



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 22, 2024
Season of Creation, Week 4*

Welcome

The Parish of St. Mary the Virgin is a member of the Diocese of British Columbia and the Anglican Church of Canada. We are an inclusive and welcoming 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. As a parish we acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work and play on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen peoples. We commit ourselves, as a settler church and people, to continue with our First Nations hosts on the journey of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

VISITORS Welcome! We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

COMMUNION All are invited to receive Communion. The sacrament will be offered in both kinds (bread and the common cup). Regarding the cup: since there has been no indication that COVID-19 has spread via swallowing, it is our view that properly-distributed wine from the silver chalice poses no additional risk to safety. That said, please feel free to receive the bread only, and be assured that in the Anglican Church of Canada it has always been our tradition that receiving only one of the elements is considered full Communion.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request it from the person who is distributing the bread.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of
Robert George (Bob) Huxley and
Clifford & Stella Holdsworth parents of Mary

10:00am Service

Ministers of Welcome: Mary Lawrence Organist: Curt Bergen
Presider: The Rev'd Dr. John Macquarrie Musicians: St Mary Singers
Preacher: The Rev'd Dyan Davison Livestream: William Turner & Samantha Robbins
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Tony Barlow, Karen Wilson

*Note: in the service order, words set in **bold italic type** are said by the congregation.*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen Nos 3/10 from Eleven Chorale Preludes op. 122, J. Brahms*

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful vs 1, 3, 4 (415)

***All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.***

1. Each radiant flower that opens,
each vibrant bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
God made their lively wings. R
3. The rocky mountain splendour,
the loon's wild, haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall. R
4. God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is the Creator,
who has made all things well. R

GREETING

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

And also with you

CENTRING STILLNESS

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, *who draws near to us and whose nature is revealed in lordship laid aside: give us grace to welcome you in the child and in the outcast; in the name of Jesus Christ, who humbled himself so that we might know eternal life. Amen.*

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

The congregation sits.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 31. 10-31, Pauline Samoszynski

- ¹⁰ A woman of strength who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.
¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.
¹² She does him good and not harm all the days of her life.
¹³ She seeks wool and flax and works with willing hands.
¹⁴ She is like the ships of the merchant; she brings her food from far away.
¹⁵ She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her female servants.
¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
¹⁷ She girds herself with strength and makes her arms strong.
¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.
¹⁹ She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.
²⁰ She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.
²¹ She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
²² She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple.
²³ Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land.
²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes.
²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.
²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.
²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband, too, and he praises her:
²⁹ "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."
³⁰ Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

³¹Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

***Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on this law they meditate day and night.***

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

***It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.***

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgement comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

***For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed.***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

James 3. 13 – 4. 3, 7-8a, Gillian Barlow

¹³Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. ¹⁵This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

³You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Lord Whose Love in Humble Service (585)

Text: Albert Frederick Bayly, alt ©Oxford University Press.

1. Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
every gift which you impart.
2. Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power
to our world to make it whole.
3. As we worship, grant us vision
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.

GOSPEL

Mark 9. 30-37

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God is with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know it,

³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."

³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

Look At the World, John Rutter

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

We believe in God, creator of the Earth

Creator of life and freedom

Hope of the poor.

We believe in Jesus Christ

Friend in suffering

Companion of the resurrection

Way of peace.

We believe in the Spirit;

*The holy force impelling the poor to build a church
of beatitudes.*

We recognize our baptism in the blood of our martyrs.

We confess our faith in the law of love;

We wait for the resurrection of all of creation

And joyfully praise our Lord

*Who has looked upon the disinherited, those who
have no bread, no home and no land. Amen.*

from the United Church of Canada

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Father, Lord of creation,
in your mercy, hear us.

In your prayers this week remember those in need of healing and care, including Alison, Aslan, Blythe, Dorothy, Dyan, Eric, Garry, Samantha and Sherry. In our diocese of islands and inlets, please pray for Anna, our Bishop, Lynn, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate; pray for the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Esquimalt and their clergy. The Diocese of New Westminster and Bishop John Stephens; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Bishop Susan Johnson; and in the Church further afield, The Church of North India (United). Pray for the Staff of the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and for the teacher of Oak Bay Preschool.

