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

Lest We Forget



November 8, 2026 – Remembrance Sunday

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 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** – Joanne Lambert

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

♫ **Gathering Song:** ***O God Our Help in Ages Past*** (CP#528)

1. **O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,**
   Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.
2. **Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;**
   Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.
3. **Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received its frame,**
   From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.
4. **A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone;**
   Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

♫ *O Canada*

The Gathering of the Community & Act of Thanksgiving
In the name of God we meet together on this Remembrance Sunday to thank God and to commemorate all who have served their country, especially in time of war and, in particular, those who made the supreme sacrifice. We have also come to pray for peace, for justice and goodwill among all people, and to dedicate ourselves anew to removing the causes which give rise to war.
We thank you, Almighty Father, for all your mercies, known and unknown; for your guidance of your people in wondrous ways through our history; for the courage, bravery, and constancy of sailors, soldiers, and air crew; for the devotion and fortitude of men, women, and children. We pray that we may be worthy of peace, and show forth our thanks by serving you more faithfully. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remembrance Collect
Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer. Grant them your peace, let light perpetual shine upon them and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SILENCE (one minute)

Commitment to Remember – David Cooper (SM) • Mike Philip (SS)
They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning. We will remember them. **We will remember them.**

♫ **Anthem:** ***In Flanders Fields*** – Choir (SM) • Sean Lyon (*spoken*) (SS)
(words to poem by Lt.-Col. John McCrae on back cover)

Centering Stillness & Prayer of the Day
Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God. *(Silence)*
O God, you call us to choose between you and the false gods of this world. Amid the darkness of sin and death wake us from our slumber and call us forth to greet Christ, so that with our eyes and hearts fixed on him, he may lead us to eternal light. **Amen.**

THE READINGS

First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 – Brett Cane (SM) • Jaqueline (SS)

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned
the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they
presented themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said to all the people,
"Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors – Terah
and his sons Abraham and Nahor – lived beyond the Euphrates and served
other gods. 3 Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and
led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.
14 "Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in
faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River
and in Egypt and serve the Lord. 15 Now if you are unwilling to serve the
Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors
served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose
land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."
16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the
Lord to serve other gods, 17 for it is the Lord our God who brought us and
our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and
who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way
that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, 18 and
the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the
land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."
19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a
holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or
your sins. 20 If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will
turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good."
21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" 22 Then
Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you
have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses."
23 He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline
your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel."

[24] The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." [25] So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

Psalm 78:1-7 – Nancy Choat (SM) • Lynda Clifford (SS)

[1] Hear my teaching, O my people; **incline your ears to the words of my mouth.**
[2] I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
[3] That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.
[4] We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, **and the wonderful works he has done.**
[5] He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel,
which he commanded them to teach their children;
[6] That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
[7] So that they might put their trust in God,
and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments.

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 4:13-18 – Greg Robinson

[13] But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14] For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. [15] For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16] For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18] Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

♫ **Gradual:** ***Let there be peace on earth*** **–** Jill Jackson, Sy Miller

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, may this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:1-13 – Ken Pedlow (SM) • Mike Philip (SS)

God be with you. **And also with you.**
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

♫ **Alleluia**

25 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took
their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. **2** Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise. **3** When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil
with them, **4** but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. **5** As the
bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. **6** But at
midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to
meet him.' **7** Then all those young women got up and trimmed their
lamps. **8** The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our
lamps are going out.' **9** But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough
for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for
yourselves.' **10** And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and
those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the
door was shut. **11** Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord,
lord, open to us.' **12** But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know
you.' **13** Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Gospel of Christ.

♫ **Alleluia**

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

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

The Prayers of the People – Ken Pedlow (SM) • Mike Philip (SS)

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:** ***Put Peace into Each Others' Hands***

Put peace into each other's hand and like a treasure hold it;
protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hand with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hand like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye: Our life is meant for caring.

Give thanks for strong yet tender hands, held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,
the heights of love expressing.

Put peace into each other's hand he is love's deepest measure;
in love make peace, give peace a chance and share it like a treasure;
and share it like a treasure.

Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, so that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **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
He who is the Prince of Peace is now present in this bread.
He who taught the way of non-violence is now present in this wine.
Enable us to follow the way of this master.

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*

Make me a channel of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love.
Where there us injury, your healing power
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

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.

O 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.

Make me a channel of Your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving to all that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Prayer after Communion
Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and 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:** *For the Healing of the Nations (CP #576)*

1. For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,

2. Lead us, Father, into freedom; from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind; that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

Dismissal

♫ **Postlude –** Joanne Lambert CCLI# 245534

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

💐 The altar flowers at St. Mary are given by **Susan and Roy Pullan** to the glory of God and in memory of family and friends.

Front cover art: https://favpng.com/png_view/armistice-day-soldier-standing-among-poppies-png/Fkj6S9Cd

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Thank you to all who are assisting today:

St. Mary: ♫Joanne Lambert, *Readers*: Brett Cane, Nancy Choat, Greg Robinson, Ken Pedlow, *Assistants*: Brett Cane, David Cooper, Susan Pullan, Judi Clark, 🔔 Matty Stuart, 🥥 Becky and Barry Lowe

St. Stephen: ♫ Joanne Lambert, Jaqueline, Lynda Clifford, Greg Robinson, Mike Philip

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<u>Coming up this week!</u>

Please read the Holly Fair leaflet for more information about donations and accepted items!

Speak with Lynn F or Marcia for more information or if you have any questions.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

THRIFTY SMILE CARDS – Please have your order to Irene by 10:00 on **Tuesday, November 10th** with payment by cash (to Irene) or cheque payable to St. Mary Church (to the office mail slot). Thank you for your support!

