

The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
May 14th 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter



“Nourishing faith and community”

Prelude

Words of Welcome *(Please stand as clergy enters)*

Musical opening All Are Welcome

(Text and music: Marty Haugen (1994) GIA Publications; One License)



*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live.
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of
grace.*

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome

All are welcome in this place.

*Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and
true.*

*Where all God's children dare to seek, to dream God's reign anew
Here the cross shall stand as witness, and a symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus*

All are welcome, all are welcome

All are welcome in this place.

*Let us build a house where love is found, in water, wine and wheat.
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us.*

All are welcome, all are welcome

All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach, beyond the wood and stone

to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.

*Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.*

***All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.***

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard

and loved and treasured, taught and claimed, as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,

let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.

***All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.***

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**

Gloria (sung)

(Daniel Schutte Mass of Christ One licence)

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest
And on earth, peace on earth
Peace to people of goodwill.**

**We praise you, we bless You
We adore you, we glorify You
We give you thanks,
For your great glory.
Lord God heavenly King,
O God Almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.
You take away the sin of the world,
Receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand
The right hand of the Father
Have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One
You alone are the Lord.**

**You alone are the most High,
Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory
Of God the Father.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest
And on earth, peace on earth
Peace to people of good will.**

Amen, Amen.

Kyrie (sung)
**Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.**

**Kyrie Eleison
Christie Eleison
Kyrie Eleison, eleison**

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

Let us pray,
Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches
beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that
we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which
exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is

alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reading One: Acts 17:22-31

A reading from the book of Acts

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world

judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18

Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard;
Who holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip.

For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows, which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.

Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for me.

I called out to him with my mouth, and his praise was on my tongue.
If I had found evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

But in truth God has heard me; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his love from me.

Reading Two: 1 Peter 3:13-22

A reading from the first letter to Peter

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn CP 465 Here in This Place New Light is Streaming

(Text and Music: Marty Haugen 1982 GIA Publications One License)

*Here in this place new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken;
gather us in – the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young – our lives are a mystery;
we are the old – who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty;
gather us in – the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.*

Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

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

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Hymn CP 465 Here in This Place New Light is Streaming

(Text and Music: Marty Haugen 1982 GIA Publications One License)

*Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine for compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,*

*but here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in – all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

Sermon *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Musical Moment for Reflection

Announcements

Affirmation of Faith *(please stand)*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Confession

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming of sinners and inviting us to 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.

(*Please stand*)

Assurance of Pardon

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead to sin, and made us alive together in Christ. Therefore the God of love and power:

forgives us and frees us from our sins, heals and strengthens us by the Spirit, and raises us to new life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Hymn SGP 108 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (please be seated for this hymn)
(Text: and music: James Manley 1978 CCLI)

Refrain

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

*You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. **Refrain***

*You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. **Refrain***

*You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.
Refrain*

*You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
with bold new decisions your people arise. **Refrain***

Prayer over the Gifts:

God of glory, accept all we offer you this day, and bring us to that eternal city of love and light, where Christ is King. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

(Our offering plate is not passed through the pews or placed on the altar but placed symbolically in front of the font near the back of the church. If you have missed it and would like to donate, it does remain available briefly after service.)

Eucharistic Prayer *(Please stand)*

Musical setting Great Thanksgiving #4 CP732 CP 733 and CP734

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; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore joining with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

(sung)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death, 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."

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

(sung)

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat

and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. (sung) **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

(Music Gordon Light)

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,
**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 forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Lord we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

Invitation to Table

The table of the Lord is ready.

Come, when you are joyful, to rejoice

Come, when you are thankful, to offer praise in the receiving

Come, when you are prayerful, to be united.

Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.

Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith.

Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, old and young,
there is room for all, and all are welcome.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thank be to God.

The Communion

(Communion will be offered from a standing position in front of the choir pews. It is the belief within the Anglican Church that receiving in one kind is considered full communion. The chalice may be taken, the base touched in acknowledgement or passed by (one element taken) however intinction – dipping of the wafer into the cup - is not permitted).

Instrumental musical selections during communion

Prayer after Communion *(please stand)*

Let us pray,
Holy one you restored us to life through your love. May we who
follow you always be strengthened to do your will, in the name of
Jesus Christ the risen Lord. 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.**

Musical CP 662 The Trees of the Field

(Text Isaiah 55:12 Music: Stuart Dauermann CCLI)



*You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands.*

*And all the trees of the field will clap their hands
The trees of the field will clap their hands
The trees of the field will clap their hands
While you go out with joy.*

*(repeat entire song three times each time getting faster = the piano
will lead the tempo)*

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Lək̓ʷəŋən speaking peoples, 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.

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.

Washrooms are found in the hall, up the stairs, on the right.

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

We pray for The Scottish Episcopal Church; for Linda Nicholls, our Primate; Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Qu'Appelle, Bishop Rob Hardwick; and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for Anna, our bishop; Parish of Central Saanich, The Venerable Dr. Lon Towstego.

In our region, we pray for the faithful of St Dunstan and Interim The Rev. Heather Robinson.

In our parish we pray for Karen Martin; Janet McDonald; Marge McIntosh; and Joseph Motuz.

In our community we pray for St. John the Divine Food Bank and those whose illness is addiction in our society.

For the month of May, we pray for those who offer gifts of gardening and landscaping care around the church.

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