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



"All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."
– Matthew 25:32

November 22, 2026 – The Reign of Christ

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: *Still Waters* (Psalm 23) – Leanna Crawford CCLI# 7199601**

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

♫ **Gathering Song: *Our God Reigns* – L.E. Smith, Jr. CCLI# 8458**

1. How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him
Who brings good news, good news,
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness –
Our God reigns, our God reigns.

Refrain 1: **Our God reigns, our God reigns,**
Our God reigns, our God reigns.

2. O watchmen, lift your voices joyfully as one,
Shout for your King, your King.
See eye to eye the Lord restoring Zion.
Our God reigns, our God reigns. *Refrain 1*

3. Waste places of Jerusalem, break forth with joy,
We are redeemed, redeemed.
The Lord has saved and comforted His people.
Our God reigns, our God reigns. *Refrain 1*

4. Ends of the earth, see the salvation of your God,
Jesus is Lord, is Lord.
Before the nations He has bared His holy arm.
Your God reigns, your God reigns.

Refrain 2: **Your God reigns…**

5. Out from the tomb He came with grace and majesty;
He is alive, alive!
God loved us so, see here His hands His feet, His side.
He is alive, alive!

Refrain 3: **He is alive! …**

Refrain 1

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)*
Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE READINGS

First Lesson: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 – Ron Sewell

[11] For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. [12] As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. [13] I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. [14] I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. [15] I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. [16] I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays,

and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

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

Psalm 100 – Deb Butler

1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; **he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**
3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his name.
4 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

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: Ephesians 1:15-23 – Sue Smith

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the
saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come
to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may
perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of
his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable
greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his
great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him
from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far
above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name
that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has
put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for
the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

♫ **Gradual:** ***Shout to the Lord*** **– Darlene Zschech CCLI# 1406918**
Verse: My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord, there is none like You;
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength;
Let every breath, all that I am,
Never cease to worship You.

Refrain: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King;
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

(Repeat Verse & Refrain as above, then)

Nothing compares to the promise I have, oh,
Nothing compares to the promise I have, no,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:31-46 – Sean Lyon

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

♫ **Alleluia**

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him,
then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered
before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd
separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right
hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right
hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom
prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and
you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was
a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited
me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw
you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to
drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or
naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in
prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you,
just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine,
you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are
accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his
angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you
gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not
visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you
hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take
care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did

not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46] And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of Christ.

♫ **Alleluia**

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

The Nicene 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:** ***He Reigns*** **– Peter Furler & Steve Taylor CCLI# 4026635**

1. It's the song of the redeemed rising from the African plain.
It's the song of the forgiven drowning out the Amazon rain.
The song of Asian believers filled with God's holy fire.
It's every tribe every tongue every nation;
a love song born of a grateful choir.

Refrain: **It's all God's children singing: "Glory, glory,**
Hallelujah! He reigns, He reigns!"
All God's children singing: "Glory, glory,
Hallelujah! He reigns, He reigns!"

2. Let it rise above the four winds, caught up in the heavenly sound.
Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals
to the faithful gathered underground.
Of all the songs sung from the dawn of creation,
some were meant to persist.
Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples,
none rings truer than this: ***Refrain x2***

Bridge: And all the powers of darkness,
they tremble at what they've just heard. 'Cause
all the powers of darkness, they can't drown out a single word.

Refrain ***x2***

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

Liturgy for Islands and Inlets (Cedars)

May God be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Holy One**.
Let us give thanks to our loving God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you, Creator of all. We praise you in this particular part of your creation here in the Salish Sea. We praise you for the wonderful diversity of sea life, plants, animals and people who live in this place.

We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again. We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, in families and dreams, and through wilderness prophets who prayed on mountains and listened to ravens. Together with angels and ancestors, whales and eagles, arbutus and fern, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song:

♫ **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)

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.
Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup. Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community. Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of Creation.
Bring us with St. Francis of Assisi, our patron saint of nature, of animals, and ecology, and all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come. All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

♫ *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:** ***Jesus, Friend Of Sinners*** **– M.Hall/M.West CCLI# 6093697**

1. Jesus, Friend of sinners, we have strayed so far away.
We cut down people in Your name, but the sword was never ours to swing.
Jesus, Friend of sinners; the truth's become so hard to see.
The world is on their way to You, but they're tripping over me.
Always looking around, but never looking up; I'm so double minded.
A plank-eyed saint with dirty hands, and a heart divided.

Refrain: **Oh, Jesus, Friend of sinners,**
Open our eyes to the world at the end of our pointing fingers.
Let our hearts be led by mercy;
help us reach with open hearts and open doors.
Oh, Jesus, Friend of sinners,
break our hearts for what breaks Yours.

Yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah.

