

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
August 25th 2024
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Nourishing Faith and Community

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Prelude

Words of Welcome

(please stand as clergy enter)

Opening Hymn RHB I Feel the Winds of God Today (tune CP508)

Text: Jessie Adams 1863-1954, English Melody traditional Public Domain)



*I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the waters crest, and Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at his behest and brave another cruise.*

*It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears,
until with braver thoughts arise, the purer brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be,
Lord let me feel your freshening breeze and I'll put back to sea.*

*If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above, it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift
I feel the winds of God today, today my sail I lift.*

Gathering

In this time and place 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 this house in prayer.

In this time and place 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 place, we are hallowed, expectant, one people in God.
**In the name of the Holy and Blessed One, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Gloria (sung)

**Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, glory to God on high,
Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, glory to God on high,
and on earth, peace to God's people, glory to God,
and on earth, peace to God's people, glory to God.**

Kyrie (sung)

**In peace, in peace, let us pray to the...
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy**

**For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
For the unity of all, let us pray to the....
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy**

**For your people here who have come to give you praise,
For the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the....
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy**

Let us pray,

Almighty God, we are taught by your word that all our doings without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (please be seated)

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

Reading One: 1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43
A reading from the first book of Kings

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O

Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, “There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.” Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

‘But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant’s prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, “My name shall be there”, that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

‘Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays towards this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling-place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!

Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Reading Two: Ephesians 6:10-20

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn CP425 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

(Text Henry van Dyke (1852-1933) Music Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827; arr. Ed Hodges (1796-1867) public domain)

*Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;
giver immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.*

Gospel Reading: John 6:56-69

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to John
Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, ‘This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?’ But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, ‘Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.’ For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, ‘For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.’

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, ‘Do you also wish to go away?’ Simon Peter answered him, ‘Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.’

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Hymn CP425 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

(Text Henry van Dyke (1852-1933) Music Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827; arr. Ed Hodges (1796-1867) public domain)

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother, all who live in love are thine;*

teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Sermon *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

A Moment for Reflection

Announcements

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD (please stand)

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)

Prayers of the People (please be seated)

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.

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!

Hymn Give Thanks

(Text and Music: Don Moen)

Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us"

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us"

Give thanks.

SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

Prayer over the Gifts

God of glory, receive all we offer this day as a symbol of our love, and increase in us that true and perfect gift. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Our offering plate is not passed through the pews or placed on the altar. Instead it is placed symbolically in front of 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. To set up your committed giving please speak with Judy Ingram, Treasurer.)

The Great Thanksgiving (please stand)

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Open your hearts.

We open to the fullness of God.

Feast at the banquet prepared from the foundations of the world.

We come, O Christ, in thanks and praise.

Holy and eternal One in whom we live and move and have our being our origin and our fulfillment we praise and thank you for drawing us to this sacred meal. From

the ocean of your primal love you fashioned the marvel of creation and beauty of human life. From this land of towering forests, mist laden coastlines, the rhythms of the tidal seas, storm and stillness you humble us to affirm the sacred gift of all creation and our stewardship for everything given and received.

Praise be to you, source of all life!

From the earliest days the peoples of these islands learned their dependence on your provision salmon and whale, elk and bear, and through song and ceremony, dance and painted cedar, hallowed these sacred relationships with all life.

Praise be to you, source of all life!

In Jesus Christ, you came into our world to reveal your glory, reconcile all peoples to yourself and make all things new in him. Now, gathered from many places, with a heart set on the pilgrim way we bring this bread and wine yearning for the nourishment of your Spirit and the fullness you promise in Jesus evermore praising you and saying

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, most holy One: for on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, gave it to all gathered and said: "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

"Behold, I am with you to the end of the age."

Therefore, God of all creation, we offer this bread of life, and this cup of salvation. Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts and upon us, that we may know Jesus in the breaking of the bread and follow him in lives of selfless service and courageous love.

Praise be to you, source of all life.

In the fullness of time reconcile all things in Christ, and bring us to that heavenly table, where every tear will be wiped away and we will feast anew.

Blessing, praise and thanksgiving be to you, Holy and Eternal One, Undivided Trinity, One God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The One who defeated death and injustice
is now present in this bread.

The One who offers our life promise and hope
is now present in this wine.

Breaking into our lives and community

we ask God for new life in Christ.

Invitation to table

Come to the banquet for all is now ready and all are welcome.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Communion is offered while musical selections

(Communion is offered at three locations: 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)

Let us pray,

Living God, increase in us the healing power of your love. Guide and direct us that we may please you in all things, for the sake 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

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of the Almighty, God the unnameable Alpha and Omega, Jesus Christ, the love incarnate in the world, and the ever-present Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Sending: Love Love Love Love (sung a capella)

(Tune: Rose, Rose Rose, public domain)

Love Love Love Love

The gospel in a word is love

Love your neighbor as your brother (or sister)

For God is love

Peace Peace Peace Peace

The gospel in a word is peace

Peace that passes understanding

Go live in peace

Joy Joy Joy Joy

The gospel in a word is joy

Joy that fills to overflowing

Go share the joy

Dismissal:

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

Welcome to all those visiting us at St. Peter and St. Paul.

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.

Washrooms are found in the hall, up the stairs, on the right.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Lək'wəṅən speaking peoples, including 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.

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Church in the Province of Central Africa; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Caledonia, Bishop David Lehmann; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; Saint Philip, Victoria, The Rev. Allan Doerksen.

In our region, we pray St Dunstan and the interim priest The Rev. Heather Robinson.

In our parish we pray for: Judy and Roy Haywood; Betty Hendry; Karen Hogg and Ross Benton; and Barbara Holt.

In our community we pray for Our Place Society, The Mustard Seed and those experiencing homelessness in our society.

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



ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
ESQUIMALT

Bishop The Rt. Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee

Rector The Rev. Gail Rodger 250-665-6814

Rector's Warden Ann Easton

Peoples' Warden Adora Waters

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