



Diocese of
New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

Doing God's Love Since 1899

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday - Service of Baptism

10:00 a.m. Family Eucharist

With Celebration of Renewal of the Memorial Garden

Celebrant: The Venerable Kevin Hunt

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Shawn Bullock

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

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WELCOME

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We ask that you please turn all cell phones and other electronic devices to silent or "off". Thank you. After the service, we invite everyone (especially newcomers!) to join us for coffee or tea downstairs in the Lounge.

The Anglican Church

As Anglicans we believe that God is eternal, the earth maker, the pain bearer, the life giver; source of all that is and shall be; father and mother of us all. We learn that God is one, yet revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer - a Holy Trinity.

We believe that Christians learn about God in the Bible, in the teaching of the Church summed up in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and through sharing in the living community of faith. We believe Jesus Christ was incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. We are an Apostolic Church, meaning that Bishops are a part of our leadership and we can trace our line of Bishops back to the 12 Apostles.

As Anglicans we get to know God by God's initiative in our thinking and understanding: by experiencing and reflecting on the wonder and mystery of creation, birth and death, love, forgiveness and the need to find meaning and worth beyond ourselves.

Everyone is welcome at St. John's, whether you were raised Anglican, or followed another faith, or you have no faith background at all. We hope you find what you are looking for in our service today.

Our Service Today

This liturgy (the words we say) comes from the Book of Alternative Services, and is the common, contemporary Anglican liturgy.

As we proceed through the service, this bulletin will help you recognize when to stand and when to sit, when to speak and when to sing, when to pray silently and when to pray aloud. We invite you to read aloud with us anytime the bulletin says **All**.

Chapel Candles

At any time during the service, you are welcome to prayerfully light a candle in the chapel in honour of a loved one, or in a prayer of concern.

Ministering today at our 10:00 a.m. service:

Celebrant:	The Venerable Kevin Hunt
Deacon-in-Charge, Curate:	The Reverend Dr. Shawn Bullock
Sub-Deacon:	Jill Parsons
Crucifer and Altar Server:	Hazel Breakey
Choir Director:	Christie Smith
Music Director:	Galina Martynioug, piano and organ
Intercessor:	Jill Parsons
Eucharistic Administrators:	Maria Morellato, Linda Harrison
Greeter:	Alison Brookfield
Baptismal Candidates:	Yunrong Wang and Haofei Wang

The Offertory Plate sits at the back of the church:

We do not "pass the plate" at St. John's. We invite you to place your donation on the Offertory Plate at the back of the church anytime. During the Offertory Hymn the plate is brought forward to the altar.

Your thoughtful and generous gifts to St. John's enable our worship and ministries to our community. One-time or recurring donations can be made by visiting our website www.stjohnnv.ca, or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone.



Flowers in the Sanctuary

Flowers today were given by Ann and Barry Burch to the Glory of God, and in remembrance of family and friends that have passed, and in celebration of family and friends that we hold dear.

The official Flower Calendar is in the Narthex. Please sign up for the Sunday that you would like to donate Altar Flowers, even if you signed up somewhere else previously. Contact the office if you have questions.

Prelude & Announcements & Territorial Acknowledgement

Deacon We acknowledge with respect that we worship on the traditional territories of the Squamish - Mother of the Wind, the Tsleil-Waututh - People of the Inlet, and the Musqueam - People of the River Grass. Let us pray that we may live more deeply into the calls to action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

All May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of reconciliation and peace. Amen

Processional Hymn - Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

We stand for the Processional Hymn, as the the ministry team enters the sanctuary.

The Gathering of the Community

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

All And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

**All To you all hearts are open,
all desires are known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily,
magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Glory to God

**All (sung) Glory to God in the highest
And peace to your 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.**

The Collect

Celebrant **Almighty and everliving God,**

**All who fulfilled the promises of Easter
by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation
the way of life eternal,
keep us in the unity of your Spirit,
that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading:

A reading from the Book of Acts.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

Acts 2:1-21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 104:25-35, 37 - The Mountains Stand in Awe

Please remain seated as we sing the Psalm together.

The Second Reading:

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Corinthians 12:3B-13

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn - O God, the Holy Ghost

Before the reading of the Gospel, we sing the first two verses of the Gradual Hymn. Please stand for the Gradual Hymn and the Gospel if you are able.

We turn to face the Deacon as they read the Gospel from the centre of the sanctuary.

The Gospel

Deacon The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

John 20:19-23

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At the conclusion of the Gospel, we sing the remainder of the Gradual hymn facing the altar.

Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Shawn Bullock

Time for Reflection

Baptisms and Renewal of Baptismal Vows (Common Worship)

The presider asks the candidates Haofei and Yunrong this question:

Presider Do you wish to be baptized?

