
*This service is Livestreamed via Facebook and the Parish website.
We welcome everyone worshipping with us today whether in person or online.*

The Gathering of the Community

Words of Welcome and Acknowledgment

We give thanks that we, work, play, and worship on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples including the Katzee, Tsawwassen, Semiahmoo and Kwantlen Nations. May our words and our actions reflect our awareness and appreciation of this.

Processional Hymn – CP#393: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

The Greeting

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.

The Collect for Purity

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.

Children's Focus

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

Almighty God,
through the waters of baptism
your Son has made us children of light.
May we ever walk in his light
and show forth your glory in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading – 1 Samuel 16: 1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the

Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Hymn: CP# 520: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Second Reading – Ephesians 5: 8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn –CP# 179 Tree of Life 1,4 6e

Tree of life and awesome mystery, In your death we are reborn,
Though you die in all of history,
Still you rise with every morn (x2)

Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit, come inflame our hearts anew,
We may all your joy inherit,
If we bear the cross with you. (x2)

**Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
As your gospel shining bright. (x2)**

The Gospel – John 9: 1-41

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to be-come his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily:

The Reverend Robin Ruder Celiz

The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy. God welcomes sinners and invites them to this table. Let us confess our sins confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

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 neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
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 you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn – CP#397 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Prayer over the Gifts

God of light,
your Word brings to us a new vision of your glory.
Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth,
because you bid your faithful people
to cleanse their hearts
and to prepare with joy for the paschal feast;
that reborn through the waters of baptism
and renewed in the eucharistic mystery,
we may be more fervent in prayer
and more generous in the works of love.
Therefore we raise our voices to you in praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.
On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, "Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving
to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.
We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament
of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ,
and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.
**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. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

The Communion

**The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God**

Please proceed to the altar for communion as directed, we ask that you sanitise your hands before receiving Communion.

Prayer after Communion

**Father,
through your goodness
we receive your Son in word and sacrament.
May we always have faith in him,
Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

The 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

May the Lord Jesus who serves with wounded hands,
teach you to serve others.

May the Lord Jesus, who walks on wounded feet,
walk with you to the end of your road.

May the Lord Jesus who serves with a wounded heart, be your love forever.
Whenever you go out, may you see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet,
and may everyone see the face of Jesus in you.

And the Blessing of the God of Hope,
the God of Compassion and the God of Life be with you,
and those you care for, this day and always. **Amen**

Sending Hymn – CP#500 Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Notices and Prayer List for the week beginning 19th March 2023

To assist the office, please ensure that any items for the Notices are received

before Noon on Wednesday.

The flowers by the altar this morning are given for the glory of God by Wayne & Heather Herd in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

We pray for the whole Anglican Church of Canada – we pray especially for our primate, Archbishop Linda Nichols. We pray also for the Rt. Rev'd Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal as well as the elimination of racial discrimination.

Anglican Communion – we pray for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

In our Diocesan Cycle - we pray for our Bishop, the Rt. Rev'd John Stephens. We also pray for: St. George, Maple Ridge - the Rev'd David Edgerton, the Rev'd Melody Pearson; St. George, Fort Langley - the Venerable Kelly Duncan, the Rev'd Eileen Nurse, the Rev'd Karen Saunders;

The Street Outreach Initiative - the Rev'd Matthew Johnson.

We pray for our companion diocese of Northern Philippines. We pray for our own twinned parish of Holy Apostles, Abatan, and their priest, Father Joey Napat-a.

In all these prayers for the church near and far, we pray for the people and clergy and for the ministries flowing from these places into the communities.

In our Parish Cycle we pray for: Juliette Kennedy, Bob & Janet Kitching and Reg Labinsky. We pray for their work, ministry, and families here and away.

Notices

Sunday School

Our Sunday School program will be starting up again, many thanks to Fil Sotana and Sarah Vinu for taking the initiative in this important ministry.

