

*Please practice Health protocols that make you feel comfortable.
Please be sensitive to the comfort level of others.*

10:00 HOLY EUCHARIST
Book of Alternative Services

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Presiding & Preaching

A Warm Welcome to all who worship with us, especially visitors.
With thanks, please mute your cell phones during the service.
The congregation says or sings the items in **bold** typeface.

Prelude – *Joanne Lambert*

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Blessing of the Annual Report

Gathering Song: *Sister Let Me Be Your Servant* (CP #500) - Joanne

**Sister let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on the journey
We are travellers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the nighttime of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant to.**

The Gathering of the Community

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Almighty God,

All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria (Ashgrove)

**Sing glory to God in the heights of the heavens
Salvation and peace to God's People on earth
Our Sovereign, our Saviour, our God, our Creator
We worship and praise you and sing of your worth.**

**Creation unites in the power of the Spirit
In praise of the Father, through Jesus the Son
So complex, so simple, so clear, so mysterious
Our God ever three yet eternally one.**

**This Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
The lamb who has carried the burden of shame
Now seated on high in the glory of heaven
Have mercy upon us who call on your name.**

**For you, only you, we acknowledge as holy
We name you alone as our Saviour and Lord
You only, O Christ, with the Spirit exalted,
Are one with the Father, forever adored.**

**Creation unites in the power of the Spirit
In praise of the Father, through Jesus the Son
So complex, so simple, so clear, so mysterious
Our God ever three yet eternally one.**

Centering Stillness:

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God. (Silence)

The Prayer of the Day: God of mercy, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies. In our words and actions help us to follow his example, so that we may transform hatred into love and selfishness into generosity; through Jesus Christ, our great reward. Amen. *A Prayer Book for Australia* (1995)
alt.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

The Readings

Bob Buchanan – A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 45:3-11

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying.

Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 BAS – *Nancy Choat*

¹ Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; * **do not be jealous of those who do wrong.**

² For they shall soon wither like the grass, * **and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord and do good; * **dwelt in the land and feed on its riches.**

⁴ Take delight in the Lord, * **and he shall give you your heart’s desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, * **and he will bring it to pass.**

⁶ He will make your righteousness as clear as the light * **and your just dealing as the noonday.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord * **and wait patiently for him.**

⁸ Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, * **the one who succeeds in evil schemes.**

⁹ Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; * **do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.**

¹⁰ For evildoers shall be cut off, * **but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.**

¹¹ In a little while the wicked shall be no more; * **you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.**

¹² But the lowly shall possess the land; * **they will delight in abundance of peace.**

⁴¹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; * **he is their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴² The Lord will help them and rescue them; * **he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in him.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Maria King – A Reading from First Corinthians

1 Corinthians 15:35-38

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying.

Thanks be to God

Gradual: *Bind Us Together* – Bob Gillman © 1977 CCLI# 1228 - Rachel

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together;
Bind us together with love.**

**There is only one God,
There is only one King.
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing.**

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together;
Bind us together with love.**

**Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by His precious Son.
Made with the right to be clean,
For Jesus the victory has won.**

Gil: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Gil: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to Luke

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 6:27-38

²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Gil: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Bind Us Together (cont.)

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together;
Bind us together with love.**

We are the family of God,
We are the promise divine.
We are God's chosen desire,
We are the glorious new wine.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together;
Bind us together with love.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers of the People – *The Rev. Gil Shoesmith, deacon*

The Peace *All stand*

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The members of the community offer a sign of peace to one another in a manner that feels safe for you.

Please be sensitive to the comfort level of others.

Offertory: *More Than We Can Ask or Imagine* (CP#86)

– Gordon Light © 1993 - Rachel

**More than we can ask or imagine,
More than we can ever dare to dream,
We are the children of heaven's creation,
God's own beloved, each called by name.**

**And we cry Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God who calls us by name!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)**

**Glory to God! Glory we sing!
More than we will ever imagine,
More than we will ever understand;
We are sent to walk with compassion,
To live out God's love by heart and by hand.**

**And we cry Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God who presses us on!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God! Glory our song!**

**More than we can ask or imagine,
More than we could ever desire;
Out of the dust God's building a kingdom,
Like wine from the press, like bread from the fire.**

**And we cry Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God, Glory we cry!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory on earth, glory on high!**

**Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God, Glory we cry!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory on earth, glory on high!
Glory on earth, glory on high!**

Prayer over the Gifts: Merciful God, accept all we offer you this day. Lead us to love you with all our heart, and to love all people with your perfect love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Eucharistic Prayer #2

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name, saying

Sanctus & Benedictus (*Kingsfold*)

**O holy, holy holy God,
O God of time and space
All earth and sea and sky above
bear witness to your grace
Hosanna in the highest heave'n
creation sings your praise
And blessed is the One who comes
and bears your name always**

Presider: Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presider: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray: *(sung)*

**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.**

Gordon Light

Breaking of the Bread:

Presider: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

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

Presider: The Gifts of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Administration of Holy Communion

All are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.