Candidates I do.

Presider Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

All With the help of God, we will.

The Deacon asks the candidates, and everyone wanting to renew their baptismal vows, these questions:

Deacon In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask: Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All I reject them.

Deacon Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All I renounce them.

Deacon Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All I repent them.

Deacon Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All I turn to Christ.

Deacon Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All I submit to Christ.

Deacon Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All I come to Christ.

The minister makes the sign of the cross with the oil of catechumens on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, saying:

Presider Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

When all the candidates have been signed, the presider says:

Presider Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin,
the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

Presider May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All Amen.

The presider leads the prayer over the water.

Presider Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All who keeps his promise for ever.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Presider We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain,
refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved
in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the
children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the
Promised Land. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism
of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah,
the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

Lord of life,

All Renew your creation.

Presider We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are
buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his
resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.
Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we baptize into his
fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Lord of life,

All Renew your creation.

Presider Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy
Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again.

Presider Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Presider Lord of life,

All Renew your creation.

Deacon Let us affirm, together with these who are being baptized, our common faith in Jesus Christ. Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All I believe and trust in him.

Deacon Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All I believe and trust in him.

Deacon Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All I believe and trust in him.

Deacon This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The presider asks the candidates:

Presider Is this your faith?

Candidates This is my faith.

Presider Yunrong, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Haofei, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The presider seals the newly baptised with the oil of chrism.

Presider May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
 pour upon you the riches of his grace,
 that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
 you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
 and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All Amen.

When the baptism candidates have been baptised, all are sprinkled with water from the Font.

Baptismal Hymn - Out of Deep Unordered Water

A candle is given to the newly baptised with these words:

Presider God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and
 has given us a place with the saints in light.
 You have received the light of Christ;
 walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All Shine as a light in the world
 to the glory of God the Father.**

Prayers of the People

You may sit, kneel or stand for the prayers of the people.

The Church: We pray for Archbishop John Stephens our Metropolitan, and Archbishop Shane Parker, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. We pray for Archbishop Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop and Presiding Elder of the Sacred Circle. Also, we pray for Patrick our Rector, for Shawn our Deacon-in-charge and Curate, and for Georgina our Associate Priest. For our guest celebrant, the Venerable Kevin Hunt. For Jill in her discernment, work and studies to become an Anglican Priest. For the Deanery of Golden Ears - The Reverend David Edgerton, Regional Dean; General Secretary, Ms Andrea Mann, and The General Synod Staff; St. Cuthbert, Delta – The Reverend Monte Tugwete. For Primate Brent Alawas, Bishop Benny Lang-akan and the Clergy and People of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines. Our companion parish, St. John the Evangelist Mission and Outstations, Pasnadan, The Reverend Tristan Bati-el.

The Local Community: City & District of North Vancouver, Queen Mary Community School, Lookout Housing and Health Society of the North Shore.

The World: *Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen*
-St. Francis of Assisi

Those in Need: For those who are sick, hospitalized and in need of our prayers. This week, our prayers are requested especially for these members and friends of our St. John's faith community: Laurie Stringer, Mir and his family, Kelly Blake, Patrick, Simon Drake, Dianne McLatchie, Gary Hamblin, Thea Hogan, Irma, Jessica, Paul & Sarah Figgess, Jeff Dahl, Victoria

The Dearly Departed: We pray for all who are interred in the Memorial Garden. We pray for all loved ones who will live forever in our hearts.

In Thanksgiving: In our cycle of prayer, we pray for these members of our faith community: Haofei and Yunrong Wang, John Blaney, Patrick Blaney and Christopher You, Ann Bodwell, Maria Bolbat, Dana Bowman, Hazel Breakey, and their families.

Sharing of The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Deacon God has made us one in Christ.
 He has set his seal upon us and,
 as a pledge of what is to come,
 has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

The members of the community may greet each other in the name of the Lord. Many of us will simply smile and say "Peace be with you".

The Offertory

The Offertory Plate can be found at the back of the church by the double doors, and you may place your donation there anytime before or during the service. Your thoughtful and generous gifts enable our worship and ministry to our community and the world. We sincerely thank you.

We stand for the Offertory Hymn. After the Offertory Hymn, the Offertory Plate will be presented to the altar.

Offertory Hymn - Longing for Light

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

The table is set and the gifts of bread and wine are prepared for the Eucharist. The Offertory Plate, that holds our donations for the needs and responsibilities of the Church, is then brought forward to be blessed before the table.