A Note About Our Prayer Ministry: *If you wish to request prayers for yourself or for someone else, please send the information to the office: admin@stmarysoakbay.ca. Requests received by end of day Wednesdays will be included in the leaflet for the following Sunday and for three weeks following. Prayers will also be included by the members of the Angel Wings Prayer Team. A new request may be made if you wish specific prayers to be continued. We require only a first name, but it is helpful if an area of need is included, eg, in need of prayer; sickness; awaiting surgery; recovering from surgery; ongoing treatment; death; grieving.*

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

Silence is kept.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of God's creation. God our Creator, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

Creator, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry.

Creator, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Creator, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven.

Creator, in your mercy:

forgive us and help us.

“Let All Things Their Creator Bless”: Liturgy for Use During the Season of Creationtide, Diocese of Guilford

The Presider reminds us of God’s healing and forgiveness.

PEACE

The congregation stands

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We share signs of Peace with those around us.

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

The Collection Plate has been placed at the back of the church for use as you arrive. It will be moved to the front of the church during the Offertory hymn and placed in a location where you may place your gifts as you come to receive Communion. Please also consider one of the other available means of giving regularly: electronic donations on our website via CanadaHelps, or monthly direct debit donations via the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance program (details are available in a brochure at the entrance, or on the website: www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate).

OFFERTORY

Blest are the Pure in Heart (439)

1. Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode.
2. The Lord, who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us,
our pattern and our King,
3. still to the lowly soul
his presence doth impart,
and for a dwelling and a throne
chooseth the pure in heart.
4. Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for thee.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Bless these gifts and our lives, O God, that we may share ourselves and our belongings with those in need. Lift up our voices with those of all creation that sing out in praise for your grace and love. ***Amen.***

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Scottish Liturgy 1982, Season of Creation

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, O God, Creator of all things visible and invisible, Source of life and immortality, Whom the heavens praise, the sun and moon and all the stars, the earth, the sea and all that is in them, in every place and at all times.

By your holy Word you brought order out of chaos. You divided light from darkness, created the heavens and established the earth; you divided the sea from the dry land, and caused all life to come into being. When you had made the plants and the animals, you formed humanity in your own image, and entrusted us with the priesthood of your Creation.

In Christ your holy Word became flesh, took our human form, lived among us, and, through dying on the cross, overcame sin and death, that your creation might be restored in him.

Through your life-giving Holy Spirit Who first moved over the waters, you renew your creation, call us to new birth, in a world restored by love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, with all your creatures throughout space and time we offer you our praise, together with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Repeat each line after the cantor:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and 'might,
Heaven and earth are full,
are full of your glo'ry.***

***Blessed is the one who comes'
in the name of the 'Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,'
hosanna in the high'est. 3x***

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, God our creator, for the gift of your Son born in human flesh. Christ is your holy Wisdom, existing beyond time, present at creation. Through Christ you revealed yourself in the world, and bring your saving work to its completion. Obedient to your will he died upon the Cross. By your power you raised him from the dead. He broke the bonds of evil and set your people free to be his Body in the world.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by the Spirit's life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

***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 for ever. Amen.***

Silence is held

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

“I am the bread which has come down from heaven,” says the Lord.

Give us this bread for ever.

“I am the vine, you are the branches.”

May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.

The gifts of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE COMMUNION

Please follow the direction of the greeters as they invite rows to receive communion. You are also welcome to approach the presider for a blessing only—this is traditionally indicated simply by crossing your hands over your chest as you approach.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, the source of all that is, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy. ***Amen.***

COMMUNITY NOTES

GLORY TO GOD

The congregation stands.

Glory to God, ***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.

BLESSING

HYMN

You Servants of the Lord (93)

1. You servants of the Lord,
each in his office wait,
observant of his heavenly Word,
and watchful at his gate.
2. Let all your lamps be bright,
and trim the golden flame;
attentive stand, as in his sight,
for awesome is his name.

3. Watch; 'tis your Lord's command,
and while we speak, he's near;
mark the first signal of his hand,
and ready all appear.
4. How happy shall we be
if in his service found!
We shall our Lord with rapture see,
and be with honor crowned!
5. Christ shall the banquet spread
with his own royal hand,
and raise each faithful servant's head
amid the angelic band.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in d BWV 538 J.S. Bach

The musical postlude is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for our encounter with God's Word as it has been experienced this day. You are invited to use this time for reflection, remaining seated.



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