

The Anglican Parish of  
St. Peter and St. Paul  
September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023  
Home Church Connections Service  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Season of Creation



## 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**

### 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,

Blessed are you Creator of all, to you be praise and glory forever. As your dawn renews the face of the earth, bringing light and life to all creation, bring hope to your people. May we rejoice in this day you have made, open our eyes to behold your presence, and strengthen our hands to work for justice for all creation, that the world may rejoice together and give you praise.

**Amen.**

### The Proclamation of the Word

## Reading One: Exodus 3:1-15

A reading from the book of Exodus.

*Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.*

*Then the Lord said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.' But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' He said, 'I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.'*

*But Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the Israelites and say to them, “The God of your ancestors has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to them?’ God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ He said further, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “I AM has sent me to you.” ’ God also said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you”’:  
This is my name for ever,  
and this my title for all generations.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered,

**O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.

**And the Lord made his people very fruitful, and made them**

**stronger than their foes,**

whose hearts he then turned to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants.

**Praise the Lord!**

Reading Two: Romans 12:9-21

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.*

*Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'*

*Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?*

*'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'*

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Sermon *The Rev Gail Rodger*

### Musical Moment

### Thanksgiving and Remembrance for the Merchant Navy

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.**

### The Affirmation of Faith

(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.**

## Announcements

## Prayers of the People

### Prayer of Confession

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

**Worldwide and in Canada**, we pray for The Anglican Church of Bangladesh; for Bishop Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Bishop Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Huron, Bishop Todd Townshend; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

**In our diocese** we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee and Lutheran Church of the Cross, Victoria, Pastor Lyle McKenzie and Pastor Lyndon Sayers.

**In our region** we pray for St Luke Cedar Hill, The Rev. Daniel Fournier.

**In our parish** we pray for: Betty Ann and Lew Townsend; Joan Vazina; Ann Walker; Rosemary Wallace; John and Miriam Wankiewicz.

**In our community** St. John the Divine Food Bank and those whose illness is addiction in our society.

**For the month of September** we pray for our upcoming autumn food drive.

**This week** we hold special prayers for the Merchant Navy and all they sacrificed so we may have freedom.

## 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

1379 Esquimalt Road

Victoria, BC V9A 3R4



ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL  
ESQUIMALT

Bishop The Rt. Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee

Rector The Rev. Gail Rodger 250-665-6814

Honorary Assistant The Rev. Pam Worthington

Rector's Warden Ann Easton

Peoples' Warden Licette How 250-857-1946

Organist Lawrence Surges

Safe Church Liaison Karen Hogg 250-386-6833

Envelope Secretary Ross Benton [givings@stpeterandpaul.ca](mailto:givings@stpeterandpaul.ca)

Parish Office Hours: by appointment only.

Office Phone: 250-386-6833

 [www.facebook.com/AnglicanParishOfStPeterAndStPaulVictoriaBcCanada/](https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanParishOfStPeterAndStPaulVictoriaBcCanada/)

a/

E-mail: [admin@stpeterandpaul.ca](mailto:admin@stpeterandpaul.ca)

Website: [www.stpeterandpaul.ca](http://www.stpeterandpaul.ca)

CCLI License No. 3233500

One License No. A739997

Charitable Tax No. 118787142 RR 000 0005