

The Anglican Parish of  
St. Peter and St. Paul  
September 14<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Holy Cross Day



*(The Finding of the True Cross, Agnolo Gaddi, Florence, 1380)*

Nourishing Faith  
and Community

# THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

## Prelude

## Words of Welcome

## Opening Hymn: SNC 096 All Creation Danced in Answer

*(Text: John Core 2006 copyright 2006 Wayne Leupold Editions In. Music:  
Patrick Michaels, 2014, One License)*

*All creation danced in answer  
when God's voice first touched the air  
and the great eternal cantor  
called a universe to prayer,  
called to praise and to thanksgiving  
all that filled the space about,  
sought a hymn from all things living  
bid the stones themselves cry out.*

*Jesus gave the tune new texture,  
love song for a world set free:  
gospel sung in full rich measure,  
earth's voice but God's melody;  
passion music, sad and somber,  
discord on a cross was built,  
giving way to bright new timbre  
in the Easter morning's lilt.*

*And the Spirit comes, composing  
music made of wind and fire,  
in its new-found tones disclosing  
all the heart and soul require,*

*forging from day's hum and thunder,  
from that mixture sweet and strong,  
psalms and hymns of awe and wonder;  
daily life as sacred song.*

*Come my friends,  
sing, dance in answer  
as God's music fills the air  
and the great eternal cantor  
calls us yet to praise and prayer,  
bids us join the endless singing,  
till all earthly song shall cease;  
heaven's voice alone goes ringing  
through a universe at peace.*

### 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.**

Let us pray,  
Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw  
the whole world to himself, may we who rejoice in  
the mystery of our redemption, have grace to take  
up our cross and follow him, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for  
ever. **Amen.** *(please be seated)*

# THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

A reading from the book of Numbers

*From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 98:1-6

O sing to the Lord a new song,  
**for he has done marvellous things.**

His right hand and his holy arm

**have gained him victory.**

The Lord has made known his victory;

**he has revealed his vindication in the sight of  
the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and

faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the victory  
of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

**break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,

**with the lyre and the sound of melody.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

**make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the  
Corinthians.

*For the message about the cross is foolishness to  
those who are perishing, but to us who are being  
saved it is the power of God. For it is written,*

*'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will  
thwart.'*

*Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe?*

*Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

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

### Gospel Hymn: Be unto Your Name

*(Written by: Gary Sadler; Lynn DeShazo, 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Lynn DeShazo Music, CCLI license)*

*We are a moment, You are forever  
Lord of the ages, God before time  
We are a vapor, You are eternal  
Love everlasting, reigning on high*

*Holy Holy, Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is, the Lamb who was slain  
Highest praises, Honour and Glory*



*Be unto Your name*  
*Be unto Your name*

Gospel Reading: John 3:13-17

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**

The Good News of Jesus according to John  
**Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.**

*No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

*‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

*‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

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

Gospel Hymn: Be unto Your Name

*(Written by: Gary Sadler; Lynn DeShazo, 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Lynn DeShazo Music, CCLI license)*

*We are the broken You are the healer  
Jesus Redeemer Mighty to save  
You are the love song we'll sing forever  
Bowing before You blessing Your name*

*Holy Holy Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Highest praises Honour and Glory  
Be unto Your name  
Be unto Your name*

Sermon *The Rev. Gail Rodger*  
Musical Moment for reflection  
Announcements

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

The Affirmation of Faith *(please stand)*

*(Taken from Season of Creation ecumenical service which was adapted from the  
New Zealand Prayer Book)*

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,**

**God made flesh,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.**

Prayers of the People

Prayers of Confession and Assurance

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.

**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)*

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 of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

**THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED**

Offering Hymn: CP 184 My Song is Love

Unknown *(Samuel Crossman 1624-1683 Music: John Ireland (1879-1962) CCLI )*

*My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me;  
Love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
O who am I, that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?*

*He came from his blest throne  
salvation to bestow;  
but all made strange, and none the longed-for  
Christ would know:  
but O my friend, my friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend!*

*Sometimes they strew his way,  
and his sweet praises sing,  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King;  
then "Crucify!" is all their breath,*

*and for his death they thirst and cry.*

*Why, what has my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
he gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.*

*They rise and needs will have  
my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save,  
the Prince of life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,  
that he his foes from thence might free.*

*Here might I stay and sing,  
no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine!  
this is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.*

### Prayer over the Gifts

Merciful God, through the death of your beloved Son you transformed an instrument of shame into a sign of hope and glory. Receive all we offer you this day, and renew in us the mystery of his love; through the same Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. **Amen.**

*(Our offering plate is not passed through the pews nor placed on the altar. Instead it symbolically resides by the font near the back of the church, a calling to all the baptized to be part of the*

*kingdom in the practice of committed giving. If you would like to donate but missed the offering plate on your way in, it remains available briefly after the service.)*

**Eucharistic Prayer** *(please stand)*

*(Book of Alternative Services EP4 p201 Musical setting for the Sanctus thanksgiving setting 1 CP719)*

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.**

It is right to give you thanks and praise,

O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe,

you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and

we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**(sung)**

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

**Blessed is the one who comes,  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. .  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is



given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, 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.”

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

**Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### Breaking of the Bread

“I am the bread which has come down from heaven,” says the Lord.

**Give us this bread forever.**

"I am the vine, you are the branches"

**May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.**

### Invitation to table

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### *Musical selections accompany Communion*

*(Communion is offered at three locations in the following order: station one is at the back of the church near the candles for those who prefer to stand and/or are physically challenged by steps without railings; station two, brought to the pew; station three: at the altar rail)*

### Prayer after Communion *(please stand)*

Almighty God, we give thanks that you have made us partakers of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who took our nature upon him and suffered death upon the cross for our redemption; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**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.**

## Blessing

Sending Hymn: Make Your Service of Love a  
Beautiful Thing. (Text 13th century; music; Dent Davidson, copyright  
2023 CCLI)

### ***Refrain:***

***Make your service of love a beautiful thing.  
Want nothing else; and be not afraid  
Make your service of love a beautiful thing;  
A beautiful, beautiful, thing.***

*And let your love, your love be free  
Free to become, what love truly is  
Strive every moment to live without sparing  
Make your service a beautiful thing.*

### ***Refrain***

*Always be fervent, -fervent and humble  
Serve on another, with loving wisdom  
Walk your pure journey with steps of beauty  
Make your service a beautiful thing.*

### ***Refrain***

*Walk without sadness, let willfulness go  
Take the sweet spirit, of peace and joy with you  
Lay your heart open be free from all fear  
Make your service a beautiful thing.*

***Make your service of love a beautiful thing.  
Want nothing else; and be not afraid  
Make your service of love a beautiful thing;***

*A beautiful, beautiful,  
A beautiful, beautiful,  
A beautiful, beautiful thing.*

Dismissal

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of  
the Spirit

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## Weekly Cycles of Prayer

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East; for our Primate the Right Reverend Shane Parker; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Western Newfoundland, Bishop John Organ; and for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee and in our region, St. Mary the Virgin, Oak Bay, The Rev. Craig Hiebert and The Rev. Dyan Davison.

In our parish we pray for: Aaron Isberg, Faye & Roy Johnson, Fred King, Rhonda Koch, Rob Bagley & Teresa Krause, Leatrice Lam, Doreen Langmeed, and Nico, Vannessa, Hypatia and Aurelia Lohmann.

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

For the month of September we pray for the Food Drive Ministry.

# Parish of St Peter and St Paul



ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL  
ESQUIMALT

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