The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
April 21st 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter



"Nourishing faith and community"

Prelude

Words of Welcome (Please stand as clergy enters)

<u>Musical opening</u> CP 307 When Long Before Time (Text and melody: Peter Davison (1936-)1995 The Singer and The Song Augsburg Fortress)

When long before time and the worlds were begun, when there was no earth and no sky and no sun, and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme, and even our Maker had only a dream...

...the silence was broken when God sang the Song, and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began, and with its first birth-cries creation was born, and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.

The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's, their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word; the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song, the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.

Though, down through the ages, the Song disappearedits harmonies broken and almost unheardthe Singer comes to us to sing it again: our God is with us in the world now as then.

The Light has returned as it came once before, The Song of the Lord is our own song once more; so let us all sing with one heart and one voice the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice. To you, God, the Singer, our voices we raise; to you, Song incarnate, we give all our praise; to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath, be glory, forever, through life and through death.

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

Gloria (sung)

(Daniel Schutte Mass of Christ One licence)

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest And on earth, peace on earth Peace to people of goodwill.

We praise you, we bless You We adore you, we glorify You We give you thanks, For your great glory. Lord God heavenly King, O God Almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.
You take away the sin of the world,
Receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand
The right hand of the Father
Have mercy on us.

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.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest And on earth, peace on earth Peace to people of good will.

Amen, Amen.

Kyrie (sung)

Lord have mercy Christ have mercy Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.

Kyrie Eleison Christie Eleison Kyrie Eleison, eleison

Lord have mercy Christ have mercy Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.

Let us pray,

Shepherd of all, by laying down your life for your flock you reveal your love for all. Lead us from the place of death to the place of abundant life, so that, guided by your care for us, we may rightly offer our lives in love for you and our neighbour. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Acts 4:5-12

A reading from the book of Acts

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are

questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

"the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (sung) CP 519 The Lord's My Shepherd (remain seated)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want: he makes me down to lie in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, ever for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,

and in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.

Reading Two: 1 John 3:16 – 24

A reading from the first letter of John

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: CP 430 Will You Come and Follow Me

(Text: John L. Bell (1949-). © 1987 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland). G.I.A. Publications, Inc., via One License)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Gospel Reading: John 10:11-18

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

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

Gospel Hymn: CP 430 Will You Come and Follow Me

(Text: John L. Bell (1949-). © 1987 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland). G.I.A. Publications, Inc., via One License)

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Sermon: The Reverend Gail Rodger

Musical Moment for Reflection

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.

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming of sinners and inviting us to table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness. (*Silence is kept*)

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.

(Please stand)

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.**

<u>Hymn:</u> CP 340 I Will Praise You Lord_(please be seated) (Text and Music Claude Fraysse (1941- Eng Translation Ken Morse(1913-

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.

Praise, I will praise you Lord, with all my heart. In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways,
and glorify your name.
Love, I will love you Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart. O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.

Serve, I will serve you Lord, with all my heart. In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Prayer over the Gifts

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**

Eucharistic Prayer (Please stand)

(Book of Alternative Service EP #1; musical setting CP732 The Great Thanksgiving setting #4)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: in our humanity you created us. When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations. Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation.

Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name:

(sung)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

(sung)

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. (sung) **Amen. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

(Musical setting Gordon Light)

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

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

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

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Communion

(Communion is offered at three locations: station one is at the back of the church near the candles for those who prefer to stand and/or are physically challenged by steps without railings; station two, brought to the pew; station three: at the altar rail)

Instrumental musical selections during communion

Prayer after Communion (please stand)

Let us pray,

God of steadfast love, watch over the Church redeemed by your Son. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to your eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **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.**

<u>Musical Sending</u> SNC 096 All Creation Danced in Answer (Text: John Core 2006 copyright 2006 Wayne Leupold Editions In. Music: Patrick Michaels, 2014, One License)

All creation danced in answer when God's voice first touched the air and the great eternal cantor called a universe to prayer, called to praise and to thanksgiving all that filled the space about, sought a hymn from all things living bid the stones themselves cry out.

Jesus gave the tune new texture, love song for a world set free: gospel sung in full rich measure, earth's voice but God's melody; passion music, sad and sombre, discord on a cross was built, giving way to bright new timbre in the Easter morning's lilt.

And the Spirit comes, composing music made of wind and fire, in its new-found tones disclosing all the heart and soul require, forging from day's hum and thunder, from that mixture sweet and strong,

psalms and hymns of awe and wonder; daily life as sacred song.

Come my friends, sing, dance in answer as God's music fills the air and the great eternal cantor calls us yet to praise and prayer, bids us join the endless singing, till all earthly song shall cease; heaven's voice alone goes ringing through a universe at peace.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

In the world, we pray for The Church of South India (United). In Canada, we pray for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh, Bishop Lydia Mamkwa; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; Saint Michael and All Angels, Chemainus, The Rev Michael Wimmer. **In our region**, we pray for St Philip Oak Bay, The Rev. Allan Doersken. **In our parish** we pray for Adora and Bob Waters; Lynda Miller; Sharon Wickware; Max Wideman; Cindy Young-Bourgeois.

In our community we pray for Neighbourhood House and those who are marginalized in our society.

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

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.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Ləkwənən 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.

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