

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
July 12th 2026
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



Nourishing Faith and Community

Words of Welcome

The Gathering of the Community

In this time and from many places we gather on the ancestral lands the Lekwungen 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 in this 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 space 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,

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. May we find peace in your

service, and in the world to come, see you face to face; 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: Genesis 25:19-34

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

*'Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.'*

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the

field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.

I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.

I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.

Your decrees are my heritage for ever;
they are the joy of my heart.
I incline my heart to perform your statutes
for ever, to the end.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to

your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown

on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

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

Sermon *The Rev Gail Rodger*
Announcements
Prayers of the People

Prayers of Confession and Assurance

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

The Peace

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

And now as our Saviour Christ hath 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 and Dismissal

The grace of God uphold you, the peace of God surround you, the
love of God flow from you and be your strength as you go into the
world to love and serve;

The blessing of God be upon you today and forever.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

In the world wide communion, we pray for The Church of England; for our Primate, Bishop Shane Parker; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh, Bishop Lydia Mamkwa; 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: Fred King, Rhonda Koch, Rob Bagley and Teresa Krause, Leatrice Lam, Doreen Langmeed, Nico, Vannessa Wilson, and Hapatia Lohmann, Marge McIntosh, and Lynda Miller.

In our community we pray for the Rainbow Kitchen.

For the month of July, we pray for the Coffee Ministry.

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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