



VESPERS
on the Holy Day of
Saint John, the Baptist

Transferred from June 24

2026 June 25

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

Saint John the Baptist was from a priestly family and advocated a return to the strict observance of the laws of Moses in ethical and religious standards. He baptised people as a token of their acceptance of this. John's message was popular with many, but it brought him into conflict with Herod and the rulers of Israel, many of whom followed Gentile customs. John was executed on Herod's orders. Jesus' ministry began with his baptism by John, and many of his followers were former disciples of John.

From *"For All the Saints"*

Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia

In other faiths, he is variously known as "John the Forerunner" (*Eastern Orthodoxy, Eastern Catholicism, and Oriental Orthodoxy*), "John the Immerser" (*Baptist*), and "Yahya ibn Zakariya" (*Islam*).

"Wikipedia"

The Preparation (Cont'd)

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.

Act of Praise

Come Touch and Bless

Common Cup Company

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Officiant or Cantor

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion, from failing embers build a blazing fire; love strong enough to overturn injustice, to seek a world more gracious, Come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls that we may know and love you, your quiet presence all our fears dispel; create a space for Spirit to grow in us, let life and beauty fill us, Come touch and bless our souls.

Come touch our minds and teach them how to reason, set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream, help us to open doors of understanding, to welcome truth and wisdom, Come touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in the places we are fragile, and in our weakness your great strength reveal, that we may rise to follow and to serve, steady now our nerve, Come touch and bless our wills.

Come touch us now this people who are gathered to break the bread and share the cup of peace; that we may love you with out heart, our soul, our mind, our strength, our all, Come touch us with your grace.

The Psalm

Psalm 85: 7 - 13

Psalmist

Show us your mercy, O Lord, *
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
**for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.**

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Psalm Prayer

God of grace, you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son to be our Saviour. Help us to rejoice in our salvation by showing mercy and truth, and by walking in the way of righteousness and peace. We ask this in his name and for his sake.

Amen.

The Reading

Matthew 11: 2 - 19

Reader

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

The Reading (Cont'd)

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John came; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. Let anyone with ears listen!

‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’

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

Officiant

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

Almighty God, you who hear the cries of those in need, receive these petitions of your people that all who are troubled may know peace, comfort, and courage as we respond to the bidding; God of mercy and healing, with Hear our Prayers.

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Diocese of Alaska, The Episcopal Church, The Rt. Revd. Mark Lattime, Bishop. God of mercy and healing, **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican - Lutheran - Moravian Cycle, we pray for the Ecclesiastical Province of the Northern Lights; the Delegates and Participants at the 2026 Moravian Provincial Synod; and The National Indigenous Day of Prayer: for healing and reconciliation between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Peoples. God of mercy and healing, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our Diocesan Cycle, we pray for The Most Revd. Shane Parker, our Primate; The Most Revd. Chris Harper, our National Indigenous Archbishop; The Most Revd. John

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings (Cont'd)

Officiant

Stephens, our Metropolitan; The Revd. Stephanie Shepard, our Priest; St. Michael Centre, Burnaby - Anglican board members - Mr. Tony Sauder, The Revd Justin Cheng; St. Philip, Vancouver - The Revd. Anne Privett. God of mercy and healing, **Hear our Prayers.**

In this Parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we pray for Bishop Benny Langan and the People of Northern Philippines; our sister Parish of St. Gabriel, the Archangel, Lubon; those in need of healing: Kyumin L., Carole N., Tom S., Sheila G., Isabelle, Michelle; those who have died, Brian D., Morgan M., Norm D.; please add any you wish to name, either silently or aloud. God of mercy and healing, **Hear our Prayers.**

Life-giving God, heal our lives, that we may acknowledge your wonderful deeds and offer you thanks from generation to generation through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant

Almighty God,
you called John the Baptist to give witness to the
coming of your Son and to prepare his way.
Give your people the wisdom to see your purpose,
and the openness to hear your will,
that we may witness to Christ's coming
and so prepare his way;
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives 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

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.