

From the Rector

Last week, I gave a bit of background on the prophets we've been reading at Eucharist recently. Please see that article on the "newsletters" section of the website if you missed it. Today, I thought I'd share just a bit more about the prophet Hosea.

First of all, the name "Hosea" means salvation. It is closely related to Hoshea, which is a variant of Joshua, which is translated into Greek as Jesus. What might this tell us about the relationship between this story in Hosea and the story of our salvation?

The story of Hosea is really about the people's unfaithfulness, God's righteous judgment, and God's persistent love. As I mentioned last week, the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel had betrayed their relationship with the God who led them out of Egypt, who had made a covenant with them that he would be their God and they would be his people. Again and again, people sinned. That, in itself, wasn't necessarily a problem. There were ways to make atonement for sin. The issue was not that the people were committing sinful acts, but that they had rejected the covenant altogether. They had turned to the worship of other gods, and sought political alliances instead of relying on God's grace and guidance.

Hosea's relationship with Gomer is meant to mirror the relationship of God with Israel. In the beginning of the book, God tells the prophet to take for himself a "wife of whoredom," and her infidelity represents the unfaithfulness of the people. Some of the children she bore may not have even been Hosea's children at all (hence the names he gives to them, "Not loved," and "Not my people.") Whether that's true or not, Hosea is rightly angered and hurt by Gomer's betrayal. Yet when she runs away to another man, he seeks her out and pays good money to bring her home... much like God pays a steep price, in offering God's own Son for the restoration of relationship with God's covenant people.

Anglicans tend not to spend much time talking about judgment. But it's important to recognize that judgment is a reality, and a necessary one, at that. God's

forgiveness doesn't eliminate judgment entirely—right and wrong still matter, and actions still have consequences. A faith that says, “There are no spiritual consequences for my actions,” is preaching cheap grace—grace that requires nothing of us, and therefore offers us little in return. A righteous God cannot ignore Israel's betrayal. Their actions have spiritual consequences—a separation between themselves and God that they have created. These consequences are manifest in the exile. God is not punishing the people. The exile is a prophetic living out of their spiritual reality.

Yet God's love for the people continues. Their unfaithfulness has hurt God deeply, as God's love has not been returned. But God loves them anyway. What they will find, through the exile, is that God is with them even in a foreign land. And God will not only bring them home, but will ultimately give God's own Son as a means of reconciliation.

Blessings,
Mother Terry+

Organ Revitalization update

Following his tremendous efforts 3 years ago, Steve Miller returned this past April to activate the Midi capabilities of our Hallman Organ in collaboration with Gilles Parenteau with support of a Canada Council Fine Arts grant: <https://youtu.be/Uvf2hhvvJjc>

Steve returned last week to commence the instillation of more modern blowers to our organ which will result in far less ambient noise. This Sunday parishioners present should notice a dramatic reduction of blower noise while the organ is on, but not being played. Also moving from 5hp to 1hp motor will have significant electrical savings. He will continue making improvements next week to failed tremulant motors and install a rank of oboe pipes which will add a much-needed orchestral colour.



Figure 1 Main chamber New blower left; original 'BOB' (British Organ Builders) right



Figure 2 New gallery blower in the silencing box; original blower forefront

SJS choir tenor alum Spencer Britten to perform with Vancouver City Opera Sept 13-17:

<https://twitter.com/spencerbritten>

SJS Prayer List

If you request that someone's name be added to the prayer list, please keep in touch with us. At the end of each month, all names will be removed, so you will need to add the names again at the end of each month. Please also let us know if you want someone removed from the list. Email the office (church@sjs.net) anytime! Thank you.

Greeting volunteers needed at the 10am service

We could use several more greeters. Please contact the office(church@sjs.net) for more details if you are interested in greeting on Sunday mornings.

SJS Garden Club Needs New Volunteers

It is time for the Garden Club to renew their efforts at St Johns. We hope we have some new volunteers who could join us from time to time. Or every week! Weather permitting, we meet on **Monday mornings**, but the day/time can be adjusted to accommodate other schedules. We do watering, light pruning (no saws or ladders), weeding, dividing, planting, etc. We enjoy wonderful chit chats in the safety of the outdoors. You can bring your own gloves and tools if you want to, or you can borrow ours. If you have old tools in your garage that you

don't use any more, please let us know. **We are accepting donations of old garden tools.**

WNM items for Homeless Needed

Winter clothing, raingear, boots, sleeping bags, socks, pudding cups, granola bars (soft with no fruit/nuts), & juice boxes.

Financial Support - Stewardship

If you would like to make a financial contribution to help support the worship and ministry of St. John's Shaughnessy, please do! You can use this QR code (point your phone's camera at it) and it will take you to the donation page of our website. If you have recently made a contribution online or by cheque, thank you so very much! If you currently give by Pre-Authorized Donation, thank you! Our church has been affected by COVID-19 in many ways and financial giving is certainly one.



If you would like to give via monthly Pre-Authorized Donations (easy to change and easy to cancel), please contact Cynthia in the office (church@sjc.net or 604-731-4966). If you would like to give to the church using a credit card, please use the DONATE button on our website (Canada Helps on top of page one, and Paypal on the bottom of page one). Cheques may be mailed or dropped through the church mail slot.

Sunday in-person services 8am and 10am

Sunday online service

10am Holy Eucharist live-stream

Wednesday online service

8pm Midweek Meditation

Rector The Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas terry.dirbas@sjs.net
Assistant Priest The Reverend Elizabeth Ruder-Celiz erceliz@vst.edu
Vestry Clerk The Reverend Karin Fulcher

Music Director Michael Dirk organist@sjs.net
Rector's Warden Judith Downes
People's Warden Maggie Sanders
Treasurer Donald Wood
Property Trustee Michael Dezell
Pastoral Care Team Coordinator Helen Kline
Altar Guild Susan Firus
Parish Administrator Janet Hamilton (Cynthia Jutras, acting)

Please email the office if you would like to have newsletters sent to you.
Newsletters, leaflets and online videos are posted on the website.

St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

Diocese of New Westminster

Anglican Church of Canada

1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver, BC, V6H 2E2

604 731 4966 (ex 1 office, 2 Rector)

church@sjs.net

www.sjs.net



Offices are open by appointment only.
Email and voicemail are checked regularly and often,
so please reach out.

