



Associated Clergy: The Ven. Bob Baillie,
The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane,
The Rev. Paul Schumacher,
The Rev. Gil Shoesmith, deacon

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

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

Gathering Song: *Amazing Grace* (CP #352)

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
This grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.**

**Praise God, praise God, praise God, praise God
Praise God, praise God, Praise God.
Praise God praise God, Praise God, praise God,
Praise God, praise God, praise God.**

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.

Kyrie (CP #706)

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy on us.

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy on us.

Centering Stillness:

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

Collect for Ash Wednesday: Almighty and everlasting God, **You despise nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen**

The Prayer of the Day: Father of mercy, alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves. When we are discouraged by our weakness, strengthen us to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

The Readings

Ken Pedlow – A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah 55:1-9

55 Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying.

Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm 63:1-8 BAS – Ken Pedlow

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; * **my soul thirsts for you,
my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no
water.**

2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, * **that I might
behold your power and your glory.**

3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; * **my lips shall give
you praise.**

4 So will I bless you as long as I live * **and lift up my hands in your name.**

5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, * **and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,**

6 When I remember you upon my bed, * **and meditate on you in the night watches.**

7 For you have been my helper, * **and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.**

8 My soul clings to you; * **your right hand holds me fast.**

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.

Barb Baillie – A Reading from First Corinthians

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.’ ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying.

Thanks be to God

Gradual: *Just as I Am* (CP #615)

**Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou biddest me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find.
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt;
Fightings within, and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

Lynn: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Lynn: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to Luke

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

⁶ Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” ⁸ He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’

Lynn: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

***Just as I Am* (cont.)**

**Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark lot;**

**To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am - Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

Anthem: ***For Those Tears I Died***

Congregation to join in singing the Chorus

You said You'd come and share all my sorrows,
You said You'd be there for all my tomorrows.
I came so close to sending You away:
But just like You promised You came here to stay,
I just had to pray.

Chorus:

**And Jesus said come to the water, stand by my side;
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied.
I felt every teardrop when in darkness You cried;
And I strove to remind you, that for those tears I died.**

Your goodness so great, I can't understand.
And dear Lord I know that all this was planned.
I know You're here now and always will be;
Your love loosed my chains and in You I'm free,
But Jesus, why me?

Chorus:

**And Jesus said come to the water, stand by my side;
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied.
I felt every teardrop when in darkness You cried;
And I strove to remind you, that for those tears I died.**

Jesus, I give You my heart and my soul.
I know that without You, I'd never be whole.
Savior, You've opened all the right doors,
And I thank You and praise You from Earth's humble shores,
Take me I'm Yours.

Chorus:

**And Jesus said come to the water, stand by my side;
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied.**

**I felt every teardrop when in darkness You cried;
And I strove to remind you, that for those tears I died.**

The Apostle's Creed:

Prsider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: 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 of the People – *Lynn Schumacher*

The Peace *All stand*

Prsider: 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: *Precious Lord Take my Hand (CP #509)*

Precious Lord, take my had, lead me on, let me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near;

When my life is almost gone,

Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:

Take my hand, previous Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,

And the day is past and gone,

At the river I stand; guide my feet, hold my hand:

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Prayer After Communion: Gracious God, we know your power to triumph over weakness. May we who ask forgiveness be ready to forgive one another, in the name of Jesus the Lord. **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** (Steve Bell)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth of Your glory are full
Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth of Your glory are full
Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest**

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.**

The Lord's Prayer - *Gordon Light (sung)*

Presider: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**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.**

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: *The Cloud's Veil*

Refrain:

Even when the rain hides the stars,
Even though the mist swirls the hills,
Even when the dark clouds veil the sky,
You are by my side
Even when the sun shall fall in sleep,
Even when at dawn the sky shall weep,
Even in the night when storms shall rise, God is by my side (2x)

Deep the feast of life
Where saints shall gather in deep peace.
Deep in heaven's light
Where sorrows pass beyond death's sleep. *Refrain*

Blest are they who sing
The fellowship of saints in light.
Blest is heaven's King.
All saints adore the Lord, Most High. *Refrain*

Prayer after Communion: God of mercy and forgiveness, may we who share this sacrament live together in unity and peace, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

Doxology

Presider: 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

Sending Hymn: *You Who Dwell in the Shelter* (CP #531)

You who dwell in the shelter of our God,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord: 'My refuge,
my Rock in whom I trust!'

Refrain:

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.

**Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:
under his wings your refuge,
his faithfulness your shield. *Refrain***

**You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come. *Refrain***

**For to his angels he's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways,
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain***

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

CCLI# 245534

Please join us for coffee and conversation in the Parish Hall

READINGS FOR MARCH 30, 2025

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32;

2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3 & 11b-32

MARCH POTLUCK LUNCHEON TODAY AT ST. STEPHEN

There will be a potluck lunch in the hall after the 11:15 service at St. Stephen. All are welcome. Please bring finger foods to share. Oven warming is possible.

Thank you to all who are assisting today

Music	Joanne Lambert
Readers	Ken Pedlow, Barb Baillie, Lynn Schumacher
Liturgical Assistant	Lynn Schumacher
2nd Chalice	Brett Cane
Sidesperson	Carl Schwazer
Sound Tech/Bell	Ian Stuart/Matty Stuart
Altar Guild	Shirley Schwazer
Coffee Host	Judi Clark

ST. MARY'S OUTREACH – In your offering envelope package you will find special monthly outreach envelopes. For those who do not have offering envelopes, you may bring your outreach offering in a plain envelope, marked “Outreach for Month of ____” with your name and address.

Jan.	Rector's Discretionary Fund
Feb.	Threshold Housing Society
Mar.	General Outreach
Apr.	Alongside Hope (<i>formerly Primate's World Relief & Development Fund</i>)

INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Iglesia Anglicana de Region Central de America. 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 the Parish of St. Anne & St. Edmund, Parksville and the people of the parish and neighbourhood.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our Parish of St. Andrew, Sidney, the Rev. Kelly Duncan and those in their Parish and neighbourhood. We also pray for the people of Friendship Community Church.

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

In our Parish: We pray for Brian Wood and for Don & Susie Wilson and for their families.

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

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

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, Keith & Lillian

In the greater community: We pray for the leadership of this Country, both Federally and Provincially at this time of challenge and concern.

We pray for all victims of sexual misconduct and abuse. We are all 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.

St. Mary's Anglican Church

1973 Cultra Avenue

Saanichton, B.C. V8M 1L7

Office: 250-652-1611

stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca

St. Stephen's Anglican Church

7921 St. Stephens Road

Saanichton, B.C. V8M 1S2

Office: 250-652-4311

admin@parishcs.ca