

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul

January 18th 2026

Home Church Connections Service

Second Sunday After Epiphany



“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,

Steadfast God, you have enriched and enlightened us by the revelation of your eternal Christ. Strengthen us to walk the path of his teaching, so that by word and deed and in the power of the Spirit we may manifest the gracious news of your faithfulness and love.

Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.'

And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

Thus says the Lord, the Redemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-12

Of David. A Psalm.

I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.

He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,
**and set my feet upon a rock, making my
steps secure.**

He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust,
**who do not turn to the proud, to those who go
astray after false gods.**

You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and
your thoughts towards us;
none can compare with you.

Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.

Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

Then I said, 'Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will,
O my God;
your law is within my heart.'

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;
**see, I have not restrained my lips, as you
know, O Lord.**

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
**I have spoken of your faithfulness and your
salvation;**

I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great congregation.

Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;
**let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe for ever.**

For evils have encompassed me without number;
**my iniquities have overtaken me, until I
cannot see;**

they are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails me.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

*Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
and our brother Sosthenes,*

*To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those
who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both
their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of
God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you
have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—
just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so
that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the
revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the
end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus*

Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: John 1:29-42

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, ‘Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, “After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.” I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.’ And John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, “He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.” And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.’

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, ‘Look, here is the Lamb of God!’ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi’

(which translated means Teacher), ‘where are you staying?’ He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas’ (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: The Rev Gail Rodger

Announcements

Hear O Israel

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 Intercession and Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship Communion setting 6 prayer of confession 2 p388)

Dear friends in Christ, let us confess our sin, in the presence of God and of one another. (*Silence is kept*)

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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 those who 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.

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

We pray for the The Church of South India (United); for Shane Parker, our Primate; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; for Diocese of Niagara, Bishop Susan Bell; for our own bishop, Anna Greenwood-Lee, and for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our region, we pray for Lutheran Church of the Cross, Pastor Lyndon Sayers.

In our parish we pray for

Victor Flett Sr., Victor Flett Jr., Sandra Flynn, Pat Fraser, Gail Gill, Karen Hogg and Ross Benton, Barbara Anne Holt, Barbara Hooper, Graham and Licette How, Judy Ingram, Faye and Roy Johnson, and Fred King.

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

For the month of January, we pray for those who do pastoral care.

If you are visiting St. Peter and St. Paul, welcome!

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.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of 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.

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