



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 9, 2026

"I wait for the Lord; in his word is my hope." Psalm 130.4

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. During the Offertory hymn the plate will be placed on the Altar where it will be blessed. 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 Lawrence	Pianist:	Jany Lu
Presider & Preacher:	The Rev'd Adela Torchia	Clarinetist:	Alex Chernata
Eucharistic Minister:	Karen Wilson,	Musicians:	St. Mary Singers
	David Stewart	Livestream:	Amanda Bolt

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 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (393)*

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but nought changeth thee.
4. Great Source of all glory and wisdom and light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

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

Almighty God, ***you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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

Genesis 37. 1-4, 12-28, Sean Steele

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ²This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father’s wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹²Now his brothers went to pasture their father’s flock near Shechem. ¹³And Israel said to Joseph, ‘Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to

them.’ He answered, ‘Here I am.’ ¹⁴ So he said to him, ‘Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me.’ So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, ¹⁵ and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, ‘What are you seeking?’ ¹⁶ ‘I am seeking my brothers,’ he said; ‘tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock.’ ¹⁷ The man said, ‘They have gone away, for I heard them say, “Let us go to Dothan.”’ So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸ They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹ They said to one another, ‘Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.’ ²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, ‘Let us not take his life.’ ²² Reuben said to them, ‘Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him’—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; ²⁴ and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵ Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, ‘What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.’ And his brothers agreed. ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Holy word, holy wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 105. 1-6, 16-22, 45C

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the divine name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

***Sing to the Lord, sing praises,
and speak of all the marvellous works of the Lord.***

Glory in the holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

***Search for the strength of the Lord;
continually seek the face of God.***

Remember the marvels the Lord has done,
the wonders and the judgements of the mouth of the Lord,

***O offspring of Abraham the servant of God,
O children of Jacob the chosen of the Lord.***

Then God called for a famine in the land
and destroyed the supply of bread.

***The Lord sent a man before them,
Joseph, who was sold as a slave***

They bruised his feet in fetters;
his neck they put in an iron collar.

***Until his prediction came to pass,
the word of the Lord tested him.***

The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free.

***He set him as master over his household,
as a ruler over all his possessions,***

to instruct his princes according to his will
and to teach his elders wisdom.

Hallelujah!

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

Romans 10. 5-15, Mary Huxley

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that ‘the person who does these things will live by them.’ ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, ‘Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?”’ (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ ‘or “Who will descend into the abyss?”’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

‘The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart’

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’ ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN

Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us (564)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o’er the world’s tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be. | 2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o’er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go. |
| 3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy. | |

GOSPEL

Matthew 14. 22-33

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God is with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

²⁸ Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹ He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, (+) the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Sean Steele

The congregation stands, sits, or kneels.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,

and grant us your salvation.

In your prayers this week remember those in need of healing and care especially Wendy. 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 St Peter, Campbell River and their clergy; pray for the Diocese of New Westminster, and Bishop John Stephens. In the Church further afield, pray for The Episcopal Church. Pray for the Staff of the Canadian College of Performing Arts, and for the children 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

O Praise Ye the Lord (330)

1. O praise ye the Lord! Give praise in the height;
rejoice in God's Word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.
2. O praise ye the Lord! Give praise upon earth;
in tuneful accord, give thanks for new birth;
praise God who hath brought you all grace from above,
praise God who hath taught you the pathways of love.
3. O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, God's glory proclaim in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what God hath done.
4. O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
be ever outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Father, receive all we offer you this day, and grant that in this eucharist we may be enriched by the gifts of the Spirit. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Book of Alternative Services, Eucharistic Prayer 3
with the Preface for Lord's Day*

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.

The prayer continues until:

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices 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

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

***We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.***

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

O Christ Was a Good Guest (58)

1. O Christ was a good guest to have at the feast
to pledge all glad lovers in mirth,
to charm water jars with God's cheerful yeast,
leaving friends with a full wedding's worth.
2. O Christ was a guest at Samaria's well,
where outcast and chosen at strife
were offered God's drink grace in a dry spell
sweet water still running deep as life.

3. O Christ be our guest and true host at this rite,
and bless what you bring to our feast:
bread broken for us, shared wine of delight,
and the flow of love's well spring released.
-

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, grant to your Church the unity and peace that we have tasted in this eucharist, the fruit of your life-giving Spirit. We ask this 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

O Jesus, I Have Promised (438)

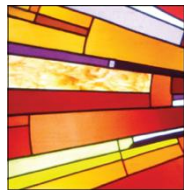
1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my Friend,
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide
2. O let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer
and shield my soul from sin.
3. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end!
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.
4. O let me see thy footmarks
and in them plant mine own:
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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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