

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter - April 26, 2026

“I am the good shepherd, says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me.” *John 10.14*

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



10:00am Service

From the Book of Alternative Services

Minister of Welcome:	Scott MacKenzie	Organist:	Oriel Chapman
Presider:	The Ven Craig Hiebert	Musicians:	St Mary Singers
Preacher:	The Rev'd Dyan Davison	Livestream:	Nathan Turner, Samantha Robbins
Eucharistic Minister:	David Stewart, Jackie Hiebert		

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

WELCOME

HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns (378)

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne:
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.
3. Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end;
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.
4. Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

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 of peace, ***who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

The congregation sits

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel 34. 7-15, Bob Gill

⁷Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ⁸As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep, ⁹therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁰Thus says the Lord God: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

¹¹For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. ¹²As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my

sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

Holy word, holy wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 100

Be joyful in the Lord,
all you lands;

***serve the Lord with gladness
and come into the divine presence with a song.***

Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God;
the One made us and to whom we belong;
we are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

***Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving;
go into these courts with praise;
give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord.***

For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting;
and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

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 2. 19-25, Gillian Fosdick

¹⁹ For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Lord, We Hear Your Word (447)

1. Lord, we hear your word with gladness:
you have spoken – we rejoice:
words of love and life and freedom –
help us make their truth our choice!
Now in holy celebration
for your Word we worship you;
spoken, written, known in Jesus,
ours today to prove anew.
2. May we hear with understanding,
by your Spirit taught and led;
may the springs of all our being
by your living Word be fed;
may our hearts accept with meekness
all the grace your light makes known;
may obedience mark our footsteps
till we make each word our own!
3. You have spoken; yours the fullness,
ours the wealth of this, your Word:
debtors, then as living letters,
we must make your gospel heard!
By your Spirit’s power transform us;
shed your saving light abroad
till our lives by love in action
show our world the truth of God!

GOSPEL

John 10. 1-10

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.

Jesus said, ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

Brother James' Air (arr. Gordon Jacob)

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.

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Gillian Fosdick

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Good Shepherd,
guide us and lead us.

In your prayers this week remember those in need of healing and care, including Brianna, Ethan, Logan and Rod. 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 Christ Church Cathedral School, Victoria, and for the Territory of the People and Bishop Clara Plamondon; and in the Church further afield, for The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion). Pray for the Staff of the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and for the Teachers 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

Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless (85)

1. Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
your chosen pilgrim flock
with manna in the wilderness,
with water from the rock.
2. We would not live by bread alone,
but by your word of grace,
in strength of which we travel on
to our abiding place.
3. Be known to us in breaking bread,
but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread
your table in our heart.
4. Lord, sup with us in love divine;
your body and your blood,
that living bread, that heav'nly wine,
be our immortal food.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd.

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.

Sung 735

***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.***

***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

Jesus, Joy of Our Desiring (514)

1. Jesus, joy of our desiring,
holy wisdom, love most bright;
drawn by thee, our souls aspiring
soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
with the fire of life impassioned,
striving still to truth unknown,
soaring, dying round thy throne.
2. Through the way where hope is guiding,
hark, what peaceful music rings,
where the flock, in thee confiding,
drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure;
theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead thine own
in the love of joys unknown.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of steadfast love, watch over the Church redeemed by the blood of your Son. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to your eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of 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

The Head That Once Was Crowned (491)

1. The head that once was crowned with
thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty Victor's brow.
2. The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light,
3. the joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love
and grants his name to know.
4. To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace, is given,
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.

5. They suffer with their Lord below,
they reign with him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.

6. The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him,
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Alleluia!

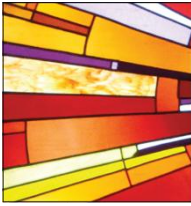
Go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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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