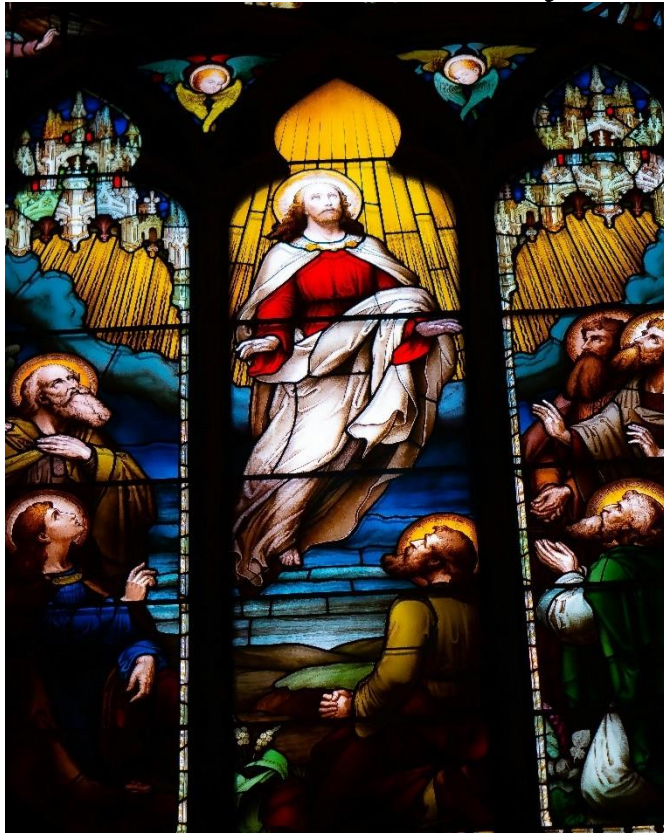


The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
June 1st 2025
Home Church Connections
Ascension Sunday



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,

Almighty God, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; 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 1:1-11

A reading from the book of Acts

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented

himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 113

Praise the Lord!

Praise, O servants of the Lord;
praise the name of the Lord.

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
from this time on and for evermore.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**The Lord is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens.**

Who is like the Lord our God,
who is seated on high,
**who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?**

He raises the poor from the dust,
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
**to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.**

He gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the Lord!

Reading Two: Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the

heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-53

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Then [Jesus] 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. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him,

and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon *The Rev Gail Rodger*

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Prayers for Gifts Offered

Source of all joy, receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Keep us in the love of Christ and bring us to the vision of his glory;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Passing the Peace

During this Easter Season we stand in front of the empty tomb
forgiven and free.

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 Worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria; for our discernment in choosing a Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh, Bishop Lydia Mamkwa.

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

In our region, St Barnabas, The Rev. Dr. Travis O'Brian.

In our parish we pray for: Keith Brandsma and Keiko Hoshino; Doug and Bev Bowen; Jan Brister; Cathy Carphin; Wendy Clapp; Theresa Coutu.

In our community we pray for the St John the Divine Food Bank.

For the month of June, we pray for our ministry to Selkirk Senior Village.

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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People's Warden Adora Waters

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