The Doxology

**All (sung) Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Prayer Over the Gifts

Celebrant Giver of life,

**All receive all we offer you this day.
Let the Spirit you bestow on your Church
continue to work in the world
through the hearts of all who believe.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.**

Please remain standing as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
 creator of heaven and earth;
 we give you thanks and praise
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 In fulfilment of your promise
 you pour forth your Spirit upon us,
 filling us with gifts and leading us into all truth.
 You give us power to proclaim your gospel to all nations
 and to serve you as a royal priesthood.
 Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,
 and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,
 to proclaim the glory of your name.

**All (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and 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.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh,
Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us out of error into truth,
out of isolation into community,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, and said,
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All

**we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ and
his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

All

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us to pray, let us sing,
All (sung) 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.
All Now we are raised to new life.
 Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.
All Now we share in your resurrection.
 Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God, for the people of God.
All Thanks be to God.

Please be seated as the Communion is prepared.

All who love God and desire Christ are welcome to receive communion. If you want to come forward for a blessing, please line up for the minister and cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the Eucharistic Administrator know if you wish to receive one. Please note intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine), is not permitted.

Communion Hymns

- **Eat This Bread**
- **Come, Holy Spirit (Veni Sancte Spiritus)**
- **O Blessed Spring**

The Eucharistic administrators will first serve Communion to the choir. Then they will stand at the front of the church and the congregation will come forward in two lines down the centre aisle to take Communion.

Celebrant Offers Communion

After the congregation has been served, the celebrant offers Communion to those joining online, saying the following.

Celebrant: The body of Christ, food for our journey.
The blood of Christ, the cup of love.

And now I invite you here, and you at home, to put your hand over your heart and accept the communion of God.

All Amen.

The communion hymns continue as the table is cleared.

Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant Father,

**All may we who have received this eucharist
live in the unity of your Holy Spirit,
that we may show forth his gifts to all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Celebrant Glory to God,

**All 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.**

The ministers go to the Easter (Paschal) Candle for the dismissal.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Blessed are you, sovereign God, overflowing in love.
With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.
Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.
Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;
the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.
With the new wine of the Spirit
they proclaim your reign of love.
Amid the birth pangs of the new creation
the way of light is made known.
Source of freedom, giver of life,
blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Candles will be lit during the recessional hymn.

Recessional Hymn - In The Garden

Please note: We will not have a musical postlude today.

Please turn to face the ministers at the back of the church.

A Moment of Silence and Blessing

Deacon: The Lord is here.

All: God's spirit is with us.

Deacon: Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples, and we invite that same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world. Today we celebrate the work of the Spirit that has led to the renewal of our Memorial Garden, where the loved ones of many have been laid to rest.

A moment of silence is observed.

Deacon: Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

All: And may light perpetual shine upon them.

Deacon: May they rest in peace.

All: And rise in Glory.

Celebrant: May the Spirit,
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,
breathe into you the life he gives.

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Deacon: Filled with the Spirit's power,
go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia!

We leave the sanctuary now, and you are invited to join the ministers at the Memorial Garden.



***Celebration of Renewal
of the
Memorial Garden
at
St. John's Anglican Church***

*The Memorial Garden is found
on the southwest side of the church building.
Please join us there for the following prayer.*

This part of today's service will not be streamed online.

Celebration of Renewal of the Memorial Garden

Celebrant The Lord Be With You

All And also with you

Celebrant Dear Friends, we come together to rejoice for the renewal of this holy place.

To the glory of God the Father,
who has called us by grace,
to the honour of the Son,
who loved us and gave himself for us,
to the praise of the Holy Spirit,
who illumines our lives.

We give thanks for this garden,
and for the comfort of all who mourn
the loved ones who are resting here,
for it being a place of peace and refuge,
for those who seek solace, rest and renewal.

We give thanks for this garden
and all those who have worked to renew and beautify it;
in it we find the beauty of God's creative hand revealed.

We give thanks for this garden,
that in its renewal the whole family of Christ
will be inspired by love, with good will to all.

We give thanks for the vision for renewal of this garden,
in gratitude for the labours of all
who love and serve this church,
in loving remembrance of those
who have finished their course,
in the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: We give thanks for the renewal of this garden.

The Benediction

Celebrant: This garden represents the love and faith
of the people of the Church of St. John the Evangelist.
It proclaims our caring for one another and our hope
of bringing peace and justice into the lives of all people.
It adds beauty to a world that is
too often stark and unwelcoming.
This garden says, "come".
Let us continue to receive with grace
the people who find their way here.
May this garden continue to be a place where
the gift of laughter will rise above our troubles,
where treasured stories will be shared to make us wiser,
where the pain of loss will be embraced
with arms of hope and trust.
Let us strive, always, to be God's servant
to love the Lord our God, to love our neighbour,
and to love ourselves.

The Memorial Garden will be blessed with the waters of Baptism

All Amen.

*Thank you for blessing us with your presence today.
Everyone is welcome to join us in the Lounge
for our reception and fellowship.*