

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Second Sunday of Easter - April 12, 2026

“Have you believed, Thomas, because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.” *John 20.29*

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).*

Flower Dedications

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

Office: Mon- to Thurs – 8:30am – 1:00pm

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10:00am Service

From the Book of Alternative Services

Minister of Welcome:	Chris Moeckl	Organist:	Janet Yonge
Presider:	The Rev'd Dyan Davison	Musicians:	St. Mary Singers
Preacher:	The Ven Craig Hiebert	Livestream:	Gillian Barlow
Eucharistic Ministers:	Karen Wilson, Tony Barlow		

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

Let Your Light So Shine, Tom Birchwood

WELCOME

HYMN

That Eastertide with Joy Was Bright (231)

1. That Eastertide with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light,
alleluia, alleluia!
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
2. He bade them see his hands, his side,
where yet the glorious wounds abide;
alleluia, alleluia!
the tokens true which made it plain
their Lord indeed was risen again.
Alleluia, alleluia . . .
3. From every weapon death can wield
thine own redeemed for ever shield:
alleluia, alleluia!
O Lord, of all, with us abide
in this our joyful Eastertide.
Alleluia, alleluia . . .
4. Jesus, the king of gentleness,
do thou thyself our hearts possess,
alleluia, alleluia!
that we may give thee all our days
the tribute of our grateful praise.
Alleluia, alleluia . . .

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. 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!

CENTRING STILLNESS

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, ***our beginning and our end: accept our doubts, heal our desire for certainty and, by your Spirit's gentle touch, make us a people forgiven and forgiving; through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Peace. Amen.***

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

The congregation sits

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

A Statement on the Lectionary Readings

Throughout Christian history, references to “the Jews” in scripture—particularly in John and Acts—have been used to perpetuate negative stereotypes and falsely assign blame for the death of Jesus. These references gloss over significant distinctions among religious leaders, such as Pharisees, scribes, and Sadducees, and obscure the fact that Jesus and his disciples were themselves Jews. As Christians, we confess and lament the history of anti-Judaism associated with these texts. We renounce the evils of violence and discrimination against Jewish people. We strive for mutual understanding, respect, and partnership with Jewish neighbors and commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation among people of all faiths.

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Exodus 15. 1-11 Gillian Fosdick

¹Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

“I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

²The Lord is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him;
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

³The Lord is a warrior;
the Lord is his name.

- ⁴Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.
- ⁵The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.
- ⁶Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power—
your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.
- ⁷In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.
- ⁸At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;
the floods stood up in a heap;
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.
- ⁹The enemy said, 'I will pursue; I will overtake;
I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.'
- ¹⁰You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.
- ¹¹Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

Holy word, holy wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord!

They are studied by all who delight in them.

O Lord, your work is full of majesty and splendour,
and your righteousness endures for ever.

***You make your marvellous works to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.***

You give food to those who fear you;
you are ever mindful of your covenant.

***You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.***

The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all your commandments are sure.

***They stand fast for ever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.***

You send redemption to your people;
you commanded your covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is your name.

***The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
the praise of the Lord endures for ever.***

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

1 Peter 1. 3-9, Sherry Armstrong

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring (97)

1. Jesus came, the heavens adoring,
came with peace from realms on high.
Jesus came for our redemption,
lowly came on earth to die:
 alleluia, alleluia!
came in deep humility.
2. Jesus comes again in mercy,
when our hearts are bowed with care.
Jesus comes again in answer
to our earnest heart-felt prayer,
 alleluia, alleluia!
comes to save us from despair
3. Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,
bringing news of sins forgiven.
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness,
leading souls redeemed to heaven.
 alleluia, alleluia!
Now the gate of death is riven.
4. Jesus comes on clouds triumphant,
when the heavens shall pass away.
Jesus comes again in glory:
let us then our homage pay,
 alleluia, alleluia!
till the dawn of endless day.

GOSPEL

John 20. 19-31

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.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'²⁷ Then

he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

Carol of St Thomas,

words: 17th century, trans. J.M. Neale, music arr. Anthony Greening

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Nicene Creed

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.

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Christ, risen Lord, be with us ***and give us your peace.***

In your prayers this week remember those in need of healing and care, including Alex, Brianna, Ethan, and Logan. In our Diocese of Islands and Inlets pray for Anna, our Bishop; John, our Metropolitan; Chris, our National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop; and Shane, our Primate; for the Parish of St. Philip, Oak Bay and the Diocese of Caledonia and Bishop David Lehmann; and in the Church further afield, for the Anglican Church of Mozambique and Angola. Pray for the Students of the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and for the Families of the Oak Bay Preschool.

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

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (207)

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King,
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast,
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
2. Where the paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe.
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
paschal victim, paschal bread;
with sincerity and love,
eat we manna from above.

3. Mighty victim from on high,
hell's fierce powers beneath thee lie;
death is broken in the fight,
thou hast brought us life and light.
Now no more can death appal,
now no more the grave enthrall!
Thou hast opened paradise,
and in thee thy saints shall rise.

4. This, our gift of Easter joy,
sin alone can now destroy;
from sin's power do thou set free
souls newborn, O Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory and of praise,
Father, unto thee we raise;
risen Lord, all praise to thee,
with the Spirit, ever be.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of grace, you have freed us from our sin and made us a kingdom in Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in the new life you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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,
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.**

Sung 735

***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;***

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.

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 MUSIC

For the Bread Which You Have Broken (74)

1. For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.
2. By these pledges that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to realms above us,
consecrate our lives, O Lord:
3. in your service, Lord, defend us;
help us to obey your word;
in the world to which you send us,
let your kingdom come, O Lord!

With the Body that was Broken (75)

1. With the body that was broken,
to the body who proclaim,
by the blood that is life's token,
for the life found in his name:
so the Word-made-flesh has spoken,
and his presence here we claim.
2. In the cross of Christ confiding,
by the cross we bear as sign,
through the Spirit's gifts and guiding,
with these gifts of bread and wine:
so the church in faith abiding
keeps the feast Christ made divine.
3. Fed by breaking and outpouring,
joined in breaking forth of praise,
given the peace of God's restoring,
sent in peace to live always:
so we show forth our adoring
as God's servants all our days.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Father, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each other; through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **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

Jesus Lives! Thy Terrors Now (239)

1. Jesus lives! Thy terrors now
can no more, O death, appal us.
Jesus lives! By this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!
2. Jesus lives! Henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal;
this shall calm our trembling breath
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia!
3. Jesus lives! For us he died;
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Saviour giving.
Alleluia!
4. Jesus lives! Our hearts know well
nought from us his love shall sever;
life, nor death, nor powers of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Go Forth in Triumph, Franklin Ritter

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.