

The Anglican Parish of St Peter and St Paul
May 4th, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter



“Nourishing Faith and Community”

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn VU703 In the Bulb There is a Flower

(Text and music: Natalie Sleeth, 1986 CCLI)

*In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree,
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning, in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing, in our life, eternity,
in our death, a resurrection, at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

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,
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 9:1-6

A reading from the book of Acts

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 30

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

**O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.**

O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

**Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.**

For his anger is but for a moment;
his favour is for a lifetime.

**Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.**

As for me, I said in my prosperity,
‘I shall never be moved.’

**By your favour, O Lord,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.**

**To you, O Lord, I cried,
and to the Lord I made supplication:**

‘What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?

**Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?**

Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
O Lord, be my helper!’

**You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,**

so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

Reading Two: Revelation 5:11-14

A reading from the book of Revelation

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

‘Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!’

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

‘To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!’

And the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’ And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: CP 527 How Firm A Foundation

(Text: John Rippon(1751-1836); Music Alternate Tune St Denio CP393 Music public domain)

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
Wat more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who to Jesus for refuge have fled?*

“Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!

*For I am thy Cod and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

*When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

Gospel Reading: John 21:1-19

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on

some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Hymn: CP 527 How Firm A Foundation

(Text: John Rippon(1751-1836); Music Alternate Tune St Denio CP393 Music public domain)

*When through fiery trials thy pathway I shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply:
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.*

*The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not – I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never – no, never – no, never forsake!"*

Sermon: *The Rev. Dr. Lynn Mills*

A musical moment for reflection

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 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.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Hymn CP500 Sister Let Me Be Your Servant (please be seated for this hymn)
(Text and Music Richard Gillard CCLI license)

*Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow travelers on the road;
we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

*I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with
you.*

*I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey
through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

*Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

Prayer over the Gifts

Creator of all, you wash away our sins and give us new birth by the Spirit, and redeeming us in Christ. As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer (Please stand)

(Book of Alternative Service EP #1; musical setting CP719 The Great Thanksgiving setting #1)

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.

Blessed are you gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death, he destroyed death, and by his rising again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise 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.

Blessed is the one 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 VU960 R Langdon)

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

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 them that 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

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

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Communion

Instrumental musical selections during communion

Prayer after Communion (please stand)

Let us pray,

Author of life divine, in the breaking of bread we know the risen Lord. Feed us always in these mysteries, that we may show your glory to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Sending Hymn: RHB 106 Lord of the Dance

(Text and Music Daniel Schutte, 1979 New Dawn Music One License)

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:
at Bethlehem I had my birth.*

Refrain

***Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.***

*I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;*

*I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came with me and the dance went on: **Refrain***

*I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
the holy people said it was a shame.
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a cross to die: **Refrain***

*I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the dance, and I still go on: **Refrain***

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ! Alleluia.

Postlude

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. We leave the hall unlocked for the entire service and our greeter would be happy to walk over with you.

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.

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

In the Worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda; for our discernment in choosing a Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, Bishop Sam Rose

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee.

In our region, St Philip Oak Bay, The Rev. Allan Doersken

In our parish we pray for: Joseph Motuz, Judy Parker, Kevyn Patey, Doreen Peets, Mavis Pillar, Brian Poulsen, Don and The Rev. Gail Rodger, and Peter Saunders.

In our community we pray for the Neighbourhood House

For the month of April, we pray for those who donate garden and landscaping skills to the church.

Parish of St Peter and St Paul
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ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
ESQUIMALT

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