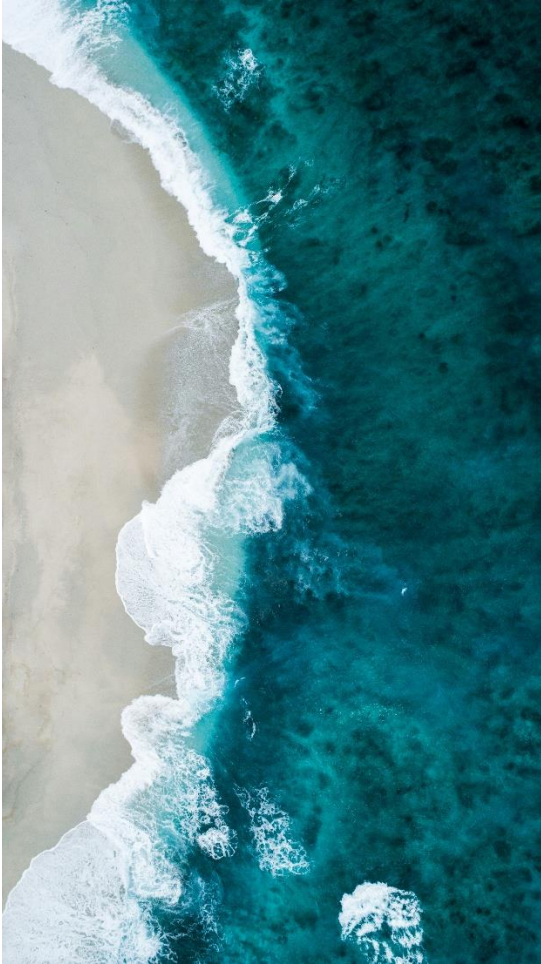


The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
September 13th 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Nourishing Faith
and Community

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn SGP44 Part of the Family

(Text and music: James Manley, 1984 CCLI)

Refrain

***Come in, come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.***

***We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.***

*You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family.*

*God is with us in this place,
like a mother's warm embrace.*

*We're all forgiven by God's grace
for we are a part of the family. **Refrain***

*Children and elders, middlers and teens,
singles and doubles and in-betweens,
strong eighty-fivers and streetwise sixteens,
for we are a part of the family.*

*Greeters and shoppers, long-time and new,
nobody here has a claim on a pew;
and whether we're many or only a few,*

*we are a part of the family. **Refrain***

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;

We are the branches, Christ is the vine.

*This is God's temple it's not yours or mine
but we are a part of the family.*

*There's rest for the weary and health for us all
there's a yoke that is easy and a burden that's small;*

*so come in and worship and answer the call
for we are a part of the family. **Refrain***

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.

Renewing our commitment

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

Let us pray,

Almighty God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-41

A reading from the book of Exodus

The angel of God who was going before the

Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had

followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 1 The Song of Moses
(Exodus 15.1–3, 6, 11, 13, 17–18)

I will sing to the Lord for his glorious triumph;
the horse and the rider he has hurled into the sea.

The Lord has become my strength and refuge;
the Lord himself has become my saviour.

He is my God and I will praise him;
my father's God and I will exalt him.

The Lord himself is a mighty warrior;
the Lord, the Lord is his name.

Your right hand, O Lord, is majestic in power;
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods,
holy, awesome, worker of wonders?

In steadfast love you led your people,
you guided your redeemed with your great strength.

You brought them in safety to your holy place,
and planted them firm on your own mountain.

You brought them into your own house.

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

A reading from the Paul's Letter to the Romans

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we

die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: In Christ Alone

(Text: Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend; music Irish traditional © 2002,
Thank you Music (KWY) (PRS) (admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing) CCLI
Number: 3350395.)

*In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease;
my comforter, my all in all;
here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*There in the ground his body lay;
Light of the world by darkness slain.*

*Then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am his and he is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ*

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of

that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

The Gospel of Christ Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Hymn: In Christ Alone

(Text: Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend; music Irish traditional © 2002,
Thank you Music (KWY) (PRS) (admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing) CCLI
Number: 3350395.)

