

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
June 16th 2024
Home Church Connections Service
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Nourishing Faith and Community

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Words of Welcome

Gathering

In this time and from many places we gather on the ancestral lands the Lək'wəṇən speaking people, of our Esquimalt, Songhees and Coast Salish First Nation companions.

From many places and peoples we come to pray.

In this time and from many places we gather in the name of the living God.

We meet in the presence of Jesus Christ, risen and alive.

In this time and within this virtual space we gather with the community of faith around the globe and across the ages.

In this time and space heaven and earth are one.

In this time and wherever we are, we are not alone, but one in Christ.

Knit together in the unity of the Spirit.

In this time and in all places, we are hallowed, expectant, one people in God.

In the name of the Holy and Blessed One, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray,

Almighty God, without you we are not able to please you. Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our

hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Reading One: 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20

A reading from the Samuel

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.’ Samuel said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.’ And the Lord said, ‘Take a heifer with you, and say, “I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.” Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.’ Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, ‘Do you come peaceably?’ He said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.’ And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.’ But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the

Lord looks on the heart.’ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen any of these.’ Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’ And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.’ And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.’ He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, ‘Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.’ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 20

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!

The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

**May he send you help from the sanctuary,
and give you support from Zion.**

May he remember all your offerings,
and regard with favour your burnt sacrifices.

May he grant you your heart’s desire,
and fulfil all your plans.

**May we shout for joy over your victory,
and in the name of our God set up our banners.
May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.**

Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed;
he will answer him from his holy heaven
with mighty victories by his right hand.

**Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.**
They will collapse and fall,
but we shall rise and stand upright.

**Give victory to the king, O Lord;
answer us when we call.**

Reading Two: 2 Corinthians 5:6 -1, 14-17

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:26-34

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Mark

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading by Barbara Holt

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Prayers of Confession and Assurance

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming of sinners so let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Holy and gracious One: forgive our sins.

The ones we can remember, and those we have forgotten.

Forgive the wrong actions we have committed, and the right actions we have avoided.

Forgive the times we have been weak, unkind or judgmental and failed to live out your kingdom call to justice and love.

Forgive the lies we have told, the truths we have avoided and the pain we have caused others.

Creator of all, have mercy on us, and make us whole.

Early Irish (adapted from A Celtic Primer p. 95)

May Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a

kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(from New Patterns for Worship Church of England)

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you!

At peace with one another united as one we declare:
We believe and trust in God the Father Almighty.
We believe and trust in Jesus Christ, his Son.
We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.
We believe and trust in the Three in One.

(from Creating Uncommon Worship by Richard Giles)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever 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.

Dismissal:

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen! We go in the name of Christ! Alleluia!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Church of the Province of West Africa; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Qu'Appelle, Bishop Helen Kennedy; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; Anna, our bishop; Anna, our bishop; for Saint Columba Anglican and United Church, Port Hardy.

In our region, we pray for the St John the Divine, The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum, The Rev. Dr. John Thatamanil.

In our parish we pray for: Doreen Langmeed, Nico Lohmann and Vanessa Wilson and Hypatia and Aurelia Lohmann.

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

For the month of June we pray for the ministry of SPSP to Selkirk Seniors Village.

Parish of St Peter and St Paul

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