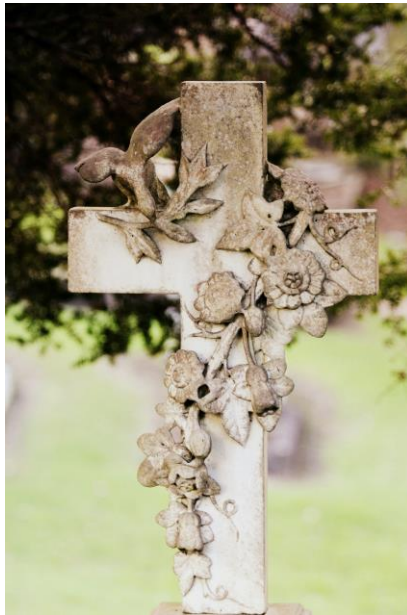


The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
August 4th 2024
Home Church Connections Service
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



Nourishing Faith and Community

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Words of Welcome

Gathering

In this time and from many places we gather on the ancestral lands the Lək'wəḡən 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 within this virtual 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 wherever we are, 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 sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy, and peace; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Reading One: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The king[David] gave orders to Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. And ten young men, Joab's armour-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you.' The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' The Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.'

The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.
It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Reading Two: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make

room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: John 6:35, 41-51

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to John

Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. No one can

come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon *The Rev Gail Rodger*

Announcements

Prayers of the People

To the bidding of Loving God, please response with Hear Our Prayer.

We pray for the church. **In the world**, we pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi. **In Canada**, we pray for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Yukon, Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

Enlighten all bishops, priests, and deacons with true knowledge and understanding of your word, that in their preaching and living they may declare your love clearly and show its truth. (*pause = one full breath*)

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

Bless all your servants who ministry with this diocese. we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; people the people and the Rev. Dr. Lynn Mills of Saint Mary of the Incarnation, Metchosin. (*short pause*)

In our region, we pray for the The Abbey Church, The Rev. Matthew W. Humphrey. Pour your grace upon them that they may serve others as Christ himself has served us, for the building up of his Body in love. (*pause = one full breath*)

We pray for the readying of hearts and minds for regional and synod conferences coming this autumn. Give us wisdom O God, to take your church forward.

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

We pray for peace in the world. To all nations, grant unity, peace, and concord. Raise up leaders who work for peace. Grant wisdom and insight to those who govern in Canada, and may grace, justice and mercy be their guide.

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection, and shield them in all dangers and adversities. (*pause = one full breath*)

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

We pray for creation and ask that Your Spirit be with all who teach and all who learn to live in harmony of the earth. Grant us abundant harvests, strength and skill to conserve the resources of the earth, and wisdom to use them well. (*pause = one full breath*)

We pray for all those affected by wildfire. Protect the firefighters, and all who support them. To those who have know so much loss, comfort them and help them heal. (*pause = one full breath*)

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

We pray for our community. To all people give dignity, food, and shelter. Provide for the refugees and the homeless, the unemployed, and all who are desolate and oppressed. Bless St. John the Divine Food Bank and those whose illness is addiction in our society. Bless the volunteers and the staff in the work they do and the clients who use the service. (*pause = one full breath*)

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

We pray for ourselves. In our parish we pray for Ruth D'Hollander; John and Bridget Ducker; Patrick Dunae; Ned and Ann Easton. (*1/2 pause*) Bless their lives and their homes.

For the month of August we pray for the ministry of building maintenance and repair.

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

We pray for those who are ill. Heal those who are sick in body or mind, and give skill and compassion to all who care for them. **READ THE NAMES HERE!** We have named those in our hearts and on our minds and ask that your Spirit be present to them for quiet mind and a calm heart. (*pause = one full breath*)

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn. (*pause = one full breath*)

Loving God, (*pause = wait for the parish to respond*)

Hear our prayer

We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ. (*pause and wait to say together*)
Amen.

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.

(from New Patterns for Worship Church of England)

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 has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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.
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
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.**

Dismissal:

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
Amen! We go in the name of Christ! Alleluia!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Yukon, Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; Anna, the people and the Rev. Dr. Lynn Mills of Saint Mary of the Incarnation, Metchosin.

In our region, we pray for The Abbey Church, The Rev. Matthew W. Humphrey.

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Parish of St Peter and St Paul

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