

The Anglican Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul
September 29th 2024
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Photo credit John Ducker: taken June 6, 2021 at the SPSP vigil for lost Indigenous children



**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

Prelude

Words of Welcome (*Please stand as clergy enters*)

Musical opening Hymn: Christ, Be Our Light

(Music and text: Bernadette Farrell © 1993, Published by OCP. One License)



*Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.*

Refrain

*Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

*Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. **Refrain***

*Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. **Refrain***

*Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. **Refrain***

*Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. **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.

Kyrie (said)

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

Renewing our commitment in the season of creation

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,

Grant O merciful God, that your church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

A reading from Esther

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, 'What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.' Then Queen Esther answered, 'If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.' Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, 'Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?' Esther said, 'A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, 'Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.' And the king said, 'Hang him on that.' So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19:7-14

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
**the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;**
the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
**the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**
the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring for ever;
**the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.**
More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
**sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
**But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.**
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
**Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Gospel Hymn: CP 457 Alleluia! Glory to God

(Text; Marty Haugen (1950-) Music:airs sur les hymns sacrez, odes and noels, 1623. GIA Publications Inc One License).

Refrain:

Alleluia alleluia, alleluia!

*Glory to God who does wondrous things
Let all the people God's praises now sing,
All of creation in splendour shall ring: Alleluia! (refrain)*

*See how salvation for all has been won
Up from the grave our new life has begun
Life now perfected in Jesus, the Son: Alleluia! (refrain)*

*Now in our presence the Lord will appear,
Shine in the faces of all of us here,
Fill us with joy and cast out all our fear: Alleluia! (refrain)*

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:38-50

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life

lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.' And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

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

Gospel Hymn: CP 457 Alleluia! Glory to God

(Text; Marty Haugen (1950-) Music:airs sur les hymns sacrez, odes and noels, 1623. GIA Publications Inc One License).

Refrain:

Alleluia alleluia, alleluia!

*Call us, Good Shepherd we listen for you
Wanting to see you in all that we do,
We would the gate of salvation pass through: Alleluia! (refrain)*

*Lord, we are open to all that you say,
Ready to listen and follow your way,
You are the potter and we are the clay: Alleluia! (refrain)*

*If we have love then we dwell in the Lord,
God will protect us from fire and sword
Fill us with love and the peace of his word: Alleluia! (refrain)*

Sermon: *The Bishop of Islands and Inlets, The Right Reverend Anna Greenwood-Lee*

A Musical Moment

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 Intercession and Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

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. (*Silence is kept*)

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.

Hymn: CP 585 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

(Text Albert Frederick Bayly (1901-1984) Oxford University Press; Music Benjamin White 1800-1879; 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship)

*Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.*

*Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.*

*As we worship, grant us vision till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.*

Prayer over the Gifts:

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ we behold your glory. Receive the offering of your people gathered before you, open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer *(Please stand)*

(Book of Alternative Services EP4 p201 Musical setting for the Sanctus is 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. .
Hosanaa 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. 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 (*Stand, Sit or kneel as your custom*)
(*musical setting Gordon Light*)

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

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 forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains have been gathered and made into this one bread

So may your faithful be gathered from the ends of the earth in your kingdom.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thank be to God.

The Communion

(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)

Instrumental musical selections are played during communion

Prayer after Communion *(please stand)*

Let us pray,

Great Creator of heaven and earth, strengthen the unity of your church, so that we who have been fed with holy things may fulfil your will in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Hymn: CP 575 Let Streams of Living Justice

(Text: William Whitla (1934-) Music Gustav Holst (1874-1967) J Curwen and Songs Ltd. One License.)

*Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth.
Give freedom's light to captives; let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading; the workers claim their rights,
The mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron power.
Abolish ancient vengeance. Proclaim your people's hour.*

*For the healing of the nations, for a peace that will not end.
For love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend.
Weave our varied gifts together: knit our lives as they are spun.
On your loom of time enrol us till the thread of life is run.
O great Weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one.
Dye our texture with your radiance, light our colours with your sun.*

*Your city's built for music: we are the stones you seek.
Your harmony is language. We are the words you speak.*

*Our faith we find in service, our hope in other's dreams.
Our love in hand of neighbour. Our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice, your way – the path untried:
Your truth – the heart of stranger, your life – the Crucified.*

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 Church in Hong Kong; for Bishop Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Bishop Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Fredericton, Bishop David Edwards; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee and the people of Saint Mary, Nanoose Bay, The Reverend Kirsten Evendon.

In our region we pray for St Mattias Victoria, The Rev. Collen Lassimer.

In our parish we pray for: Judy Parker; Doreen Peets; Mavis Pillar; Don and Gail Rodger; Peter Saunders; Annabelle Schuring; and Lynn Scott.

In our community the Neighbourhood House and those who are marginalized in our society.

For September we give thanks for the generosity of the community who gave to our autumn food drive yesterday.

Season of Creation

Christians around the world are invited to give particular attention to praying and caring for God's creation as part of the global Season of Creation, observed from September 1st to October 4th every year. General Synod 2019 passed a resolution adopting the Season of Creation in the Anglican Church of Canada as a time of prayer, education, and action and encouraging dioceses and parishes to participate.

To avoid confusion it is worth noting that the Season of Creation is not a liturgical season like Advent or Easter but rather a time of intentional prayer and reflection.

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.

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ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL
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