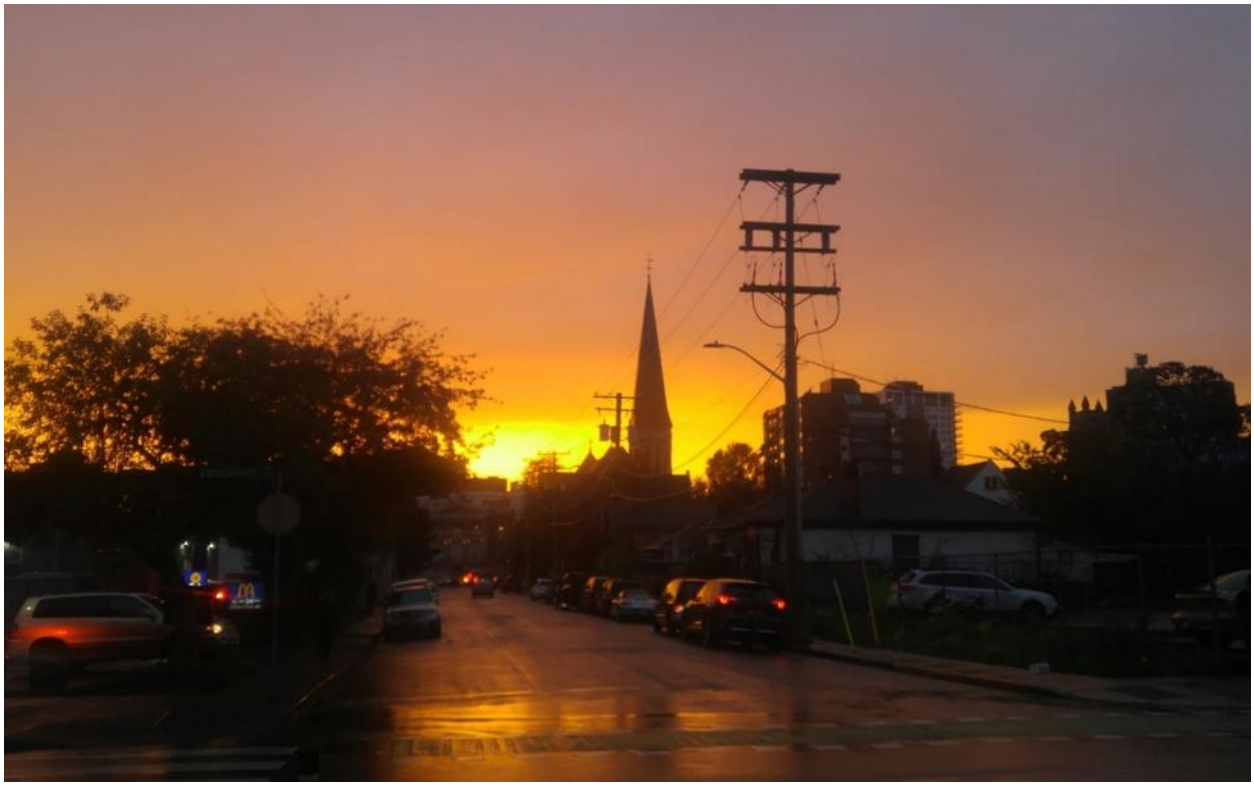


November 22, 2026

The Reign of Christ

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 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
Address: Ruth MacIntosh
Welcomer: Ava Gregorian
Reader: Karen Coverett

Music: Quartet
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.

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

Prelude

The officiant gives a short welcome.

Please stand as you are able.

The Responses

Grace Coberly (b. 1999)

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

93

1 The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel * the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.
2 He hath made the round world so sure * that it cannot be moved.
3 Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared * thou art from everlasting.
4 The floods are risen, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice * the floods lift up their waves.
5 The waves of the sea are mighty, and rage horribly * but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.
6 Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure * holiness becometh thine house for ever.

