

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
October 26th 2025
Home Church Connections Service
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



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

Let us pray,

Lord God our redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery, free us from the tyranny of sin and death, and by the leading of your Spirit bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Joel 2:23-32

A reading from the book of Joel.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Then afterwards I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 65

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,

O you who answer prayer!

To you all flesh shall come.

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.

Happy are those whom you choose and bring near **to live in your courts.**

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;

you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.

You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;

the river of God is full of water;

you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, **softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.**

You crown the year with your bounty;

your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:9-14

God be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, on a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying,

“God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.’

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: *The Rev Gail Rodger*

Announcements

Stewardship Prayers 2025

Holy One, who knows only love, today we pray with specificity. Hear us we pray and let the Holy Spirit intercede on our behalf.

God, we have banking costs and we face payments of principal and interest on our diocesan loan. And while small, we want to honour our obligations. **Keep us faithful in our offerings.**

Dear God, we give thanks for the church building of St Peter and St Paul, our earthly place of worship. Surround us with your love and fill us with your spirit as we gather here. We pray that we can continue to maintain the physical sign of a heavenly home and so buy the supplies and do the maintenance as required. **Guide us in our giving and support of building supplies and maintenance.**

O God, in this beautiful place we offer you worship and praise, and we receive comfort and succor. It becomes for us, a safe haven from the world. But earthly matters intrude and we must insure the building that stands as a symbol of your love within our neighbourhood. **Help us to take on this responsibility with uncomplaining grace.**

We give thanks for the warmth and convenience of our modern buildings, and for those who work in the gas, hydro, and utility sectors, for garbage pick up and all who toil for our comfort. **Remind us again, of our**

comfortable lives as we consider our givings.

You call us again and again to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. Our community outreach is dependent on our Country Grocer receipt program. Thank you for the volunteers who sort and snip the receipts. Our gratitude overflows for the generosity of the neighbourhood that supports this ministry. **Sustain our pursuit of equality and justice while looking after the needs of others.**

Thank you God for our worship supplies and altar guild, for the bread and wine, reminding us of your constant sacrifice and abiding love. As often as we come to the table we remember and enter into the eternal mystery of your love. We give thanks for our altar guild members who give so freely of their time and talents to service our place of worship. Their presence is unseen but their work enhances and lends beauty to your glory. **Feed us at your table Lord and let your glory shine in all we do.**

We give thanks for the heavenly sounds and music prepared and delivered by our organist, Lawrence. Songs of praise, thanksgiving, adoration, joy and sadness are raised up, knowing you hear us and are ever compassionate. **Help us see the value in using our givings for music licensing, purchasing, and the skilled accompaniment costs within our budget.**

Our gratitude overflows for the fellowship and camaraderie that we have at our lunches and BBQ's. These times deepen our faith as we share with one another, offering all who come, unrestrained hospitality. **May we be able to continue to support this worthwhile part of our budget.**

O God, we thank you for your love and care manifested in the servant leadership of our priest, Rev Gail. Please give us strength and stamina to carry on our practice of giving and tithing, knowing wages are a major part of our costs. **Help us to remember our responsibilities and the need to support our rector, so that the work to which we are all called, that your kingdom come, may continue.**

We give thanks for all workers who keep your temple clean and pray

especially for our cleaner, Nicole. As Matthew calls the labourers to give them their pay, **remember us to do likewise.**

Dear God, Paul taught that just as the body is one and has many members, so all members of the body, though many as one body. So it is with the diocesan family. We pray for our diocesan family and **we commit our continuing financial support, that together, we may go forth to Love and Serve the cause of Christ.**

Dear God, Administration is a gift that is rarely appreciated. We give thanks for those who help with the administration of this parish. We give thanks for Michael, donating hours to the bookkeeping and the weekly email letter; and to all others, unseen by many but working administratively to make this parish run smoothly. Even with this generosity, administration has costs. Paper and pen, printing, copying, telephone and media are always a financial challenge. **We pray that we might supply these in abundance as we seek to further your work.**

God, as we pray to you about practical things like money, we do not forget to see the person beside us as a faithful and true servant, doing what they are able. We continually ask for your guidance going forward. Help us discern and manage our finances wisely – ever drawing us in closer to you. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11. 28.*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3. 16.*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1. 15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins: not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2. 1, 2.*

Let us humble confess our sins to Almighty God. (*Silence is kept*)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us,

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name.

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 our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord; And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator-Father, Redeemer-Son and Holy Spirit be among 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 world we pray for The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma); for our Primate the Right Reverend Shane Parker; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, Bishop Sam Rose; 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,
The Abbey Church, The Rev. Matthew W. Humphrey.

In our parish we pray for: Wendy Clapp, Tom Daggett and Annie Kung, Judith Davidson, Lynda and Michael Delaney, Ruth D'Hollander, John and Bridget Ducker, Patrick Dunae, and Ann and Ned Easton.

In our community we pray for St. John the Divine Food Bank and for those among us whose illness is addiction. For the month of October we pray for the Administration and Finance Ministry.

If you would like to make a donation with an online debit credit card simply scan the QR code below. You will receive a receipt from Canada Helps which then deposits the money directly to SPSP's bank account.



Thank you for your gift.

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
ESQUIMALT

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Rector The Rev. Gail Rodger 250-507-9941

Rector's Warden John Ducker

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