

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2026

“I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, but by me.” *John 14.6*

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:	Mary Huxley	Organist:	Oriel Chapman
Presider & Preacher:	The Rev'd Jacqueline Stober	Musicians:	St. Mary Singers
Eucharistic Minister:	Tony Barlow	Livestream:	Gillian Barlow
	David Stewart		

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

Veni Creator', Récit de Cromorne, Nicolas de Grigny

WELCOME

HYMN

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (300)

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one,
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.
2. All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One-in-Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.
3. To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness,
hear thy servants as they pray;
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.

4. Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain,
what they gain from thee forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.
5. Laud and honor to the Father,
laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three, and ever one,
one in might and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

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

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

Proverbs 4. 10-18, Lori Hargreaves

- ¹⁰ Hear, my child, and accept my words,
that the years of your life may be many.
- ¹¹ I have taught you the way of wisdom;
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.
- ¹² When you walk, your step will not be hampered;
and if you run, you will not stumble.
- ¹³ Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.
- ¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked,
and do not walk in the way of evildoers.
- ¹⁵ Avoid it; do not go on it;
turn away from it and pass on.
- ¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.
- ¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.
- ¹⁸ But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

Holy word, holy wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119. 9-32



In - struct me in your sta - tutes, O God. _____

Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

How can the young walk purely?
By keeping to your words.
With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not stray from your commandments. *R.*

I treasure your promise in my heart,
that I may not sin against you.
Blessed are you, O God;
instruct me in your statutes. *R.*

With my lips will I recite
all the judgements of your mouth.
I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees
than in all manner of riches. *R.*

I will meditate on your commandments
and give attention to your ways.
My delight is in your statutes;
I will not forget your word. *R.*

Deal bountifully with your servant,
that I may live and keep your word.
Open my eyes, that I may see
the wonders of your law. *R.*

I am a stranger here on earth;
do not hide your commandments from me.
My soul is consumed at all times
with longing for your judgements. *R.*

You have rebuked the insolent;
cursed are they who stray from your commandments!

Turn from me shame and rebuke,
for I have kept your decrees. *R.*

Even though rulers sit and plot against me,
I will meditate on your statutes.
For your decrees are my delight,
and they are my counsellors. *R.*

My soul cleaves to the dust;
give me life according to your word.
I have confessed my ways, and you answered me;
instruct me in your statutes. *R.*

Make me understand the way of your commandments,
that I may meditate on your marvellous works.
My soul melts away for sorrow;
strengthen me according to your word *R.*

Take from me the way of lying;
let me find grace through your law.
I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I have set your judgements before me. *R.*

I hold fast to your decrees;
O Lord, let me not be put to shame.
I will run the way of your commandments,
for you have set my heart at liberty. *R.*

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS

1 Peter 2. 2-10, Christina Watkins

² Even so, many will follow their licentious ways, and because of these teachers the way of truth will be maligned. ³ And in their greed they will exploit you with deceptive words. Their condemnation, pronounced against them long ago, has not been idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

⁴ For if God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of deepest darkness to be kept until the judgement; ⁵ and if he did not spare the ancient world, even though he saved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood on a world of the ungodly; ⁶ and if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction and made them an example of

what is coming to the ungodly; ⁷ and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man greatly distressed by the licentiousness of the lawless ⁸ (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by their lawless deeds that he saw and heard), ⁹ then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trial, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgement ¹⁰—especially those who indulge their flesh in depraved lust, and who despise authority.

Bold and wilful, they are not afraid to slander the glorious ones,

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (620)

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away our fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,
and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul,
and to the weary rest.
3. Dear name! The rock on which I build,
my shield and hiding-place,
my never-failing treasury, filled
with boundless stores of grace.
4. Jesus, my shepherd, brother, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.
5. Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

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“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ ⁵Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ ⁶Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

⁸ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ ⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth, John Rutter

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

Pauline Samoszynski

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Lord, lead us in the ways of peace.

Guide us in the path of life.

In your prayers this week remember those in need of healing and care, including Brianna, Ethan, Logan, Mary Lou 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 our parish St Mary the Virgin and our clergy Craig, Dyan, John and our Interim Priest-in-Charge Jacqueline Stober; pray for the Diocese of Caledonia and Bishop David Lehmann; and in the Church further afield, for the Church of North India (United). 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

Now the Green Blade Rises (237)

1. Now the green blades rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
2. In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Gracious God, you show us your way and give us your divine life. May everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

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

Not Far Beyond the Sea (475)

1. Not far beyond the sea nor high above the heavens,
but very high thy voice, O God, is heard.
For each new step of faith we take, thou has more
truth and light to break forth from thy holy Word.

2. Rooted and grounded in thy love,
with saints on earth and saints above
we join in full accord to grasp the breadth, length,
depth, and height, the crucified and
risen might of Christ, the incarnate Word.
3. Help us to press toward that mark,
and, though our vision now is dark,
to live by what we see.
So, when we see thee face to face,
thy truth and light our dwelling place
for ever more shall be.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the 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

You Call Us, Lord, to Be (450)

1. You call us, Lord, to be
a people set apart,
to feel with thoughtful mind
and think with tender heart.

Refrain:

*Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask
for faith in your unfailing grace
to make us equal to the task.*

2. You call us, Lord, to care
for self and neighbor too,
to take the risk, and dare
to show what love can do. R
3. You call us, Lord, to be
good stewards of the earth;
to tend it as a place
of blessedness and worth. R
4. You call us, Lord, to serve:
to die that we may live,
to know we best receive
when joyfully we give. R

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go forth in the name of the risen Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Veni Creator', Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux, Nicolas de Grigny

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.



1701 ELGIN ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8R 5L7
250-598-2212 • INFO@STMARYSOAKBAY.CA
WWW.STMARYSOAKBAY.CA

Interim Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Jacqueline Stober
jstober@bc.anglican.ca

Incumbent: The Venerable Craig Hiebert (*on sabbatical*)

Priest Associate: The Reverend Dyan Davison
associate@stmarysoakbay.ca

Honorary Associate: The Reverend Dr John Macquarrie
jmacquarrie@stmarysoakbay.ca

Parish Administrator: Marianne McGahon, 250-598-2212
admin@stmarysoakbay.ca

Creative Coordinator: Sara Baker
creativecoordinator@stmarysoakbay.ca

The Stewards of St Mary's

wardens@stmarysoakbay.ca

Rector's Warden: Lorna Bampton, *lbampton@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Deputy Rector's Warden: Elizabeth Baldwin, *ebaldwin@stmarysoakbay.ca*

People's Warden: Jane Anderson, *janderson@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Deputy People's Warden: Amanda Bolt, *abolt@stmarysoakbay.ca*

Givings Secretary & Flower Dedications: Anne Underhill, *givings@stmarysoakbay.ca*