



Anglican Parish of Central Saanich

St. Mary Church

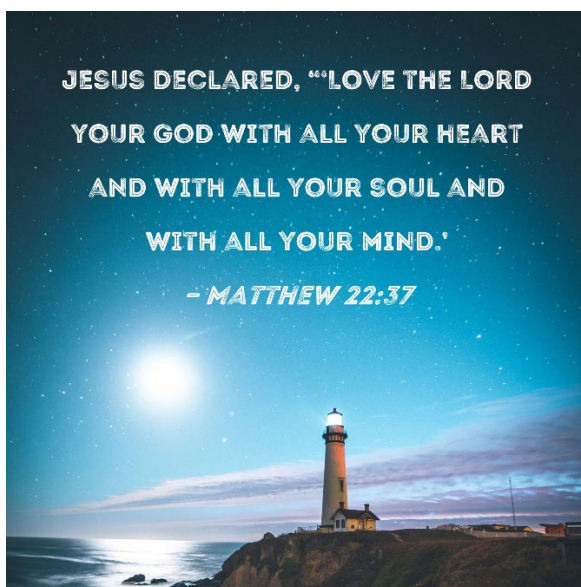
St. Stephen Church

Faith - Family - Friendship



ANGLICAN DIOCESE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Welcome To
PARISH OF CENTRAL SAANICH
St. Stephen Church 11:15



October 25, 2026 – 22nd 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 - Presiding

Associated Clergy

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

*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 – *Preludium, Morning Hymn, and Alleluia*** – Richard
Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II © 1959

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

♪ **Gathering Song: *O Let the Son of God Enfold You (Spirit Song)*** –
John Wimber © 1979 CCLI# 27824

O let the Son of God enfold you
With His Spirit and His love,
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let Him have those things that hold you,
And His Spirit like a dove
Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Refrain: Jesus, O Jesus, Come and fill Your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, Come and fill Your lambs.

O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy,
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.
O give Him all your tears and sadness,
Give Him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name. ***Refrain***

The Gathering of the Community

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

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

In this time and place we gather in the name of the living God.

We meet in the presence of Jesus Christ, risen and alive.

In this time and place, we gather with the community of faith around the globe
and across the ages. **In this time and place heaven and earth are one.**

In this time and place, we are not alone, but one in Christ.

Knit together in the unity of the Spirit.

In this time and place, hallowed, expectant, one people in God.

**In the name of the Holy and Blessed One, Creator, Redeemer, and
Holy Spirit. Amen.**

♪ **Hymn of Praise: Gloria** – Betty Carr Pulkingham

Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

And peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

**Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Centering Stillness & Prayer of the Day

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

Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery, free us from the tyranny of sin and death, and by the leading of your Spirit bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 34:1-12 – Ron Sewell

34 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. ⁴The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” ⁵Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. ⁶He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. ⁷Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired, and his vigor had not abated. ⁸The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. ⁹Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him, and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses. ¹⁰Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. ¹¹He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, ¹²and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 – Deb Butler

- ¹ Lord, you have been our refuge **one generation to another.**
² Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
³ You turn us back to the dust and say, **“Go back, O child of earth.”**
⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.
⁵ You sweep us away like a dream; **we fade away suddenly like the grass.**
⁶ In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
¹³ Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? **be gracious to your servants.**
¹⁴ Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
¹⁵ Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
¹⁶ Show your servants your works **and your splendour to their children.**
¹⁷ May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

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 Thessalonians 2:1-8 – Sue Smith

2 You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed, ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

♪ **Gradual: Love Round** – Graeme Stewart 1974

Love the Lord your God, with all your heart and all your soul
And all your mind and love all of mankind
As you would love yourself, and ...

Love -----, The Lord your God with all your heart,
And all your soul and mind and love all mankind.

We've got Christian lives to live,
We've got Jesus' love to give, we've got nothing to hide,
Because in God we all abide ... (*repeat as led*)

Love!

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:34-46 – Rev. Gil Shoesmith

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

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

♪ **Alleluia** – CP 714 – Jacques Berthier © 1984

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”?’ ⁴⁵“If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of Christ.

♪ **Alleluia** – CP 714 – Jacques Berthier © 1984

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

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

The Prayers of the People – Sean Lyon

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: For the Fruit of All Creation – Fred Pratt Green © 1970
tune: Ar Hd Y Nos, Welch trad. CCLI# 5072547

For the fruit of all creation, Thanks be to God;

Gifts bestowed to every nation, Thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,

Future needs in earth's safekeeping, Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,

Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

♪ Offertory Sentence – Jimmy Owens

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts

God of constant love, you have guided your people in all times and ages. May we who offer you our praise today always be ready to follow where you lead; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HOLY EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Liturgy for the Islands and Inlets (B)

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.**

Holy and eternal One, in whom we live and move and have our being. You are our origin and our fulfillment; we praise and thank you for drawing us to this sacred meal. From the ocean of your primal love, you fashioned the marvel of creation, and beauty of human life. From this land of towering forests and mist laden coastlines, you humble us and affirm the sacred gift of all creation, calling us to care for everything given and received.

Glory to you, source of all life

From the earliest days the peoples of these islands and inlets learned their dependence on your provision, salmon and deer, song and ceremony, dance, and painted cedar, hallowed these sacred relationships with all life.

Glory to you, source of all life.

In Jesus Christ, you came into our world to reveal your glory, reconcile all peoples to yourself, and make all things new in him. Now, gathered from many places, and joining with the saints of every time and place, we raise our thankful voices in songs of unending praise.

♪ **Sanctus & Benedictus – Steve Bell**

Holy, holy holy Lord; God of pow’r 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 (*repeat*)

(*Repeat first stanza*)

Blessed are you, most holy One: For on the night before he died Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, gave it to all gathered, and said: “Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me.” After supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks, and gave it to them saying: “Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me.”