The general format for Sunday School will include a brief Children's Focus at the beginning of the service. Sunday School then takes place in the upper hall, returning back to the service towards the conclusion of the Prayer of the People.

As this is a re-start with some renewed and fresh program material, the Sunday School will be entering a Pilot Period over Lent where there will be opportunity for Fil and Sarah to determine what is working and how this ministry can grow. Please spread the word among your neighbours and friends who may be interested in participating again in Sunday School.

For more information and registration, please contact Fil at: fil_sotana@hotmail.com or phone, 778-828-4057.

Celebration of Life for Sarah Sergius RIP

We commend to almighty God our sister in Faith, Sarah Sergius. Sarah died in hospital surrounded by family last week. A Celebration of Life and Memorial Service will be held at St. Helen's on April 1 @ 1pm.

Grant eternal rest unto Sarah Sergius O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Lunch Bunch

Attendance needs to be confirmed by today March 19th with Glenda. Lunch Bunch meets on March 23 at 11:30am in the Church Hall.

Important Dates

March 21, Tuesday - PARISH COUNCIL MEETS IN THE CHURCH HALL AT 7:00 P.M. Council members, please confirm your attendance with Lynn or Fr. Robin.

April 6, MAUNDY THURSDAY - Lent ends, we will begin with a Pot-Luck dinner at 5:30 p.m. Marking the night of the Last Supper, then we will move to the Church for the Maundy Thursday Eucharist.

April 7, GOOD FRIDAY - service at 10:00 a.m. Stations of the Cross

April 8, EASTER VIGIL - service at 7:00 p.m. The fire, made of dry wood, begins the liturgy of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. It represents Christ's resurrection. While the fire is being blessed we pray "Father, we share in the light of your glory through your Son, the light of the world."

April 9, EASTER SUNDAY - service at 10:00 a.m. Resurrection Sunday! The Alleluia's are back

June 3, Saturday - Parking Lot Yard Sale - start gathering your goods, more information to come.

Prayer Requests to the Prayer Circle – please be in touch with Judy Nicholson who will receive and forward your prayer requests to the prayer circle. If you do not have her contact details, please send an email to the office email address and it will be passed on to her for distribution.

Altar Flowers – Please consider providing for the flowers placed on the Altar to the glory of God, in celebration, in thanksgiving, or in memory of loved ones. The cost is usually in the \$40 - \$50 range. Contact Heather Herd for details. You may make your donation by cheque made out to St. Helen's Anglican Church and send it in the mail or leave it in the offering plate on a Sunday or by Interac e-Transfer. The email address to transfer electronically is: giving2sthelen@gmail.com

This Week's Ministry Team

Officiant/Preacher– The Rev'd Robin Ruder Celiz

Music – Matthew Ma

Crucifer – Alex Mason

Psalmist and Prayers of the Community – Cathy Anderson

Lay Administration – Janette Bulkan and Kelly Foulds

Readers – Aparna Chatterjea and Jane Denton

Greeters – Sarah Vinu and Vinu Jacob

Livestream Tech – Zoltan Barabas/Simon Lee/Tom Beneteau

Altar Guild – Judy Glanville and Carol Young

Fellowship Servers – the Lah family

Next week's Ministry Team

Server – Wendy Russell

Prayers of the Community – John Palmer

Readers – Cynthia Richards and Matthew Ma

Lay Administration – Vee & Edward Villar

Greeters – Glenda Colquhoun and Pat Nociar

Altar Guild – Lynn Turner and Jane Denton

Fellowship Servers – Zoltan Barabas and Anil Richards

Contact Details for the Rector - Father Robin Ruder Celiz

If you would like to contact Robin, his details are as follows:

Email: sainthelensrector@gmail.com

Mobile: 604 379 8966

To Schedule a visit or to check in use this link:

<https://calendly.com/sainthelensrector/visit-fr-robin>

Parish Office email: churchoffice@shawbiz.ca

Phone Number: 604 581 4800