



Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary Church St. Stephen Church

Faith - Family - Friendship



ANGLICAN DIOCESE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Welcome To
PARISH OF CENTRAL SAANICH
St. Mary Church 9:00 • St. Stephen Church 11:15



*“Sing unto the LORD with the harp;
with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.” – Psalm 98:5*

September 13, 2026 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Join us as we worship the living Christ!

*We acknowledge that we gather to worship on the traditional lands of the
W̱SÁNEĆ and Coast Salish Peoples*

Continue to monitor our website - ParishCS.ca

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Incumbent

Associated Clergy

Bishop Logan McMenamie • The Ven. Bob Bailie • The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane
The Rev. Paul Schumacher • The Rev. Gil Shoesmith, deacon

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Presiding

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

♪ **Gathering Song: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee** – CP #425

The Gathering of the Community

In this time and place we gather on the ancestral lands of the WSÁNEĆ and Coast Salish Peoples.

From many places and Peoples we come to this house in prayer.

In this time and place we are not alone,

for we meet in the presence of the living God.

In this time and place we are not alone,

for the Risen Jesus stands in our midst.

In this time and space, we are not alone,

for the wind of the Spirit moves in and through us.

In this time and space, we are not alone for we gather with the whole company of heaven.

In this time and in this space, heaven and earth are one.

In this time and place together, we are one People in Jesus Christ.

In the name of God, Creator, Saviour, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

♪ **Hymn of Praise: Peruvian Gloria** (*congregation sing bold words*)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest.

To God be glory for ever. **To God be glory for ever.**

Alleluia, amen, **Alleluia, amen.** Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen.**

Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen.** Alleluia, amen.

Centering Stillness & Prayer of the Day

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

Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself, may we who rejoice in the mystery of our redemption, have grace to take up our cross and follow him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE READINGS

First Lesson: Numbers 21: 4b-9 – Marcia McMenamie (SM) • Sharryl Pearce (SS)

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ The people spoke against God and against Moses,

“Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.”

⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 98: 1-6 – Nancy Choat (SM) • Lynda Clifford (SS)

¹O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have won him the victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory;

he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

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.**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 – Nancy Choat (SM) • Lynda Clifford (SS)

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Hear what the Spirit of God is saying. **Thanks be to God.**

♪ Gradual: *Ancient Words*

1. Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart; Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Chorus: Ancient words ever true, changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts, oh let the ancient words impart.

2. Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam ancient words will guide us home.

Chorus

Gospel Lesson: John 3:13-17 – Lynn Schumacher (SM) • Richard Routledge (SS)

God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

♪ Alleluia

¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

♪ Alleluia

Sermon – Richard Routledge

♪ Anthem (*St Mary Only*): ***The Goodness of God***

1. I love You Lord, for Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus: 'Cause all my life you have been faithful
and all my life you have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able;
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

2. I love Your voice You have led me through the fire
In darkest nights You are close like no other
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend,
And I have lived in the goodness of God.

Chorus x2 (congregation please join)

The Apostle's Creed (*see pew insert*)

The Prayers of the People – Richard Routledge

Confession & Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness. *Silence is kept*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The members of the community offer a sign of peace to one another.

♪ Offertory: **Amazing Grace** – CP #352; vs. 1, 2, 3, 5, with added verse:
“Praise God, praise God...”

Prayer over the Gifts

Merciful God, through the death of your beloved Son you transformed an instrument of shame into a sign of hope and glory. Receive all we offer you this day, and renew in us the mystery of his love; through the same Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. **Amen.**

HOLY EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Liturgy for the Islands and Inlets (C)

God is here. **The Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts and minds. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God the Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you, God of love, our source, and our fulfillment, for you create all things and in you we live and move and have our being. Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky. You made us in your image. And even though we turn from you, again and again you call us to yourself, and in every age, promise liberation.

As a mother gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own, to nurture them in the way of compassionate love. You sent Jesus among us, incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary. Jesus revealed your love for all Creation, and showed us the way of reconciliation. Having lived among us, Jesus suffered the cross, died, and in rising again became the firstborn of the renewed family.

And so as we gather around your table, With saints of every age and your beloved creation we raise our voices and sing:

♪ **Sanctus – (Aidan - John Bell)**

Holy, holy, holy God of power and might

Heaven and Earth are full, are full of your glory

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. (repeat)

Blessed, blessed, blessed, blessed is the one

Coming in the name, the name of the Lord

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. (repeat)

To you be glory, almighty God, because on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, when he had given thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me. After supper he took the cup; when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, Poured out for you and for many; do this to remember me. Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we ask you to accept this, our sacrifice of praise. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son. When all of creation groans, unite us in Christ and give us your hope that we might be strengthened to do your work, as your body in the world.

Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit, all praise and glory be yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

♪ **The Lord's Prayer** (*sung; see pew insert*)

Breaking of the Bread

Creator of all, who summons the salmon from the depths of the seas to yearn for the place of their origin.

So may your Spirit stir in our hearts to return and find our home in you.

The gifts of God, for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Administration of Holy Communion

All are invited to share in the Bread or a Blessing. • Gluten Free Wafers are available upon request.

