



Creation Season

Listen to the Voice of Creation

September 25, 2022

10 am Creative Expressions Service

Priest: The Reverend Sharon Smith

Interim Musician: Rob Gloor

Administration: Natasha Stegemann

Wardens: Robb Watt, Linda Robertson, Chris Wensley

St. Catherine's Mission, Vision and Values

St. Catherine's Anglican Church, near the heart of Edgemont Village in North Vancouver on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) and səliilíwətaɣ̓ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, is a contemporary community of Christian seekers.

We welcome you to join us in the journey. We provide a place of spiritual growth through Christ and we respond with gratitude for God's abundance in our lives through service to our brothers and sisters in the world.

Our **Vision** is to:

- Be an inclusive and thriving community of faith for all generations
- Continually invite others to join us in our journey of faith and Christian discipleship
- Honour the strengthening of relationships and development of community, both within our walls and outside them
- Minister to those in need in Christ's name

Our Values:

St Catherine's is a community that aspires to be:

Welcoming, Inclusive, Curious, Creative,
Sustainable, Caring and Humble



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SAINT CATHERINE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Anglican Church of Canada - Diocese of New Westminster
Situating on the unceded traditional Coast Salish territory
of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) and səliilwətaʔ (Tsleil-
Waututh) First Nations

*A Fresh Expression is a form of church for our changing culture,
this liturgy is co-created by members of our community to
incorporate contemporary Anglican Spirituality into worship.*

GATHERING

Blessing of Children

Welcome & Intention: Rev Sharon Smith

Presider: Let us take a moment of stillness and
remember why we are here.

We acknowledge with respect that we worship
on the traditional and unceded territories of
the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) and
səliilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.

Let us pray that we may live more deeply
into the calls to action from Canada's Truth
and Reconciliation Commission.

**All: May the living Christ lead us all on
pathways of reconciliation and peace.**

The Altar and votive candles are lit for the service.

Presider: We light this candle in the name of Creator,
We light this candle in the name of Christ.
We light this Candle in the name of the Spirit.

All: Amen

Gathering Song: Draw the Circle Wide

Refrain

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.
Let this be our song: no one stands alone.
Standing side by side, draw the circle wide...

God the still-point of the circle
Round you all creation turns
Nothing lost but held together
in God's gracious arms *Refrain*

Let our hearts touch far horizons
So encompass great and small
Let our loving know no borders
Faithful to God's call *Refrain*

Let the dreams we dream be larger
Than we've ever dreamed before
Let the dream of Christ be in us
Open every door! *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day: *(Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona)*

Presider: Creator Spirit, wellspring of our lives,
as the refreshing rain falls on the just and
unjust alike,

**All: refresh us with your mercy
who knows our own injustice.**

Presider: As the stream flows steadily on,
defying all the odds of stone and water

**All: flow over every boundary and border
that separates us from each other.**

Presider: As the waters of baptism wash us
and welcome us

**All: renew us now in newness of life
and unity of love. Amen.**

Opening Poem: Die before you Die *by Rumi;*
Trans. by Camille and Kabir Helminski

O Generous Ones,
Die before you die,
even as I have died before death
and brought this reminder from Beyond.
Become the resurrection of the spirit
so you may experience the resurrection.
This becoming is necessary
for seeing and knowing
the real nature of anything.
Until you become it,
you will not know it completely,
whether it be light or darkness.
If you become Reason,
you will know Reason perfectly.
If you become Love,
you will know Love's flaming wick.

