

A PILGRIM'S WAY

Saturday, September 3

What is this all about?

The Social and Ecological Justice Working Group of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon has organized a series of pilgrimages in different regions of the Province to help Anglicans reconnect with the spiritual practice of pilgrimage while exploring the foundational relationship between Christian faith, justice and the environment.

What is a pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a journey that is undertaken with intention and in a spirit of prayer for a reason other than simply to get somewhere. There are many reasons to make a pilgrimage, alone or in community. Pilgrimages can be long or short—a half day, to a week, or for months. Some people break a pilgrimage into short sections; others have the opportunity for longer periods of time and travel. Time or circumstance are not the most important factors in making a pilgrimage. Intention and its first cousin, desire, are the most important requirements for a fruitful pilgrimage.

Why this pilgrimage now?

This series of pilgrimages is designed to refurbish our respect for, delight in and engagement with creation. We do so knowing very well that creation itself is injured; God's creation is in critical condition, crying for health and recovery. We know the effects of the climate emergency in our front and back yards. A deep engagement with the earth, mobilized by the physical discipline of walking, from one physical point to another, with a clear destination in sight, with other like-minded pilgrims will generate hope and resilience in a new community with other travelers.

What to expect

A short gathering at St Thomas, a vigorous three-hour walk, hills (but not mountains), a public restroom about every hour (as required), worship and prayer, dinner and fabulous conversation.

What to bring

A water bottle, weather appropriate gear, a snack if you will need it, your phone if you regularly carry one.

Our day

12:30 Arrival at St Thomas, cars ferried to Holy Cross for the end of the day

13:00 Gather at St Thomas for prayer and preparation

13:30 Set out

16:50 Stretch break

17:00 Eucharist at Queen Elizabeth Park

17:45 Dinner and conversation at Holy Cross, 4580 Walden Street

Other Details

- Please ensure we have your waiver. The primary purpose is to have your medical information in case of an emergency.
- Please advise the team if you have relevant life-threatening allergies (for example bees) and ensure someone knows where your EpiPen is.
- We will assume we have permission to use your image to promote pilgrimage across the province unless you tell us otherwise.
- Expect to take responsibility for your safety and health--we will honour and respect your boundaries if you need to stop early, and will assume that you can catch a bus or a cab or call a friend to pick you up if needed.

Our Route