*If you prefer not to receive communion but wish to receive a blessing,
please cross your arms over your chest.*

Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

Communion Hymn: *One Bread, One Body* (CP #73) - Joanne

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord**

**Gentile or Jew, servant or free
Woman or man, no more**

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord**

**Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all**

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord**

**Grain for the fields, scattered and grown.
gathered to one for all**

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the Earth
We are one body in this one Lord**

Prayer after Communion: Gracious God, in the eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. Grant that strengthened by these holy gifts, we may show your love in our lives, and know its fulfilment in your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

Doxology

Prisider: Glory to God

**All: whose love, 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 & Grace for meal to follow

Sending Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision* (CP #505) - Joanne

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light**

**Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art**

**High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all**

Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

No Postlude

*Please join us for light refreshments in the Parish Hall
after which we will convene the AGM in the Church*

READINGS FOR MARCH 2, 2025

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28-36

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Karen McColm and Bev Waterfield to the Glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, Ron and Anthea Waterfield.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER – March 4th, serving beginning at 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. (or until we run out). Suggested Minimum Donation: \$10 per person/\$25 per family. Please register by March 2nd by emailing lpedlow@parishcs.ca or signing the list at either church. We will be purchasing enough supplies for those who indicate they will attend. If for some reason you are unable to attend, please fulfill your commitment by making a donation.



Ash Wednesday Services – March 5, 2025

10:00 a.m. at St. Mary

4:00 p.m. at St. Stephen

*There will be no Bible Study following the
Service at St. Mary*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025 – Please join us for World Day of Prayer, a prayer movement that invites us to enrich our faith experience with the experience of Christians from other countries and cultures and to bring hope to women touched by injustice. The service was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cook Islands. **Friday, March 7th, 2:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Sidney.**

TAKE A LOOK IN THE BOOK NOOK - As you come in and out of church please take a moment to visit the "Books by Donation" area. Please extend an invitation to all who use our facilities to enjoy a browse and get themselves a good book or two. All are welcome. With thanks, Judi and Karen

THE BLUE BUS has had a number of changes over the past few months. They are still meeting on Tuesdays, but they now meet at Tsawout and young people from any of the 4 communities gather at the same place and same time. We are now only a group of 3 trying to supply snacks for the youth. If anyone is willing to supply fruit, cookies, (no cakes with icing please) please let me know. We really need at least 3 more people, and they do not need to be from the parish, in case you know someone interested in supporting this worthwhile ministry. Contact Lynda Clifford 250 655-6478

SEMINARIAN SUPPORT FUND –Lon mentioned at the our February 2nd Church Services that it was the anniversary of his ordination as a Deacon in our Diocese. In his sermon he recognized those who had been ordained with him and spoke about the joys and challenges of being a seminarian. He mentioned that our parish currently has a seminarian in Gary Moss and encouraged Gary on the second half of his journey. Lon also spoke about creating a fund that could support current and future seminarians with the cost of their educational pursuits, books, etc. While he cautioned that prudent stewardship of our day-to-day operating costs was vital and he didn’t want to impact that giving, he also invited people to donate to a new “**Seminarian Support Fund**”. You may do so by clearly marking your donation with this name and putting your Envelope number or contact information so that you would receive a tax receipt. *Please make cheques payable to St. Mary’s Church.*

Thank you to all who are assisting today

Music	Joanne Lambert, Rachel Moss
Readers	Bob Buchanan, Nancy Choat, Maria King, Gil Shoosmith
Liturgical Assistant	Gil Shoosmith
2nd Chalice	Sybil Bagshaw
Sidesperson	David Cooper
Sound Tech/Bell	Ian Stuart/Matty Stuart
Altar Guild	Susan Pullan
Flower Guild	Judi Clark
Coffee Host	Lynn Fallan & Helpers Thank you for your donations of food.

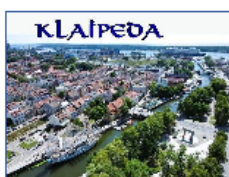
St. Mary's Church Hall, Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Slide Show and Dessert Evening with Brett Cane:



"BALTIC CITIES CRUISE"

All are welcome

Please bring a small dessert item



Anglican Parish of Central Spanish
St. Mary Church St. Stephen Church
Faith - Family - Friendship



INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil. In the Anglican Church of Canada we pray for Archbishop Anne, our Acting Primate. John Stephens, Metropolitan of The Province of B.C and Yukon We also pray for Archbishop Chris and the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Anna, our bishop; for St. Dunstan, Gordon Head and Two Saints Ministry, Cordova Bay.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Church of the Advent, for the Rev. Sr. Ingrid Andersen, Priest and the people of the parish and neighbourhood. We also pray for the people of the Saanich Peninsula Catholic Parish.

Our Parish Clergy: Lon, Logan, Brett, Bob, Paul, Gil and all who minister.

In our Parish: We pray for all of our parishioners and their families as we gather together for our Annual General Meeting..

For those ill or in need of prayer: Neville & Patricia, Roche, Diana A., Fern & Mark

For Those with Long-Term Needs: Cheryl, Ted, Jillian S., Paul J., Phil J., Natalie, Jamie, Jane & Paul, Margery, Courtney, Ron H.,

For friends beyond the parish: Jennifer, Jo-Jo, Margot, Sharie, John K., Helen, Andrew, Warwick, Sheila, Lynn W., Jim C., David F., Dani R. & family, Hayden, Carlos, Bryan, Karen & family, Drew, Sheila P., Amy, Anna, Betty O., Betty E., Alysha, Sue P., Mike D., Michelle, Rudi, Bishop Geoff Woodcroft, Cassidy, Carl G., Don C., Melanie

In the greater community: We pray for all victims of sexual misconduct and abuse. May we all be called to create communities where all children of God are safe and respected.

We pray for those impacted or endangered by the toxic drug supply crisis and also for their loved ones who are, or have been, impacted.



CLERGY CONTACT INFORMATION

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

His Cell Phone: (250) 208-9949

His email: ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca

Note: Worshippers may be photographed or recorded as part of the service. If this is of concern to you, please talk to the Minister or Wardens.

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