

The Anglican Parish of  
St. Peter and St. Paul  
April 28<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



“Nourishing faith and community”

## Prelude

Words of Welcome (*Please stand as clergy enters*)

Musical opening CP 3 Morning Has Broken (tune CP445)

(Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965). Music Gaelic traditional, The Iona Community, One License)

*Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!*

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 license)*

**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,

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## The Proclamation of the Word

### Reading One: Acts 8:26-40

A reading from the book of Acts

*Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:*

*'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.*

*In his humiliation justice was denied him.*

*Who can describe his generation?*

*For his life is taken away from the earth.'*

*The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the*

*prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30

For he did not despise or abhor  
the affliction of the afflicted;  
**he did not hide his face from me,  
but heard when I cried to him.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live for ever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember

and turn to the Lord;  
**and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.**

For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.

**Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the Lord.**

Reading Two: 1 John 4:7 – 21

A reading from the first letter of John

*Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.*

*By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.*

*God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: CP 405 Alleluia No 1

*(Text and Music: Donal Fishel 1950- Word of God Music 1973 CCLI)*

***Refrain:***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give thanks to the risen Lord.***

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give praise to God's name.***

Jesus is Lord of all the earth;  
he is king of creation. ***Refrain:***

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
Jesus has died and is risen. ***Refrain:***



## Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8

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 true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'*

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Hymn: CP 405 Alleluia No 1

(Text and Music: Donal Fishel 1950- Word of God Music 1973 CCLI)

**Refrain:**

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

***Give thanks to the risen Lord.***

*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
*Give praise to God's name.*

We have been crucified with Christ:  
now we shall live forever. ***Refrain:***

Come, let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour. ***Refrain:***

Sermon: *The Reverend Lynn Mills*

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.**

Hymn: CP 505 Be Thou My Vision (please remain seated)

(Text tr Elisabeth Byrne (1880-1931) version Eleanor Hull Music Irish traditional Oxford University Press; CCLI)

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art –  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my great Father; thine own may I be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.*

*Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of heaven, when victory is won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

### 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. 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 love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the 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

### Musical Sending VU 296 This is God's Wonderous World

(Text Malthie Davenport Babcock 1901 Eng. traditional; adapt Stanley Oliver 1929 public domain)

*This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.*



*This is God's wondrous world; I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, God's hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is God's wondrous world, the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass or mountain pass, God's voice speaks to me everywhere.*

*This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad!  
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring: God reigns, let earth be glad!*

### 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 Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

**In Canada**, we pray for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Montreal, Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

**In our diocese**, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; Saint Paul Nanaimo, The Interim The Rev Susan Hermanson.

**In our region**, we pray for Two Saints, The Rev Dr. Adela Torchia.

**In our parish** we pray for Walter Adams; Dorothy Barnes; William Bates; Myrna Bennett; Ann Berry; Keith Brandsma and Keiko Hoshino; and Marjorie Brown.

**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 April, we pray for Our Soapy Sundries Drive on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

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 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

1379 Esquimalt Road

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ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL  
ESQUIMALT

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