking, coffee, iced tea) Contact Lynn Fallan (250) 886-6075 for info.

ST. MARY'S OUTREACH – In your offering envelope package you will find special monthly outreach envelopes. For those who do not have offering envelopes, you may bring your outreach offering in a plain envelope, marked "Outreach for Month of _____" with your name and address.

Apr.	Alongside Hope (PWRDF) - We support the Anglican Church of Canada's agency for sustainable development, relief, refugees, and global justice.
May	Saanich Peninsula Lions Food Bank - Donations in monetary form combined with an ongoing collection of staple foods and hygiene products allow us to help this non-profit, charitable organization support those in need on the Peninsula.
June	ORCCA Dental Clinic - ORCCA's purpose is to provide children and adolescents under 19 years of age from low-income family's access to oral care in a not-for-profit setting.
July	General Outreach - Monies donated for General Outreach are dedicated at the end of the year to be used for requests received during the year and to "top up" totals in monthly outreach designations.
Aug.	Anglican Appeal - Donations support the mission work and ministry in Canada's North and our church partners overseas.

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