“Behold, I am with you to the end of the age.”

Therefore, God of all creation, we lift this Bread of Life, and this Cup of Salvation. Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts, and upon us, that we may know Jesus in the breaking of the bread, and follow him in lives of selfless service and courageous love. **Glory to you, source of all life**

In the fullness of time reconcile all things in Christ, and bring us to that heavenly table, where every tear will be wiped away and we will feast anew. Blessing, praise and thanksgiving be to you, Holy and Eternal One, Undivided Trinity, One God, now and forever. **Amen.**

♪ **The Lord's Prayer: *Our Father in Heaven*** – Daisy Essery ©2000
CCLI# 3310933

**Our Father in Heaven, Your name is Holy.
May Your will be done here; May Your Kingdom come.
You supply all we need.
Lord, forgive our transgressions,
As we forgive others who trespass against us.
And lead us, dear Father, Not into temptation;
Deliver us, Lord, From the evil one's snare.
For Yours is the Kingdom, And Yours is the power,
And Yours is the glory, Forever and ever. Amen**

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: *All Heaven Declares*** – Noel and Tricia Richards ©
1987 CCLI# 120556

**All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord.
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord?
Forever He will be the Lamb upon the throne.
I gladly bow the knee and worship Him alone.
I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord.
Who once was slain to reconcile man to God.
Forever He will be The Lamb upon the throne.
I gladly bow the knee and worship Him alone. (*Repeat*)**

Prayer after Communion

God our guide, you have fed us with bread from heaven as you fed the
people of Israel. May we who have been inwardly nourished be ready to
follow you all our days; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
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: *You Are My Witnesses* – Betty Pulkingham © 1975
CCLI# 339914

Refrain: You are My witnesses to the ends of the earth.

You are My witnesses to the ends of the earth.

1. You are My people I love, gentle as dove, wise and harmless ones.

Refrain

2. You are My sons of new birth, living on earth but born from on high.

Refrain

3. You are my trees bearing fruit for people to eat, tasting the
goodness of the Lord.

Refrain

4. You are My prophets and priests, proclaiming My feasts, telling
the wonders of God.

Refrain

5. You are My shepherds of sheep, over them keeping watch by night.

Refrain x2

6. You are beloved of God, living His word, dying His death 'til He
comes.

Refrain x2

Dismissal

Go to the widows and the orphans, the poor and oppressed;

We will proclaim the good news and live into God's justice.

♪ Postlude – *The Steadfast Love of the Lord* – Edith McNeill ©
1974 CCLI# 21590

Please join us for coffee and conversation in the parish hall.

Front cover art: https://biblehub.com/visuals/7/40_Mat_22_37.jpg

Thank you to all who are assisting today:

♪ Praise Band: Rachel & Abby Moss, Greg Robinson, Gary Stubbs,
Readers: Ron Sewell, Deb Butler, Sue Smith, Rev. Gil Shoesmith

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BEAUTIFUL BOSNIA SLIDESHOW – Rev. Brett Cane will be hosting a slide show and dessert event at **St. Mary Hall** on **Wednesday Nov. 4** at **7:00 p.m.** and at **St. Stephen Hall** on **Friday, Nov. 6** at **2:00p.m.** All are welcome! Please bring a small dessert item.

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.

October	Rector’s Discretionary Fund – This is a dedicated fund under the Rector’s control and discretion which provides (but is not limited to) financial assistance to members of the parish and the wider community.
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ST. STEPHEN OUTREACH

October	Justice Van Society – Mobile outreach services providing food, clothing, supplies, and care directly to the unhoused people of Victoria.
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St. Mary Anglican Church

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CLERGY CONTACT INFO

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego
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OFFICE HOURS

Parish Administrator - Hannah Nickel
Monday-Thursday • 9:00-1:00
admin@parishcs.ca

INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the **Church of the Province of Central Africa**. 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 the Diocesan and Synod Office Staff.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the people of the **Parish of St. Andrew, Sidney**, The Rev. Kelly Duncan, the Rev. Rebecca Yeo, The Ven. Penelope Kingham, and the people of the neighborhood. We pray for justice and the area and the parish's work in this.

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

In our Parish: We pray for Andrew Wilson, & John Beresford.

For those ill or in need of prayer: David Scarth, Bob Buchanan, Cathy Swincoe, Roche M., Rev. Gil Shoesmith, Leslie P.

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

For friends beyond the parish: Alysha, Cassidy, Sheila P., Bill P.

In the greater community: Mental Health, Addiction & the Toxic Drug Crisis: We pray for those experiencing mental illness, anxiety, depression, or loneliness, and for those who care for and support them. We pray for all who work in mental health care, crisis response, harm reduction, and recovery. We pray for those impacted or endangered by the toxic drug supply crisis, for those working to save lives, and for the families and loved ones who carry its effects.

Globally: Humanitarian concerns: We pray for refugees, asylum seekers, and all who have been displaced from their homes; for those affected by human trafficking, persecution, and violations of human rights; and for children denied access to education and opportunity. We pray for human rights defenders, aid workers, and relief organizations working to protect the vulnerable and uphold human dignity. May their efforts help build a world of greater safety, justice, freedom, and belonging.

SCRIPTURES & READERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Revelation 7:9-17 – Jan Bergink (SM) • Sharryl Pearce (SS)

Psalms 34:1-10, 22 – Barb Baillie (SM) • Trish Bonham (SS)

1 John 3:1-3 – Marian Towstego

Matthew 25:1-13 – Lynn Schumacher (SM) • Sean Lyon (SS)