



November 24, 2024

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 of 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

St. John's is open for worship at **8:00 am (Holy Communion – said service), 10:00 am (Holy Eucharist), 4:30 pm (BCP 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 via Zoom (email admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca for the link) or 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, 9:30am-12:30pm. 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 tonight's Liturgy

Officiant: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Welcomer: Ruth MacIntosh

Music: An Ensemble of Singers

David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

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.

Cover Image: Tissot, James, 1836-1902. Jesus Before Pilate, First Interview, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56679> [retrieved November 22, 2024]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jesus_Before_Pilate,_First_Interview.jpg.



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. Thank you for your support.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand at the entrance of the clergy.

Prelude

The choir may sing an introit.

The officiant gives a short welcome.

The Responses

Plainsong

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

72:1-7

- 1 Give the King thy judgements, O God * and thy righteousness unto the King's son.
- 2 Then shall he judge thy people according unto right * and defend the poor.
- 3 The mountains also shall bring peace * and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
- 4 He shall keep the simple folk by their right * defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.
- 5 They shall fear thee, as long as the sun and moon endureth * from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like the rain into a fleece of wool * even as the drops that water the earth.

Please stand 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

Daniel 5

King Belshazzar made a great festival for a thousand of his lords, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.

Under the influence of the wine, Belshazzar commanded that they bring in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. So they brought in the vessels of gold and silver that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. Then the king's face

turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together. The king cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners; and the king said to the wise men of Babylon, 'Whoever can read this writing and tell me its interpretation shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around his neck, and rank third in the kingdom.' Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king the interpretation. Then King Belshazzar became greatly terrified and his face turned pale, and his lords were perplexed.

The queen, when she heard the discussion of the king and his lords, came into the banqueting-hall. The queen said, 'O king, live for ever! Do not let your thoughts terrify you or your face grow pale. There is a man in your kingdom who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods. In the days of your father he was found to have enlightenment, understanding, and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, made him chief of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans, and diviners, because an excellent spirit, knowledge, and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation.'

Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, 'So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you. Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me to read this writing and tell me its interpretation, but they were not able to give the interpretation of the matter. But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom.'

Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, 'Let your gifts be for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless, I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation. O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar kingship, greatness, glory, and majesty. And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. He killed those he wanted to kill, kept alive those he wanted to keep alive, honoured those he wanted to honour, and degraded those he wanted to degrade. But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he acted proudly, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and his glory was stripped from him. He was driven from human society, and his mind was made like that of an animal. His dwelling was with the wild asses, he was fed grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals, and sets over it whomsoever he will. And you, Belshazzar his son, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this! You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven! The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know; but the God in whose power is your very breath, and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honoured.

'So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed. And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene, mene, tekel, and parsin. This is the interpretation of the matter: mene, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; tekel, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.'

Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made concerning him that he should rank third in the kingdom.

That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was killed. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

Please stand.

Magnificat

Text: Luke 1:46-55 Music: Dyson in C minor

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

John 6:1-15

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Please stand.

Nunc Dimittis

Text: Luke 2:29-32 Music: Dyson in C minor

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.

Anthem

Please be seated for the anthem.

Jesu, Rex admirabilis Et triumphator nobilis
Dulcedo ineffabilis Totus desiderabilis.
Mane nobiscum Domine Et nos illustra lumine
Pulsa mentis caligine Mundum reple dulcedine

Jesus, wondrous king and noble conqueror,
unutterable sweetness, wholly desirable:
Remain with us, Lord, and shine your light upon us,
drive away the darkness of our minds, fill the world with sweetness.

Music: G.L. di Palestrina

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

Intercessions

Please stand to sing the hymn:

Hymn (CP 634)

Text: Luke 23:42

Music: JESUS, REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier (1923-1994). Music © 1978, 1980 and 1981 Les Presses de Taizé.
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The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, Remember Me'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: 'Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in - to your King-dom.' The first system ends with a repeat sign, and the second system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Sermon



**1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing
and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!**

**2. Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!**

**3. His kingdom cannot fail;
he rule o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!**

**4. He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!**

**5. Rejoice in glorious hope;
Jesus, the judge, shall come
and take his servants up
to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!**

The Blessing or Grace

Organ Voluntary

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