

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
April 14th 2024
Home Church Connections
Third Sunday of Easter



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

Collect

Let us pray,

O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Acts 3:12-19

A reading from the book of Acts

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God

of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;

the Lord hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!

You have put gladness in my heart

more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace;

for you alone, O Lord make me lie down in safety.

Reading Two: 1 John 2:7 – 17

A reading from the first letter of John

Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. Whoever says, 'I am in the light', while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

I am writing to you, little children,

because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

I am writing to you, fathers,

because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young people,

because you have conquered the evil one.

I write to you, children,

because you know the Father.

*I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.*

*I write to you, young people,
because you are strong
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.*

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live for ever.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36b-48

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his

feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon *The Rev Gail Rodger*

Hear O Israel

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.

Announcements

Prayers for Gifts Offered

Let us pray,
God of grace, you have freed us in love, shown in the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in the new life you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God **we confess:**

Our self-centered living and failing to walk with humility and gentleness.

Our longing to have what is not ours and for our hearts that are not at rest within ourselves.

Our misuse of human relationships, and for our unwillingness to see the image of God in others.

Our jealousies that divide family and nations, and our rivalries that create strife and warfare.

Our reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and our carelessness with the fruits of creation.

Our hurtful words that condemn, and our angry deeds that harm.

Our idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ and our squandering the gifts of love and grace.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you

in eternal life; through Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for 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!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

In the world, we pray for Church of the Province of South East Asia.

In Canada, we pray 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 John the Divine, Courtenay and Saint Andrew, Sandwick, The Rev. Alastair Hunting.

In our region, we pray for St Mattias Victoria, The Rev. Collen Lassimer.

In our parish we pray for Betty Ann and Lew Townsend; Joan Vazina; Ann Walker; Rosemary Wallace; John and Miriam Wankiewicz.

In our community we pray for Our Place Society, The Mustard Seed and those experiencing homelessness in our society.

For the month of April, we pray for Our Soapy Sundries Drive on May 4th.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Lək̓ʷəŋən speaking peoples, who are 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

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ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
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