

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
June 22nd 2025
Home Church Connections
Second 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 Ləkʷəŋən 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,

O God our defender,

storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid.

Rescue your people from despair,

deliver your sons and daughters from fear,

and preserve us all from unbelief;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and ever. **Amen.**

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Reading One: 1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7), 8-15a

A reading from the First Book of Kings.

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.'

(Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.')

He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

**My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.**

When shall I come and behold
the face of God?

My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
‘Where is your God?’

These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.
Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.

By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock,
‘Why have you forgotten me?’
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?’

**As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
‘Where is your God?’**

**Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?**
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Psalm 43

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
**from those who are deceitful and unjust
deliver me!**

For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you cast me off?

**Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?**

O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;

**let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.**

Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
**and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.**

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,

my help and my God.

Reading Two: Galatians 3:23-29

A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 8:26-39

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Luke

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell

down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Announcements

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Prayers of the People

Prayers of Confession and Assurance

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love, infinite in mercy, and welcoming of sinners. 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.

Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of the Almighty, God the unnameable Alpha and

Omega, Jesus Christ, the love incarnate in the world, and the ever-present Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

Dismissal:

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Church of Bangladesh; for our discernment for a new Primate; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; for Diocese of New Westminster Bishop John Stephens; and for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee and in our region, we pray for St Luke Cedar Hill, The Rev. Daniel Fournier.

In our parish we pray for: Karen Hogg & Ross Benton, Barbara Anne Holt, Barbara Hooper, Graham & Licette How, Judy Ingram, and Aaron Isberg.

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 June, we pray for the SPSP ministry to those in Selkirk Seniors Village.

Parish of St Peter and St Paul

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ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
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