COMBINED SERVICE – Our next combined service is next Sunday, **November 15, 10:00** at **St. Mary**. There will be a guest speaker from Alongside Hope: Executive Director, **Will Postma**.

NARNIA: THE MUSICAL – December 18 to 20. Aslan gives his life for a traitor and rises again in C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, on stage with Theatre al Dente at Denford Hall, 781 Richmond Avenue. Friday at 7 PM, Saturday and Sunday at 2 PM. All ages.
Tickets $25, seniors $23, groups of 10 or more $20 each.
Sign up for group tickets at the table in the Narthex (St.M) for the Sunday performance, or email admin@parishcs.ca by **Tuesday, November 10th**.
Tickets: https://www.theatrealdente.com/narnia

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR LAY ASSISTING/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE –We are in need of a few people to assist with these positions in both churches. Please contact Lon if you want to learn more or volunteer.

PRAYER IN THE STYLE OF TAIZE – The next service will be at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church – Sidney BC., **6:00pm** on **November 20, 2026**. All are welcome. "*As we listen to the deepest part of our heart, we realize it is there that the Holy Spirit dwells.*" – Brother Matthew Prior, Taize

PARISH 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.
For November: Outreach at St. Mary: **Rainbow Kitchen.**
Outreach at St. Stephen: **Christmas Hampers.**

Help support our Parish with a donation via Canada Helps. The QR code will direct you to our donation page.

Thank you for your gift!

INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the **Province de l'Eglise Anglicane du Congo**. 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. Luke, Cedar Hill**

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the people of the **Parish of St. Mary Magdalene**, The Rev. Blair Haggart and the people of the parish and neighborhood. Be with them as they engage the folk on the Island and around it.

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

In our Parish: We pray for Davoud, Sara, Aida, and Parsa Arshadikalameh, Aurora Beraldin & Paul Vandoll, and Chris & Pamela Brambell.

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

For those with long-term needs: Lynn S., Brett., Jane, Paul, and Natalie.

For friends beyond the parish: Rudi D., Alysha, Cassidy, Lynda T. Roger M., Courtney.

For Remembrance: We remember before God all those who gave their lives in the service of freedom and peace, and pray for the souls of the fallen. We pray for their families, friends, and all who continue to grieve their loss. We remember veterans and all who have served in times of war and conflict, and pray for those currently serving in the armed forces, for their safety and protection. We pray also for all who live with the physical and emotional wounds of war, and for civilians whose lives have been forever changed by conflict. May we honour the sacrifices of those who came before us by working for a world where peace, justice, and reconciliation may flourish.

SCRIPTURES & READERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

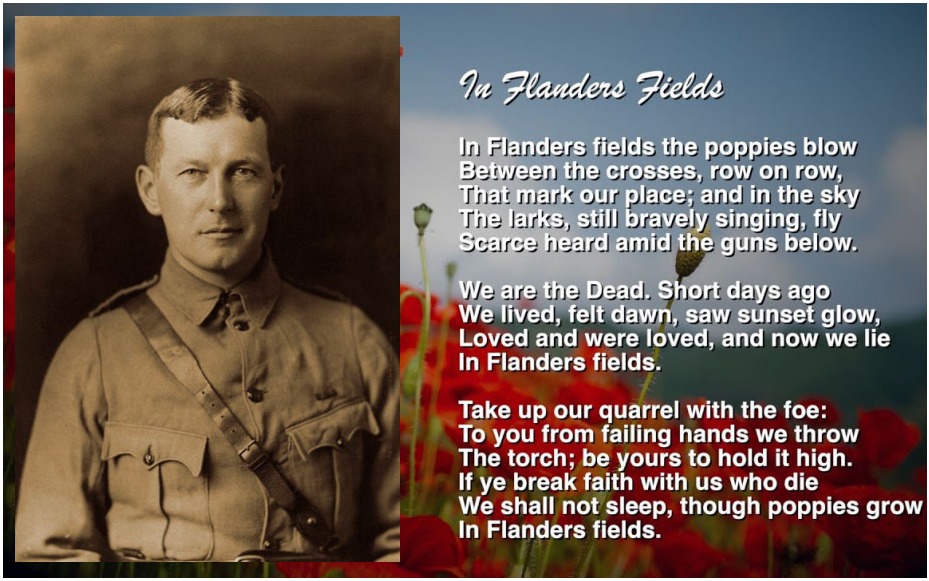
COMBINED SERVICE AT 10:00

First Lesson: Judges 4:1-7 – Marcia McMenamie

Psalm 123 – Nichola Wade

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 – Don Campbell

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 – Lynn Schumacher



Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae

Nov 30, 1872 - Jan 28, 1918

Canadian poet, physician, author, artist, and soldier during World War I, and surgeon during the second battle of Ypres, in Belgium.

The day before he wrote his famous poem, one of McCrae's closest friends - Lieutenant Alexis Helmer - was killed in the fighting and buried in a makeshift grave with a simple wooden cross. Wild poppies were already beginning to bloom between the crosses marking the many graves. Unable to help his friend or any of the others who had died, John McCrae gave them a voice through his poem. *In Flanders Fields* was first published in England's Punch magazine in December 1915. Within months, this poem came to symbolize the sacrifices of all who were fighting in the First World War. Today, the poem continues to be a part of Remembrance Day ceremonies in Canada and other countries throughout the world.

Photo Credits: https://vfwpost3617.org/patriotism/in-flanders-fields/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_McCrae#/media/File:John_McCrae_in_uniform_circa_1914.jpg

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