

The Anglican Parish of St Peter and St Paul

June 1, 2025

Ascension Sunday



“Nourishing Faith and Community”

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn P 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 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,

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 Hymn: CP307 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.*

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.

Gospel Hymn CP307 When Long Before Time

(Text and melody: Peter Davison (1936-)1995 The Singer and The Song Augsburg Fortress)

*Though, down through the ages, the Song disappeared-
its harmonies broken and almost unheard-
the 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.*

Sermon: *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

A musical moment for reflection

Announcements

Prayers of the People

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 Celebration of the Eucharist

Hymn CP 465 Here in This Place New Light is Streaming

(Text and Music: Marty Haugen 1982 GIA Publications One License)
Co. One License)

*Here in this place new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken;
gather us in – the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young – our lives are a mystery;
we are the old – who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty;
gather us in – the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine for compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion*

lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

*Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in – all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

Prayer over the Gifts

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.**

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 through

Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his glorious resurrection appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory. Therefore we praise you with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn 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,

Eternal God, may we who share Christ's death and resurrection be one with him as he is one with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the risen and ascended 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

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.**

Sending Hymn: RHB I Feel the Winds of God
Today (tune CP508)

(Text: Jessie Adams 1863-1954, English Melody traditional Public Domain)

*I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn
with many a rift;
if hope but light the waters crest, and Christ my
bark will use,*

*I'll seek the seas at his behest and brave another
cruise.*

*It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful
tears,
until with braver thoughts arise, the purer brighter
years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should
be,
Lord let me feel your freshening breeze and I'll
put back to sea.*

*If ever I forget your love and how that love was
shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above, it bears your
name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me
drift
I feel the winds of God today, today my sail I lift.*

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 Lək'wəḡən 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 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.

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ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
ESQUIMALT

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