

St Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church, Burnaby

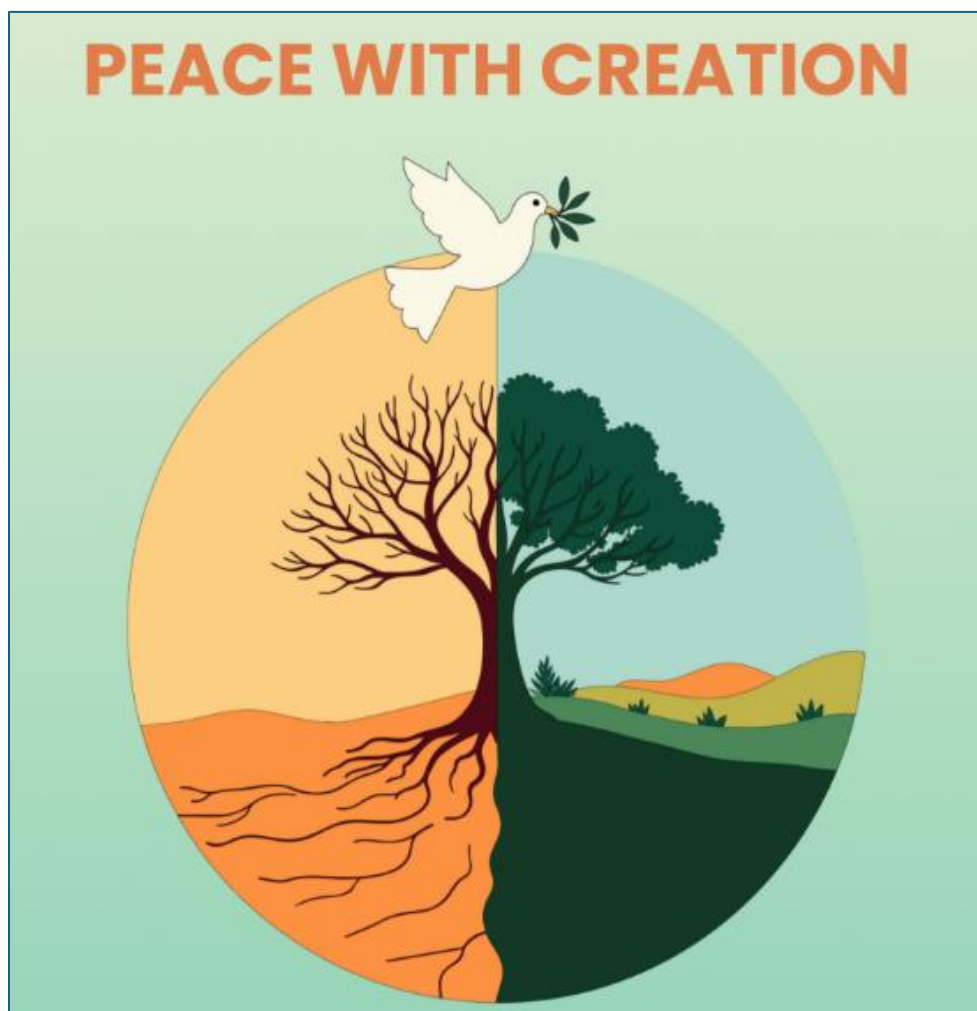
Holy Eucharist with Zoom Option

Ordinary Time

Sunday, September 14, 2025

10:00 AM

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Taken from the Season of Creation Guide¹

The Zoom codes for **all** our worship services are:

Meeting ID: 820 4853 6733 Passcode: 034102 Dial In: 778 907 2071

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82048536733?pwd=WDA1dG5nV1VqTnZmTUtmXJoczFZQT09>

The Gathering of the Community

Words of Welcome & a Territorial Acknowledgement

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning! This document provides a guide for our time together. You are invited to join in saying the words in **bold**. Bookmarks to pre-mark the hymnals are available where you picked up this guide.*



Gathering Hymn - Lift High the Cross

CP-602

Celebrant: We gather this day in the name of the Creator:
Spirit of God who gives birth to the entire Universe of Creation in love, and of the Word of God, spoken into the silence, giving shape and form to all Creation, and of the Wisdom of God, who weaves the evolving web of life, drawing us toward ever-greater justice, love, and peace with Creation.

