



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 18, 2025

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.” *John 13.34*

Welcome

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

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.

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).

If you would like to schedule a **Memorial Flower Arrangement** at the next opportunity, please contact Anne Underhill, aunderhill@stmarysoakbay.ca.

10:00am Service

From the Book of Alternative Services

Minister of Welcome: Pat Taylor Organist: Amiel Elfert
Presider & Preacher: The Ven Craig Hiebert Musicians: St. Mary Singers
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Karen Wilson

Please note that this service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending in person, you are acknowledging and consent to the fact that the video images of you may appear online.

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

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE

Pastorale, C.S. Lang

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us praise our God

who has given us life and hope

by raising Jesus from the dead.

Let us rejoice, then, even in our distress.

We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.

O God, you have claimed us as your own

and called us from our darkness into the light of your day.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

WELCOME

HYMN

Awake, Arise, Lift Up Your Voice (224)

1. Awake, arise, lift up your voice,
let Easter music swell;
rejoice in Christ, again rejoice
and on his praises dwell.
2. Oh, with what gladness and surprise
the saints their Saviour greet;
nor will they trust their ears and eyes
but by his hands and feet:

3. those hands of liberal love indeed
in infinite degree,
those feet still free to move and bleed
for millions and for me.
4. His enemies had sealed the stone
as Pilate gave them leave,
lest dead and friendless and alone
he should their skill deceive.
5. O Dead arise! O Friendless stand
by seraphim adored!
O Solitude again command
your host from heaven restored!

ACCLAMATION

O risen Christ:

*the image of the invisible God,
firstborn of all creation,
in whom all things hold together:
we welcome the radiance of your holy Presence.*

O risen Christ:

*in whom we live and move and have our being:
we affirm the wonder of creation
and a world of humbling needs;
we welcome your Word
to reveal paths of faith, hope and love.*

O risen Christ:

*through whom the deep mystery of God
is revealed and made known:
we welcome the fresh winds of your Spirit
to awaken us to your summons.*

O risen Christ:

*we stand as a people of the north
and of these western isles.
We commit ourselves once again to you,
and call out our praise to you,
our Creator and Sustainer.*

Let the earth rejoice.
Let the multitude of the isles be glad.

***Let the earth sing out its praise.
Rejoice together. Again I say rejoice.***

CENTRING STILLNESS

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, ***your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

The congregation sits.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Leviticus 19. 9–18, Gillian Fosdick

⁹“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰You shall not strip your vineyard bare or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God.

¹¹“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. ¹²And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the Lord.

¹³“You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. ¹⁴You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am the Lord.

¹⁵“You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood of your neighbor is at stake: I am the Lord.

¹⁷“You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 24. 1-6



The God of hosts it is who reigns in glo - ry.

Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

The earth is our God's and all that is in it,
the world and all who dwell therein.
For God has founded it upon the seas
and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep. **R.**

“Who can ascend the hill of the Holy One?
and who can stand in the holy place?”

“Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
who have not pledged themselves to falsehood, nor sworn by what is a fraud. **R.**

They shall receive a blessing from the Holy One,
and a just reward from the God of their salvation.”

Such is the generation of those who seek you,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. **R.**

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 21. 1-6, Sean Steele

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them and be their God;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Lord, Your Word Shall Guide Us (561)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Lord, your word shall guide us
and with truth provide us:
teach us to receive it
and with joy believe it. | 4. Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure
by your word imparted
to the simple-hearted? |
| 2. When our foes are near us,
then your word shall cheer us –
word of consolation,
message of salvation. | 5. Word of mercy, giving
courage to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying. |
| 3. When the storms distress us
and dark clouds oppress us,
then your word protects us
and its light directs us. | 6. O that we, discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear you –
evermore be near you! |

GOSPEL

John 13. 31-35

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God is with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also

should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

Peace I leave with you, Beach

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. + We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Sean Steele

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Lord, lead us from despair to hope,
from division to wholeness.

In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Aslan, Carrie, Debbie, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Gary, Ken, Lucia, Marg, Myles, Pat, Robb, Samantha, and Sherry. In our diocese of Islands and Inlets pray for Anna, our Bishop, John, our Metropolitan, Chris, our National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, and Anne, our Acting Primate; and for the

parish of St John the Baptist, Cobble Hill and their clergy, John Steele. In our province, pray for The Territory of the People and The Right Reverend Clara Plamondon. In our Anglican Church of Canada pray for The Rt. Rev. William Cliff, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Ontario. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada, pray for The Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Saskatchewan Synod. And in the Moravian Church, pray for The Rt. Rev. Kay Ward, Bishop of the Unity residing in the Northern Province. In the Church further afield, pray for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East Pray for the Students at the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and for the Families 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.

PEACE

The congregation stands

The peace of the lord be always with you. Alleluia!

And also with you. Alleluia!

Remaining in our places, we share signs of Peace with those around us.

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

For safety, 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 means of giving that do not require our volunteers and staff to handle cash and cheques: electronic donations on our website via CanadaHelps, or bi-weekly or monthly direct debit donations via our diocesan Electronic Collection Plate (details are available in a brochure at the entrance, or on the website: www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate).

OFFERTORY

Thou, Who at Thy First Eucharist (57)

1. Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray
that all thy church might be forever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul, "Thy will be done."
O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.
2. For all thy church, O Lord, we intercede:
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace.
Thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

3. So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all thy church above,
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
one with thy saints in one unbounded love;
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in Unity.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Book of Alternative Services, Eucharistic Prayer 3
with the Preface for Easter*

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

God 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.

The prayer continues until:

Therefore, joining our voices
with the whole company of heaven,
we sing our joyful hymn of praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.***

The prayer continues until:

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
***we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;***

sung 732

The prayer continues until:

...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. **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

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

In the Phrygian Mode, Wood

THE COMMUNION

All are invited to receive Communion.

The sacrament will be offered in both kinds (bread and the common cup) but 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.

If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are also welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. This is signified by folding your hands across your chest as you approach the presider.

COMMUNION HYMN

The Royal Banners Forward Go (186)

1. The royal banners forward go;
the cross shines forth in mystic glow,
where he, the Life, did death endure,
and by that death did life procure.
2. There while he hung, his sacred side
by soldier's spear was opened wide
to cleanse us in the precious flood
of water mingled with his blood.
3. Fulfilled is all his words foretold;
then spread the banners, and unfold
love's crowning power, that all may see
he reigns and triumphs from the tree.
4. O tree of grace, the conquering sign,
which dost in royal purple shine,
gone is thy shame; for, lo, each bough
proclaims the prince of glory now.
5. For once thy favoured branches bore
the wealth that did the world restore,
the priceless treasure, freely spent
to pay for our enfranchisement.
6. Father of all, life's source and spring,
may every soul thy praises sing;
may those obey the rule of heaven,
for whom the perfect life was given.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

COMMUNITY NOTES

AFFIRMATION

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 *Lift High the Cross (602)*

Refrain:

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name!*

1. Come, Christian people, sing your
praises, shout!
If we are silent, even stones cry out. R
2. Jesus, you wept to see our human strife:
teach us compassion for each human life. R
3. Peace was your plea, and peace your
loving theme:
let peace be our passport, peace a living
dream. R

4. Great is the cost of walking on this road,
to follow and suffer with the Son of God. R
5. World to be born and children yet to be,
come, take up this song into eternity. R

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Prelude & Fugue, C.S. Lang

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.



Church of St. Mary the Virgin

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