Song of Preparation: My Soul Sings *(Mary's Magnificat)*

Open my eyes to see
The wonderful mystery of love
Falling into you
I'm drawn to the gravity of love, love, love
We're standing still in a moment of eternity
Where worlds collide and
I feel the breath of heaven over me

Refrain

My soul sings,
My soul sings,
My soul sings
How I love you
(Repeat)

[Verse 2]

Open the page and see
The wonderful history of love, love
I start and end with you
I'm pulled to the gravity of love, love, love
We're standing still in a moment of eternity
Where worlds collide and
I feel the breath of heaven over me

Refrain

My soul sings,
My soul sings,
My soul sings
How I love you
(Repeat)

Hearing the Story

In this wisdom story, Jesus uses radical opposites to help us discover non-binary thinking. The distinctions between rich and poor are challenged in the face of human suffering. At the centre of this story is a chasm or abyss. It ends with the foreshadowing of Christ's resurrection.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 (NRSV)

- A story of a great chasm and compassion fatigue (PB)
- A story of a great chasm and co-dependency (SS)

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31 (First Nations Version)

- A story of a sovereign's compassion (EB)
- A story of a small act of creation justice (AW)

In the stillness we ponder:

- I wonder how we traverse a chasm.
- I wonder how compassion is cultivated.
- I wonder what part suffering plays.

Prayer

Prayers of Concern: *(Written and led by Deborah Foster)*

Leader: Beloved Christ,
I am overwhelmed these days
with the state of the world,
and my own inadequacies.
I look for ways to help but it seems two steps
back for every one step forward.
Lord, have mercy.

*Choir: Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn
for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.*

Leader: I am aware I fail to show
the reality of your love
to those who suffer.
When I can't even love myself,
how can I help others?
Christ, have mercy.

*Choir: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.*

Leader: Being your presence in this world
is very challenging.
Many who profess to follow you
cause more division and injustice than healing.

Leader: Standing for truth and mercy too often invites misunderstanding, indifference, and abuse from every quarter.
Lord, have mercy.

*Choir: Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted
for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when people revile
you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way,
they persecuted the prophets before you.*

Leader: Tree of Life, River of Mercy,
Ocean of Compassion

**All: We give ourselves anew to
you this moment of this day,
each day and every day,
for You are with us.
Thanks be to God.**

Kyrie Eleison (Lord Have Mercy)

Leader - Lord Have Mercy

All - Lord Have Mercy

Leader - Christ Have Mercy

All - Christ Have Mercy

Leader - Lord Have Mercy

All - Lord Have Mercy

Presider: We offer you this confession,
**All: Forgive in us what has gone wrong,
Repair in us what is wasted,
Reveal in us what is good,
Amen.**

Passing the Peace:

Presider: May the peace of God – Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit be always with you, and those you love.

People: And also with you.

The community are invited to gesture to one another a sign of peace, respecting social distancing.

Communion

As we sing this song, you are invited to gather around the Table of Friendship. A place where we remember Jesus.

Table Song: As We Gather at Your Table

As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.

Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us,
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

The Story of the Table: Rev. Sharon

Communion:

*All people are welcome to receive Communion of one kind
(Wafers or Bread), or Communion of both kinds.*

*Gluten free wafer are available upon request.
Please sanitize your hands before receiving.*

*While the communion is being administered, we respectfully
ask that you keep the silence.*

Candle lighting is welcomed during communion.

Communion Music: Instrumental

On the Way

Community Announcements

A Franciscan Blessing:

Presider: May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

People: May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

Presider: May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain to joy.

People: And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. Amen.

Sending out Song: Like a Healing Stream

Like a healing stream in a barren desert, Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth, God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding, promising revival and rebirth ... like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, Spirit water comes to nourish tiny seed, God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation, yearning for an end to want and need ... like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction, calling for
an end to hate and war ... like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow: God
will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong,
like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

Parting Words:

Presider: Go be makers of peace, and bearers of
compassion in our suffering world.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude.

Thank you for ministering this morning:

Music: Rob Gloor, and Singers

Eucharistic

Ministers: Nancy Sunderland and Pauline Barrett

Coffee Group: Penny Zuk, Lynn Spence and Elizabeth
Barratt

Greeters: Gillian Holland and Marion Porter

Altar Guild: Nancy Sunderland

Readers: Sharon Fedorak and Tony Dodd

Intercessor: Deborah Foster

Livestream: Mermi

Sound: Cody Spence



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