

# Christ Church Gabriola

## A Collaborative Anglican – United Church

### Open to All



## Home Church

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

### May 1, 2022

*Pat Armstrong and Betty Schultze*

*We acknowledge these lands upon which we worship are the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.*

*Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*

#### **Preparing the Space Around Us**

*Welcome if you are gathering on zoom or if you are worshipping at home with the bulletin. We are one community and all part of the body of Christ. I invite you to prepare the space around you so that for the next hour you can be fully in this worship experience, not to keep out the realities of the world, rather to focus us in the midst of it all on God. If you need to go and get something or shift something around you, feel free.*

#### **Preparing the Space Within Us**

*Let us prepare now the space within us for a time of worship. I invite you to sit quietly, perhaps with feet on the floor, taking a couple of deep breaths and bring yourself into this moment. Open yourself to the presence of God who is with us and within us . . . as you intentionally open yourself to God, open yourself also to what you need from this time of worship.*

#### **Greeting**

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

**All: And also with you**

#### **Call to Worship**

One: Join me on the Way, and our eyes shall see a heavenly light.

**All: Lead us up the higher road, even if the light should blind us.**

One: Join me on the Way, and our ears shall hear a heavenly voice.

**All: Lead us up the higher road, even if the voice should deafen us.**

One: Join me on the Way, and our lives shall gain a heavenly cause.

**All: Lead us up the higher road, even if the cause should test us.**

#### **Opening Prayer**

*Please join us in the opening prayer.*

**Oh Lord, appear to us in a vision, though the glory of your face should make us shield our eyes. Speak to us a revelation, though the power of your voice should make us cover our ears.**

**We do not know who you are. We do not know what we do. Oh God if you would make us your chosen instruments, if you would have us be faithful disciples, blind us, that we might see you more clearly; deafen us, that we might hear you more truly. Then we will know more fully whose we are and who we can become. Amen.**

#### **Hymn: Amazing Grace v. 1, 2**

**VU #266**

*Please join Pat as she sings the first two verses...*

<sup>1</sup> Amazing grace, How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

<sup>2</sup> 'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Heavenly Father, although we try, we know that there are days when we fall short of what we know you desire for us. Too many times there are emotions that overwhelm us and so we act out, forgetting about kindness, respect for others and ourselves. Help us to be patient, to practice restraint when speaking out, to recognize our follies, and to be motivated to do better. We know that each of us must do our part to create a more peaceful, compassionate world and we pray for your guidance. In Jesus' name. Amen**

*Silent Prayer of Confession*

### **Assurance of Grace**

We know that we are the beloved children of God. We know, God, that you know our hearts, and our willingness to do better. We can rest assured that you are with us, loving and caring for us through all our tumultuous ups and downs. We thank you God, for your faithfulness and your love.

### **Peace of Christ**

*Please unmute your microphones for the passing of the peace.*

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you all.

**N-Z:** *The Peace of Christ be with you!*

**A-M:** *And also with you!*

### **First Reading: Acts 9:1-6(7-20)**

Reader: Shelagh Huston

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.'

### **Second Reading: Psalm 30**

Reader: Angela Nutter

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,  
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.

O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,  
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment;  
his favour is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.

As for me, I said in my prosperity,  
'I shall never be moved.'

By your favour, O Lord,  
you had established me as a strong mountain;  
you hid your face;  
I was dismayed.

To you, O Lord, I cried,  
and to the Lord I made supplication:  
'What profit is there in my death,  
if I go down to the Pit?  
Will the dust praise you?  
Will it tell of your faithfulness?  
Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!  
O Lord, be my helper!'

You have turned my mourning into dancing;  
you have taken off my sackcloth  
and clothed me with joy,  
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.  
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

### **Gospel Reading**

Reader: Shelagh Huston

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: The Good News of Jesus Christ according to John;

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **John 21: 1-19**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

One: This is the Gospel of Christ;

**All: Praise be to Jesus Christ**

**Reflection:**

***Casting the Net***

*Silent Reflection*

### **A New Creed**

*Let us affirm our faith with churches around the world with A New Creed*

**We are not alone,**

**we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus,**

**the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others**

**by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Prayers of the People

One: God of Light,

**All: Hear Our Prayers**

## Lord's Prayer

**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 for ever.**

## Offering Prayer

Loving God, we give thanks for the many blessings we receive in community. May the gifts we offer help to pay forward these blessings to places of need in the world.

## Hymn: *Morning Has Broken* v. 1, 3

*Please join Pat as she sings verses 1 and 3.*

<sup>1</sup> Morning has broken

Like the first morning,

Blackbird has spoken

Like the first bird.

Praise for the singing!

Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing

Fresh from the Word!

<sup>3</sup> Mine is the sunlight,

Mine is the morning,

Born of the one light

Eden saw play.

Praise with elation,

Praise every morning,

God's re-creation

Of the new day!

Paddy Waymark

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

Iona Community

*If you are with another person, you're invited to bless each other, taking every other line.*

One: The Creator's blessing be yours on your road, on your journey, guiding you, cherishing you.

**N-Z:** *The Son's blessing be yours, wine and water, bread and stories, feeding you, challenging you.*

**A-M:** *The Spirit's blessing be yours, wind and fire, joy and wisdom, comforting you, disturbing you.*

**All: The Angel's blessing be yours, on your house, on your living, guarding you, encouraging you. Let us walk together, a community on a journey, sustained in God's blessing. Amen!**

One: Let us go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## Thank You

VU #409