2. Jesus, Friend of sinners, the One whose writing in the sand
Made the righteous turn away and the stones fall from their hands.
Help us to remember we are all the least of these;
Let the mem'ry of Your mercy bring Your people to their knees.
Nobody knows what we're for, only what we're against,
when we judge the wounded.
What if we put down our signs, crossed over the lines,
and loved like You did? *Refrain*

Bridge 1: You love ev'ry lost cause, You reach for the outcast,
For the leper and the lame; they're the reason that You came.
Lord, I was that lost cause, and I was the outcast,
But You died for sinners just like me, a grateful leper at Your feet.

Bridge 2: 'Cause You are good, You are good,
And Your love endures forever. *(repeat as lead)*

Refrain: **Oh, Jesus, Friend of sinners,**
Open our eyes to the world at the end of our pointing fingers.
Let our hearts be led by mercy;
help us reach with open hearts and open doors.
Oh, Jesus, Friend of sinners,
break our hearts for what breaks Yours.

And I was the lost cause, and I was the outcast, hey!
You died for sinners just like me, a grateful leper at Your feet.

Prayer after Communion
O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through 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:** ***We Will Dance*** **– David Ruis CCLI# 1034438**

1. Sing a song of celebration, Lift up a shout of praise,
For the bridegroom will come, The glorious One,
And oh, we will look on His face.
We'll go to a much better place.

Refrain: **We will dance on the streets that are golden,**
The glorious bride and the great Son of Man.
From ev'ry tongue and tribe and nation
We'll join in the song of the Lamb.

2. Dance with all your might, Lift up your hands and clap for joy.
The time's drawing near when He will appear
And oh, we will stand by His side,
A strong, pure, spotless bride. ***Refrain x 2***

Dismissal

♫ **Postlude:** ***It's Time for the Reign of God*** **– B. Doerksen/S. Mitchinson CCLI# 5025233**

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

Front cover art: https://bible.art/p/ZVVOtEBYO5FmOnMkkNXZ/matthew-25-32

Thank you to all who are assisting today:
♫*Praise Band:* Rachel & Abby Moss, Greg Robinson, Gary Stubbs,
Readers: Rob Sewell, Deb Butler, Sue Smith, Sean Lyon

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!

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OFFICE HOURS
Parish Administrator - Hannah Nickel
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admin@parishcs.ca

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



The women of the parish are invited to meet for coffee or tea, some goodies, and great conversations. This month we are meeting at **St Stephen Boardroom, Friday November 27, at 10:00 am.**



The next Men's Breakfast will be **Saturday, November 28 at 9:30** at **St. Stephen Hall**. Speaker will be Rev. Gil Shoesmith. RSVP to Lon ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca / 250-208-9949, or verbally to Ken Pedlow.

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.**

Parish Financial Position

The financial performance of the parish is in line with what was expected at this time of year. The following results are not adjusted for seasonal giving which has historically been most significant in the last quarter of the year and while these numbers show a deficit, it is hoped that seasonal giving trends apparent in prior years will be realized again in 2026. If we achieve the results we expect, the Parish should break even, and it is hoped that we might even achieve a small surplus.

Financial Position as Of August 31, 2026			
Category	**St Stephen**	**St Mary**	**Parish**
Giving and donations	54,291.12	81,976.02	136,267.14
Other operating income	19,158.04	19,546.34	38,704.38
Total operating income	73,449.16	101,522.36	174,971.52
Total operating expenses	88,022.71	112,213.68	200,236.39
Projected Surplus/(Deficit)	(14,573.55)	(10,691.32)	(25,264.87)

INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Church of England. 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. Philip, Cedar.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the people of the **Parish of St. Margaret of Scotland**, and the people of the parish and neighborhood. Be with them as they spread the good news, the Gospel to the folk on the Island and around it. Be with their rotating clergy and Lay Assistant team**.**

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

In our Parish: We pray for Sharon and Steve Butler, Deb Butler, and Mark and Karen Chase.

For those ill or in need of prayer: David Scarth, Bob Buchanan, Cathy Swincoe, 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: Seminarian Melanie, and postulants Gary & Richard, Rudi D., Alysha, Cassidy, Lynda T. Roger M., Courtney.

In the greater community: Justice, Violence, & Safety: We pray for those who are incarcerated, for victims of crime, and for all working toward justice, rehabilitation, and reconciliation. We pray for those affected by cycles of poverty, violence, or addiction. We pray especially for those experiencing violence or abuse in their homes or communities, and for those providing shelter, advocacy, safety, and hope.

Globally: Global Leadership & Peace: We pray for leaders of nations and all who hold positions of influence, that they may seek peaceful solutions to conflict and act with wisdom, courage, and compassion. We pray for diplomats, negotiators, and international organizations working for peace and cooperation, and for all responsible for delivering humanitarian aid. May those entrusted with power work for justice, protect the vulnerable, and build a more peaceful and compassionate world.

SCRIPTURES & READERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Isaiah 64:1-9 – Brett Cane (SM) • Sharryl Pearce (SS)

Psalm 80:1-7,16-18 – Greg Robinson

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 – Jan Bergink (SM) • Lynda Clifford (SS)

Mark 13:24-37 – Lynn Schumacher (SM) • Mike Philip (SS)