The Anglican Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul March 5th 2023 Second Sunday of Lent



"Nourishing Faith and Community"

Prelude

Words of Welcome (Please stand as clergy enters)

Musical opening CP 465 Here in This Place New Light is Streaming (Text and Music: Marty Haugen 1982 GIA Publications One License)

Here in this place new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away.

See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in – the lost and forsaken; gather us in – the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young – our live are a mystery; we are the old – who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in – the rich and the haughty; gather us in – the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine for compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away, but here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in – all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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 with thy spirit.

Almighty God,

unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto

it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Let us pray,

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross, give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Here ends the reading.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.** He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

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.

Reading Two: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from the Epistle of the Romans.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the

scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Here ends the reading.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn CP390 Womb of Life and Source of Being (Tune CP 388)

(Text Ruth Ducker (1947-); Music Franz Haydn (1732-1809)).

Womb of life and source of being, home of every restless heart, in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start. We, your children, gather 'round you at the table you prepare, sharing stories, tears and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.

Word of flesh, and brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth, you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth. Priest who shares our human struggles, life of life and death of death,

risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory be to thee O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus

answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Gospel of Christ **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Gospel Hymn CP390 Womb of Life and Source of Being (Tune CP 388)

(Text Ruth Ducker (1947-); Music Franz Haydn (1732-1809)).

Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend. When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend. Labour with us, aid the birthing, of the new world yet to be, Free of servant, lord, and master, free for love and unity Mother, Brother, holy Partner; Father, Spirit, only Son: we would praise your name forever, One in Three and Three in One. We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new,

ever singing ever praising, one with all and one with you

Sermon: The Rev. Gail Rodger

Musical Moment for Reflection

Announcements

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11. 28*.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3. 16*.

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1. 15*.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins: not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2. 1, 2.

Let us humble confess our sins to Almighty God. (Silence is kept)

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word and deed, against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Please stand)

Almighty God our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with thy spirit.**

<u>Hymn</u>: SGP 108 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (please be seated for this hymn) (Text: and music: James Manley 1978 CCLI)

Refrain

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free,

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing: wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. **Refrain**

You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with their idols and lies, then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. **Refrain**

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill, then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still; and down in the city you called once again, when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. **Refrain**

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes. From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams; our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. with bold new decisions your people arise. **Refrain**

Prayer over the Gifts:

Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer (Please stand)

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord**.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. It is meet and right so to do.

It is meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things. Who has bidden us they faithful people to cleanse our hearts and to prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed by your gift of forgiving love and the eucharistic mystery, we may be more fervent in prayer and more generous in works of love.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and saying:

Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is the one that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy bread of eternal life and cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded:

We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and we pray to thee, Lord our God.

And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now as our Saviour Christ hath 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

The table of love is offered for all people. It is Christ who invites us to meet love incarnate here, and all are welcome.

Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world, **have mercy** upon us.

Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world, **grant us thy** peace.

The Communion

Instrumental musical selections during communion

Prayer after Communion (please stand)

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; Assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; And that we are living members of his mystical Body,

which is the blessed company of all faithful people; And are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

<u>Musical Sending Hymn</u> CP 418 Draw the Circle Wide ((Text and Music: Gordon Light 1944-) 1994 Common Cup Company One License)

God the still-point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns; nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms.

Refrain:

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still. Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide. Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small; let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call. **Refrain**

Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door. **Refrain**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** (no alleluias during Lent)

Postlude

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.

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for the Anglican Church of Melanesia; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Kootenay, Bishop Lynne McNaughton; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; Saint Mark, Qualicum Beach, The Venerable Elizabeth Northcott.

In our region, we pray for St Mary the Virgin, Oak Bay, The Rev. Craig Hiebert and The Rev. Dyan Davison.

In our parish we pray for: Adora and Bob Waters; Lynda Weller; Sharon Wickware; Pam Worthington and Marilynn Mincey; Cindy Young-Bourgeois.

In our community we pray for the Rainbow Kitchen, and those who are hungry in our society.

For the month of March, we pray for our Soapy Sundries Drive.

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.

Washrooms are found in the hall, up the stairs, on the right.

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