*No guilt in life, no fear in death;
this is the pow'r of Christ in me.*

*From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
can ever pluck me from His hand;
'til he returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!*

Sermon *The Rev. Gail Rodger*
Musical Moment for reflection
Announcements

The Affirmation of Faith *(please stand)*

(Taken from Season of Creation ecumenical service which was adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
God made flesh,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

Prayers of the People

*With Thanksgiving and Remembrance for the
Merchant Navy (September 3rd)*

Let us pray

Almighty Lord, God, the Protector of all who trust in you, we commend to your keeping all those in the Merchant Navy who gave their lives on our behalf. And we pray that out of the fruits of their sacrifice, Canada may have a righteous and abiding peace. They performed their duty with bravery, confident that in their life or in their death you were their refuge, and we know you hold them in your ever loving arms. We entreat you, O Lord God so to turn the hearts of the people of this land to do good, trusting in your goodness, so that we are renewed to do your service, learning and honouring from the past and evermore moving into the future and giving you praise, from one generation to another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Confession and Assurance

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming of sinners and inviting us to table. Let us confess our sins, confident in

God's forgiveness.

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.**

(Please stand)

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 CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

Offering Hymn: CP 645 Come Down O Love
Divine

*(Text: Bianco de Siena (1350-1434) translated Richard Littledale (1833-1890)
and music: Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958) Oxford University Press, CCLI)*

*Come down, O Love divine!
seek out this soul of mine
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.*

*There let it freely burn
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let your glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and make my pathway clear, by your illuming.*

*Let holy charity
my outward vesture be,
and lowliness become my inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart
which takes the humbler part,
and for its own shortcomings
weeps with loathing.*

*And so the yearning strong
with which the soul will long
shall far surpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace
till we become the place
in which the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.*

Prayer over the Gifts

Merciful God, receive all we offer you this day.
Give us grace to love one another that your love
may be made perfect in us. We ask this in the name
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Our offering plate is not passed through the pews nor placed on the altar. Instead it symbolically resides by the font near the back of the church, a calling to all the baptized to be part of the kingdom in the practice of committed giving. If you would like to donate but missed the offering plate on your way in, it remains available briefly after the service.)

Eucharistic Prayer *(Please stand)*

*(Book of Alternative Services EP4 p201 Musical setting for the Sanctus
thanksgiving setting 1 CP719)*

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.

It is right to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast
expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the

planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

(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.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, “Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, 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.”

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ

our Lord.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

(musical setting: Gordon Light)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth
as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us. Save us from the time of trial, and
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours, now and for
ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

“I am the bread which has come down from
heaven,” says the Lord.

Give us this bread forever.

"I am the vine, you are the branches"
May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.

Invitation to table

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Musical selections accompany Communion

(Communion is offered at three locations in the following order: station one is at the back of the church near the candles for those who prefer to stand and/or are physically challenged by steps without railings; station two, brought to the pew; station three: at the altar rail)

Prayer after Communion (please stand)

Almighty God, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May your holy food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our 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.

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: CP418 Draw the Circle Wide

(Text and Music: Gordon Light (1944–).)

Refrain:

Draw the circle wide.

Draw it wider still.

***Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.***

*God the still point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. **Refrain***

*Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. **Refrain***

*Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door.*

***Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.***

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

The Anglican Church of Mexico; for our new Primate the Right Reverend Shane Parker; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Quebec, Bishop Bruce Meyers; 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, St Philip Oak Bay, The Rev. Allen Doerksen. |

In our parish we pray for: Lynda Millar; Joseph Montuz; Judy Parker; Doreen Peets; Mavis Pillar; Brian Poulsen; Don and The Rev Gail Rodger. |

In our community we pray for Neighbourhood House. |

For the month of September we pray for the our Food Drive. |

Parish of St Peter and St Paul



ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
ESQUIMALT

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Organist Lawrence Surges

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