



JULIAN OF NORWICH

**VESPERS**  
**on the eve of the Commemoration of**  
**Julian of Norwich**  
**Spiritual Teacher**

**c. 1417**

**2026 May 7**

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

# The Preparation

## *Officiant*

Julian (or Juliana) was a fourteenth-century Englishwoman who is known for one book, "*The Revelations of Divine Love*." This work records sixteen visions which were granted to her on May eighth and ninth in 1373, with the fruit of twenty years' reflection on their meaning. Written in the English dialect of fourteenth-century Norfolk, her book is one of the undisputed masterpieces of mystical theology. Little is known about Julian herself. From hints in her work, it is possible that she was once married, and she may also have been a mother. There is nothing to suggest that she was a professed nun or ever lived in a convent. In "*The Revelations of Divine Love*" she tells us that she experienced her visions when she was thirty years old and they came to her during an illness which brought her to the brink of death. Sometime after that, she took up the life of a recluse, living alone in a hovel attached to the parish church of St. Julian and St. Edward, Coniston. It was from the title of this church that she took the name Julian; and other contemporary documents attest that she was still living there in the second decade of the fifteenth century. The heart of Julian's visions was the knowledge of God in the crucified Christ. Because the Saviour bore and nurtured a new humanity on the cross, she

## The Preparation (Cont'd)

took up an image often employed by other spiritual teachers in the Middle Ages and likened him to a mother. This image of Christ, and all else in her book, found fulfilment in the divine love. For in everything that God showed her, Julian wrote, “Love was our Lord’s meaning. And I saw for certain, both here and elsewhere, that before ever he made us, God loved us, and that his love has never slackened, nor ever shall.”

From: ***“For All the Saints”***  
Anglican Church of Canada

# The Preparation

*Officiant*

O God, make speed to save us,  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

From the rising of the Sun to its setting  
**your glory is proclaimed in all the world.**

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.**  
**Amen. Alleluia!**

# Act of Praise

We Praise You, Father, for Your Gift  
Common Praise #33

## *Cantor or Officiant*

We praise you Father, for your gift of dusk and nightfall over earth, foreshadowing the mystery of death that leads to endless day.

Within your hands we rest secure, in quiet sleep, our strength renew; yet give your people hearts that wake in love to you, unsleeping Lord.

Your glory may we ever seek in rest, as in activity, until its fullness is revealed, O source of life, O Trinity.

# The Psalm

Psalm 104: 1 - 4, 13 - 18

## *Psalmist*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
**and all that is within me, bless his holy name.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
**and forget not all his benefits.**

He forgives all your sins \*  
**and heals all your infirmities;**

He redeems your life from the grave \*  
**and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**

As a father cares for his children, \*  
**so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
**he remembers that we are but dust.**

Our days are like the grass; \*  
**we flourish like a flower of the field;**

## The Psalm (Cont'd)

When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
**and its place shall know it no more.**

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for  
ever  
on those who fear him, \*  
**and his righteousness on children's children;**

On those who keep his covenant \*  
**and remember his commandments and do them.**

## The Psalm Prayer

God of infinite mercy and forgiveness, by the cross  
and resurrection of Jesus your Son, wash away our  
sins and deliver us from our infirmities of body and  
spirit, that we may live with him his risen life, to the  
praise and glory of your holy name.

**Amen.**

# The Reading

## John 14: 8 - 11

### *Reader*

A reading from John.

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.”

# Response

*After a brief period of reflection  
the Reader says:*

Blessed are the meek for they shall  
inherit the Earth.

**Thanks be to God!**

# Affirmation of Faith

Let us Affirm our Faith as we recite “Hear, O Israel”

**Hear, O Israel,  
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.  
Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.  
This is the first and the great commandment.  
The second is like it:  
Love your neighbour as yourself.  
There is no commandment greater than these.**

# Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

## *Officiant*

Sisters and brothers in Christ, God invites us to bring our doubts and fears, our joys and concerns, our petitions and praise, and offer them for the earth and all its creatures, responding to the bidding “God of Grace” with **“Hear our Prayers.”**

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Diocese of Yeri – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, the Rt. Revd. John Abraham Nyari, Bishop. God of Grace, **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican-Lutheran-Moravian cycle, we pray for The Rt. Revd. Rod BrantFrancis, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Moosonee; The congregations of the Winnipeg area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod; The Rt. Revd. Michael Johnson, Bishop of the Unity residing in the Northern Province. God of Grace, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our Diocesan cycle, we pray for The Deanery of Tri-Cities / North Burnaby – The Revd Philip Cochrane,

## Intercessions, Petitions, & Thanksgivings (Cont'd)

### *Presider*

Regional Dean; The Legal Officers of the Diocese - George Cadman, K.C., AAM, ODNW; Chancellor; Kevin Smith, ODNW, Vice-Chancellor; Donald Paul, ODNW, Registrar; Jennifer Dezell, ODNW, Legal Assessor; and All Saints, Burnaby as they enter a time of transition and discernment. God of Grace, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we pray for Shane, our Metropolitan; Mark, the National Indigenous Archbishop; John, our Archbishop; Stephanie, our Priest; Bishop Benny and the people of the Northern Philippines; our sister Parish of St. Gabriel, the archangel; Natasha and Sanda preparing for confirmation, and any others you wish to name, either silently or aloud. God of Grace, **Hear our Prayers.**

Receive these, our prayers, O God, and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in glory. **Amen.**

# The Collect

## *Officiant*

Source and Partner of the eternal Word,  
who brought to birth in the Lady Julian many visions  
of your nurturing and sustaining love,  
move our hearts, we pray, to seek your will above all  
things, that we may know the joy of your gifts and  
embrace the gift that is simply yourself;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, our Saviour, Brother,  
and Mother, who is alive and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# The Lord's Prayer

## *Officiant*

Believing in the promises of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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,  
and 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.**

# The Sending Forth

*Deacon (or Officiant)*

Let us go forth into the night, rejoicing  
in the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the  
love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy  
Spirit, be with us all, evermore.

**Amen.**