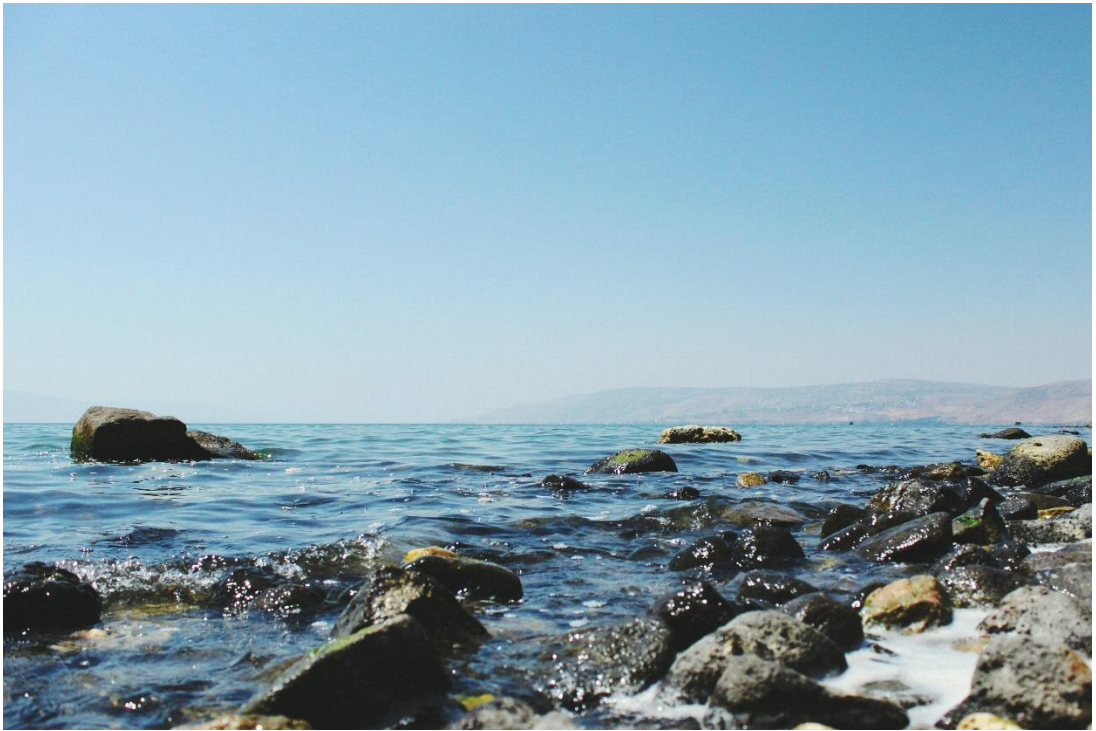


The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
January 22nd 2023
Home Church Connections Service
Third Sunday After Epiphany



“Nourishing Faith and Community”

Words of Welcome

The Gathering of the Community

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen

Let us pray,

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has
shined.*

*You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult
when dividing plunder.*

*For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the
rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-12

Of David.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

**he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high
on a rock.**

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

**‘Come,’ my heart says, ‘seek his face!’ Your face, Lord, do I
seek. Do not hide your face from me.**

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!
If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Reading Two: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A reading from Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the

gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:12-23

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness

*have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.’*

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

Sermon: *The Rev Gail Rodger*

Announcements

Hear O Israel *(please stand)*

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Confession and Absolution

(Iona Traditional)

Dear friends in Christ, not out of dread or fear, but believing that God is faithful to forgive, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer. *(Silence is kept)*

**Eternal God, maker of the skies above,
Lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,
Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters,
in earth, sea and sky you are there.**

**O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls,
in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, your presence is
around us, and we give you thanks, but when we have not
touched but trampled your creation, when we have not met but
missed you in one another, when we have not received but
rejected you in the poor, forgive us, and hear our plea for mercy.**

Listen to the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: “Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace, come, follow me.”

**Lead us now, Holy God, to acknowledge your costly generosity
by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and
the whole earth cries, Glory! Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Accept and bless, O God, the gifts we offer and pour out upon us,
your Spirit of abundant giving; that as we have freely received, so we

may freely give, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Doxology

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.

The Blessing

The blessing of the Holy Trinity; the loving Creator, who is the source of all being, of Jesus Christ who is the love incarnate in the world, and the ever present Holy Spirit, hold you, surround you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*The flowers in the sanctuary today (Sunday, January 22),
are given by Marilynn Mincey to the Glory of God
in Loving memory of my Father Carl Anthony and his
mother, my grandmother Clara Anthony.*

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Church of Ireland; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Central Newfoundland, Bishop John Watton; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; and The faithful of Parish of Pender & Saturna Islands, North Saanich.

In our region, we pray for St Barnabas, The Rev. Dr. Travis O'Brian.

In our parish we pray for Karen Martin; Janet McDonald; Marge McIntosh; and Joseph Motuz.

In our community we pray for St. John the Divine Food Bank and those whose illness is addiction in our society.

For the month of January, we pray for our Pastoral Care Team.

Welcome to all those visiting us at St. Peter and St. Paul.

We welcome saints, seekers and sinners as we live into a life in Christ, learning about and from one another as we worship God together. Christ binds us together in love through our diversity. If you are comfortable, please give us your name and address so we can add you to our weekly prayer list. We are looking forward to getting to know you better.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Esquimalt, Songhees and other Nations of the Salish and Coast Salish Peoples. We, who came from many lands to join the line of those worshipping here, commit our Church to continue the journey of truth and reconciliation with our First Nations' neighbours.

Parish of St Peter and St Paul
1379 Esquimalt Road
Victoria, BC V9A 3R4



Bishop The Rt. Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee
Rector The Rev. Gail Rodger 250-665-6814
Associate Priest The Rev. Pam Worthington
Rector's Warden Barbara Holt
People's Warden Licette How
Organist Lawrence Surges

Safe Church Liaison Karen Hogg safechurch@stpeterandpaul.ca

Envelope Secretary Ross Benton givings@stpeterandpaul.ca

Parish Office Hours: by appointment only.

Office Phone: 250-386-6833



www.facebook.com/AnglicanParishOfStPeterAndStPaulVictoriaBcCanada/

E-mail: admin@stpeterandpaul.ca

Website: www.stpeterandpaul.ca

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