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

2 Samuel 23:1-7

"The inspired utterance of David son of Jesse,
the utterance of the man exalted by the Most High,
the man anointed by the God of Jacob,
the hero of Israel's songs:
"The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me;
his word was on my tongue.
The God of Israel spoke,
the Rock of Israel said to me:
'When one rules over people in righteousness,
when he rules in the fear of God,
he is like the light of morning at sunrise
on a cloudless morning,
like the brightness after rain
that brings grass from the earth.'

"If my house were not right with God,
 surely he would not have made with me an everlasting covenant,
 arranged and secured in every part;
surely he would not bring to fruition my salvation
 and grant me my every desire.
But evil men are all to be cast aside like thorns,
 which are not gathered with the hand.
Whoever touches thorns
 uses a tool of iron or the shaft of a spear;
 they are burned up where they lie."

Please stand as you are able.

Magnificat

Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: Short Service – Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

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

Matthew 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Please stand as you are able.

Nunc Dimittis

Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Short Service – Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

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:

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, whose will it is to restore all things in thy well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who liveth and reigneth with thee and 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

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens	*Christ became obedient for us unto death,*
usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.	*even to the death, death on the cross.*
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum	*Therefore God exalted him*
et dedit illi nomen,	*and gave him a name*
quod est super omne nomen.	*which is above all names.*

Text: Philippians 2:8–9
Music: Felice Anerio (1560-1614)

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

Intercessions

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn *(CP 401)*

Text: Robert Lowry (1823-1899); adapt. With additional text by Doris Plenn.
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Music: **How Can I Keep From Singing,** Attrib. Robert Lowry (1826-1899), alt
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1. My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing;
it sounds and echoes in my soul;
how can I keep from singing?

3. What though the tempest 'round me roar,
I hear the truth it liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close,
songs in the night it giveth.
Refrain

4. When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
and hear their death knells ringing;
when friends rejoice both far and near,
how can I keep from singing?
Refrain

5. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his;
how can I keep from singing?
Refrain

Please be seated.

Sermon

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn (CP 520)

Text: Ps. 23; para. Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877).
Music: **DOMINUS REGIT ME**, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).



1. **The King of love my shepherd is,**
   whose goodness faileth never;
   I nothing lack if I am his
   and he is mine forever.

2. **Where streams of living water flow,**
   my ransomed soul he leadeth,
   and where the verdant pastures grow,
   with food celestial feedeth.

3. **Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,**
   but yet in love he sought me,
   and on his shoulder gently laid,
   and home rejoicing brought me.

4. **In death's dark vale I fear no ill**
   with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
   thy rod and staff my comfort still,
   thy cross before to guide me.

5. **Thou spread'st a table in my sight;**
   thy unction grace bestoweth;
   and O what transport of delight
   from thy pure chalice floweth!

6. **And so through all the length of days**
   thy goodness faileth never;
   good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
   within thy house forever!

The Blessing or Grace

Please be seated.

Organ Voluntary Fuga in d — Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine
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This is the last Evensong of 2026, however there are other evening services offered throughout Advent, starting next week and continuing through Christmas:

- Nov 29, 7pm - The Advent Procession
  A dramatic series of readings, choral music, and hymns, to mark the start of the church year. Sung by the Choristers of St John the Divine.
- Dec 6, 4:30pm - Prayer Stations for Advent
  Self-guided prayer stations to experience with all the senses at one's own pace
- Dec 13, 4:30pm - Blue Christmas Service
  A service for those for whom the holidays may not be a joyful time of year
- Dec 20, 7pm - The Carol Service
  The traditional service of lessons and carols, with the Choristers of St John the Divine
- Dec 24 and Dec 25 - Christmas services - see our website for more information

The Anglican Church of
St John the Divine

Sun. Nov. 29, 7pm

The Advent Procession



A dramatic candlelit sequence of readings, choral music, and hymns, exploring themes of Advent - the Eternal; the Promise; the Forerunner; the Incarnation; and the Coming Again.

Sung by the Choristers of St John the Divine.
Choral music by Paul Manz, Howard Skempton, Becky McGlade, Anna Lapwood, Orlando Gibbons, Kerensa Briggs, and Jonathan Dove Sanctus.



