

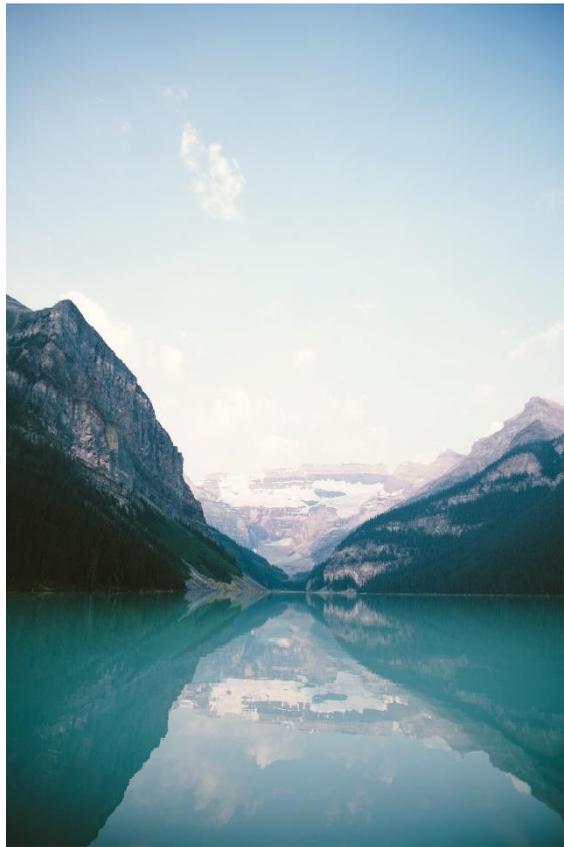
The Anglican Parish of

St. Peter and St. Paul

January 15 2023

Home Church Connections Service

Second Sunday After Epiphany



“Nourishing Faith and Community”

## Words of Welcome

### 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**

**Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.**

Let us pray,

Steadfast God, you have enriched and enlightened us by the revelation of your eternal Christ. Strengthen us to walk the path of his teaching, so that by word and deed and in the power of the Spirit we may manifest the gracious news of your faithfulness and love.

**Amen**

### The Proclamation of the Word

#### Reading One: Isaiah 49:1-7

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

*Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my*

*mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.'*

*And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says,  
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'*

*Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,  
'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 40:1-12

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,**

and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

**He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.**

Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust,

**who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.**

You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts towards us; none can compare with you.

**Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.**

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.

**Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

Then I said, 'Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

**I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.'**

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;

**see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.**

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;

**I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.**

Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;

**let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.**

For evils have encompassed me without number;

**my iniquities have overtaken me, until I cannot see;**  
they are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails me.

Reading Two: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

A reading from Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are  
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those  
who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both  
their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord  
Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of  
God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you  
have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every  
kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among  
you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for  
the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to  
the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus  
Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of  
his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: John 1:29-42

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

*The next day he[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'*

*The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).*

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

Sermon: *The Rev Gail Rodger*

Announcements

Hear O Israel (*please stand*)

**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, and with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment.**

**The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.**

Confession and Absolution  
(*Iona Traditional*)

Dear friends in Christ, not out of dread or fear, but believing that God is faithful to forgive, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer. (*Silence is kept*)

**Eternal God, maker of the skies above,  
Lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,  
Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters,  
in earth, sea and sky you are there.  
O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls,**

**in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, your presence is around us, and we give you thanks, but when we have not touched but trampled your creation, when we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but rejected you in the poor, forgive us, and hear our plea for mercy.**

Listen to the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: “Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace, come, follow me.”

**Lead us now, Holy God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries, Glory! Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Accept and bless, O God, the gifts we offer and pour out upon us, your Spirit of abundant giving; that as we have freely received, so we may freely give, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### Prayers of the People

##### The Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we**

**forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. 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

The blessing of the Holy Trinity; the loving Creator, who is the source of all being, of Jesus Christ who is the love incarnate in the world, and the ever present Holy Spirit, hold you, surround you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Dismissal:**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Calgary, Bishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson and Indigenous Bishop Sidney Black; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee; and the interim priest in charge The Rev. Deb Rivet and the faithful people of Saint Philip, Cedar.

In our region, we pray for Christ Church Cathedral; The Rev Ross Bliss and the Rev. Jeannine Friesen and The Rev Canon Ian Powell.

In our parish we pray for Leatrice Lam; Doreen Langmeed, Rick and Charlotte Lawson, Nico Lohmann and Vanessa Wilson and Hapatia and Aurelia Lohmann.

In our community we pray for Neighbourhood House and those who are marginalized in our society.

For the month of January, we pray for our Pastoral Care Team.

Welcome to all those visiting us at St. Peter and St. Paul.

We welcome saints, seekers and sinners as we live into a life in Christ, learning about and from one another as we worship God together. Christ binds us together in love through our diversity. If you are comfortable, please give us your name and address so we can add you to our weekly prayer list. We are looking forward to getting to know you better.

### Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of 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.

### **Housing needed for a Syrian Refugee Family**

Back in 2015, Esquimalt United Church and the broader Esquimalt community were raising funds and mobilizing to welcome a small Syrian refugee family of 3: mom, dad, and a then 2-year-old son (who is now 9 years old). After 7 long years, during which this family has lived hand-to-mouth in Turkey, they are finally able to come to Canada, and will be arriving around January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The immediate need is accommodation. We're seeking a 2-bedroom suite for the last week in January, to tide us over to February when we hope to have permanent accommodation. And we're also looking for leads on a longer-term 2-bedroom apartment, beginning in February. If you can help, please contact Susan Gage ([susanmgage@gmail.com](mailto:susanmgage@gmail.com)) or Bill Emery ([waemery@telus.net](mailto:waemery@telus.net)).

AGM IS COMING SOON!

REPORTS ARE DUE BY THE END OF JANUARY.

PLEASE EMAIL YOURS TO THE OFFICE AT [admin@stpeterandpaul.ca](mailto:admin@stpeterandpaul.ca)

Reports that are expected include:

Building Memorial Fund

Rector's Report

Wardens' Report

Nominating Committee Report

Treasurer's Report

Altar Guild

Church and Hall Maintenance

Gardening and Landscape

Envelope Secretary

Pastoral Care

Safe Church

Mission and Outreach

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