Please cross your arms at the rail if you would like a blessing.

♪ **Communion: *Make me a Channel of your Peace***

1. Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred let me bring your love.

Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord

And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

2. Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Refrain: Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

3. Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life. *Refrain*
(Repeat vs. 3)

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, we give thanks that you have made us partakers of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who took our nature upon him and suffered death upon the cross for our redemption; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Doxology & Blessing

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**

♪ Sending Song: *All Creatures of our God and King* – CP#355; vs. 1, 2, 3, 7

Dismissal

Go from this place seeking Christ in all people:

We go to love and serve our neighbours as ourselves.

♪ Postlude – Joanne Lambert

CCLI# 245534



The altar flowers at St. Mary are given by **Cathy and John McAllister** to the glory of God and with thanks for their 12th wedding anniversary & their church family.

Thank you to all who are assisting today:

St. Mary: ♪ Joanne Lambert, Readers: Marcia McMenamie, Nancy Choat, Lynn Schumacher, Assistants: Richard Routledge, David Cooper, John Beresford, Shirley Schwazer, Sue Rumball, Matty Stuart, 🕯️ Lynn Fallan

St. Stephen: ♪ Joanne Lambert, Sharryl Pearce, Lynda Clifford, Richard Routledge

**Please Note: There will be a combined service next
Sunday, September 20th, 10:00 at St. Stephen.**

SCRIPTURES & READERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Exodus 16:2-15 – Trish Bonham

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45 – Jaqueline

Philippians 1:21-30 – Deb Butler

Matthew 20:1-16 – Sean Lyon

Front cover art: <https://bible.art/p/YSIR37xIJisQjHUjrEuO/psalms-98-5>

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN THE CHURCH – Bible study has resumed and will be continuing this **Wednesday, September 9th**, 10:45, following the Wednesday Eucharist service at St Mary, 10:00.

PRAYER IN THE STYLE OF TAIZE – Services will be at **6:00pm** on **September 18, October 16, & November 20, 2026**, at St Elizabeth Catholic Church – Sidney BC. Your presence is desired and awaited.

“As we listen to the deepest part of our heart, we realize it is there that the Holy Spirit dwells.”
– Brother Matthew Prior, Taizé



The women of the parish are invited to meet for coffee or tea, some goodies, and great conversations. This month we are meeting in **St. Stephen Boardroom (ground floor), Friday September 25, at 10:00 am**. Please bring any questions you may have about the history of Central Saanich!

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS FALL SALE – Saturday, **September 26th**, 4733 W. Saanich Rd from **10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** Housewares, linens, China, home décor, small furnishings, jewelry, art, collectibles, books, toys, tools, sporting goods, local produce, flowers... For more information, call 250-479-0540 or email admin@stmikevictoria.ca

 **COFFEE ROSTER (St. Mary)** – There are still some dates available to sign up to host coffee hour from now up until December. The roster is posted on the Hall bulletin board Please sign up if you can host!

HOLLY FAIR – SAVE THE DATE! – The Holly Fair will be held on **Saturday, November 14, 9:30-1:00** - mark your calendars! Your homemade jams, jellies, pickles, relishes, and other canned goods are always greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please speak with **Lynn F. or Marcia**.

ST. MARY 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.

September	Saanich Peninsula Hospital – Donations provide funding toward the Spiritual Health Practitioner (formerly Chaplaincy) program at the hospital.
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ST. STEPHEN OUTREACH

September	Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF) – We support the Anglican Church of Canada’s agency for sustainable development, relief, refugees, and global justice.
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INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Anglican church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia. We pray for Archbishop Sarah Mullally; the Anglican Church of Canada and Archbishop Shane Parker, 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, and St. Dunstan, Gordon Head, and Two Saints Ministry, Cordova Bay.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Holy Trinity, Sooke, For Sulin Milne and other priests and lay leaders, priests, and all the people of the parish and neighborhood.

Our Parish Clergy: Lon, Logan, Brett, Bob, Paul and Gil, Seminarian Melanie, and postulants Gary & Richard

In our Parish: We pray for Don & Susie Wilson, Norma Sealy, and Ron Sewell

For those ill or in need of prayer: David Scarth, Bob Buchanan, Cathy Swincoe, Roche M.

For Those with Long-Term Needs: Lynn S., Brett.

For friends beyond the parish: Rudi D., Alysha, Cassidy.

In the greater community: We pray for students, teachers, educational assistants, administrators, and school staff as they begin a new year of learning and growth. May our schools be places of curiosity, belonging, safety, and community.

Globally: We pray for the Church throughout the world, especially for Christians facing persecution and for churches and Anglican dioceses serving communities affected by conflict, poverty, or hardship. We pray for mission partners and for those who minister in difficult circumstances. We give thanks for ecumenical partnerships that bring Christians together across traditions and pray that the Church may be a faithful witness to peace, justice, reconciliation, and hope.

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1973 Cultra Avenue
Saanichton, B.C. V8M 1L7
Office: 250-652-1611

St. Stephen Anglican Church

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CLERGY CONTACT INFORMATION

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego
Cell Phone: (250) 208-9949
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