

Service of the Word May 23

We live, work and play on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish People – our church is on the traditional territory of the Scia’new Nation. We invite you to acknowledge the ancestral traditional lands from where you join us. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome.....

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit as we gather our hearts and minds from our homes and join as one as we prepare for worship.....

GATHERING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
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.**

Kid’s Time *The Kids, the Pellegrin family, and David and Linda*
Please welcome Margaret Pellegrin, who was baptized yesterday, and her family.

Hymn CP 408 Wind upon the Water

Rachel

Collect of the Day

Wally

Almighty and everliving God,
who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit
and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal,
keep us in the unity of your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

WORD

Helen

The Jewish festival of Pentecost is primarily one of thanksgiving for the first-fruits of the wheat harvest, but it is also a time when the Jews recall that on Mount Sinai God, through Moses, gave them the Law. This Law is summarized in the Decalogue, the Ten Commandments. In this story from Acts Jerusalem is crowded with Jews from a diverse collection of nations. They are all there for the Pentecost festival. Jesus disciples are also there and the events that take place has deep significance for the emerging church. A reading from Acts, chapter 2

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
 that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
 and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
 and your young men shall see visions,
 and your old men shall dream dreams.
 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
 in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
 and they shall prophesy.
 And I will show portents in the heaven above
 and signs on the earth below,
 blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
 The sun shall be turned to darkness
 and the moon to blood,
 before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Psalm 104:25-35, 37b

Rachel

[REFRAIN] Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

O Lord, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it. All of them look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust. You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works. He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being. May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the Lord. Hallelujah!

Paul's letter to the non-Jewish Christ-communities in Rome is both the longest and the last of the seven genuine Pauline letters that appear in our New Testament. Paul had not visited Rome when he penned this letter and did not know the people to whom he was writing. Perhaps for this reason – an unknown gentile readership – that Paul outlines his most developed theology; the product of his thinking since he was called to his mission to the gentiles. Paul has been described as a mystic, one who relied on the presence and the leading of the Spirit of God, as you will hear in the following reading from Romans, chapter 8:22-27.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Gospel*Wally*

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Good News of Jesus Christ according to John 15:26-27, 16:4-15

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

‘I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Gospel of Christ
Thanks be to God!

SERMON*Pastor John Grim*

Hymn CP 649 Breathe on Me, Breath of God

*Allison on Harp***Confession and Absolution***Wally*

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy.
 God welcomes sinners and invites them to God’s 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 neighbour as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
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. Amen.**

**Almighty God have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in eternal life: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession of Faith

Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind.
This is the first and the greatest commandment.
The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers of the People

Ruth

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using a version from the New Zealand Prayer Book:

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come
on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Announcements

- * Wardens
- * others in the congregation
- * clergy
- * issue discussion room:
 1. Old growth logging/Fairy Creek, moderated by Ruth Nichol.

Hymn CP 656 She Comes Sailing on the Wind

Shirley

Benediction

Wally

The Lord bless us and keep us,
the Lords face shine on us with grace and with mercy
and the Lord look upon us with favour + and give us peace. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Be at peace, and love and serve the Lord and your neighbours. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God