May the grace and peace of our creating God, who places us in the midst of the vast and expanding Universe on this beautiful and fragile planet, be with us all as we pray:ⁱⁱ

All: 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.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: **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.**ⁱⁱⁱ

Children's Time



Gloria "Glory to God"

CP-686

The children and their Sunday School teachers make their way to the Parish Hall during the singing of the Gloria.

The Proclamation of the Word

First reading - Numbers 21: 4b-9 *read by Josie.*

In the desert, the people of Israel become impatient because, having won a military victory over the local Canaanites, Moses will not force a way through the land of Edom. So they turn southwards, away from Palestine, to go round Edom.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged 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

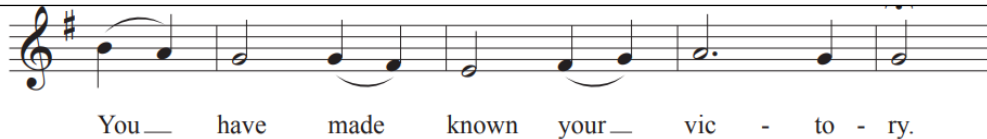
sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze 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 to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm^{iv} – Psalm 98:1-5 Cantor: Pauline

The cantor sings the refrain first, then everyone repeats it the second time. The cantor sings the verses.



Refrain: You have made known your victory.

Let us sing a new song to God, who has done marvellous things.

With your right hand and your holy arm, you have won for yourself the victory. **[Refrain]**

You have made known your victory;
your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.
You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. **[Refrain]**

Shout with joy to God, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to God with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. **[Refrain]**

Second reading - 1 Corinthians 1: 18-24 Read by Pat H

Paul has heard that there are divisions and quarrels in the Corinthian church over to whom loyalty is due. Now he says that the only legitimate division is between those who believe and those who do not.

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 scholar? 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 the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for 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 to God's people.
All: Thanks be to God.

 **Gradual Hymn - "Sing a New Song"**

CP-312

Gospel reading - John 3:13-17

Curate: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Curate: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Nicodemus has come to Jesus eager to understand this man from God, but is unable to comprehend "heavenly things", that is, the revolutionary program that God has launched through Jesus.

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
All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Ven. Ruth Monette

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: In this season as we remember especially the whole of creation and our place within it, we join with Christians throughout the world to affirm that which we believe:

**All: We have faith in one God, one Source of all life,
one Ground of the whole Earth, who created all things good.**

**And we have faith in Christ, in whom we have been shown
the special role of humanity to bear God's likeness
in working and caring for Creation,
in seeking to understand her mysteries and powers,
in working with these powers for the wellbeing of life on Earth.**

**And we have faith in God's Spirit who leads us
to a meek, unselfish and compassionate lifestyle.
So that the Earth is inherited in peace, her life is transformed for all
creatures and her bounty shared justly.
So be it. Amen.^v**

The Prayers of the People — Led by Val

Leader: Let us bring our intercessions and our thanksgiving before God, our Creator, saying in response to each bidding, "*Lord, grant us peace.*"

Creating God, we pray that we may grow in awareness of the vastness and beauty of Your Creation and be moved to deep gratitude...

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: We pray that we may grow in prayerful awe of our Creator, revealed in the beauty and power of Creation around us...

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: We uphold before you, O God, the Church throughout the world and those who hold leadership positions in government, industry, education, and the arts. For the wisdom and courage to embrace the challenging discipleship that Christ is calling us to in these times, we pray...

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: We call to mind those who rest upon our hearts. The peoples and places torn apart by natural disaster and violent conflict; our neighbours, friends, and family; the created beings with whom we share this planet. That we may deepen our gratitude for nature's rich web of life within which we live, that we may learn to listen to its wisdom and learn, and that we may grow in openness to wiser and more just ways of caring for it and sharing it, we pray...

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: O God who is present at the beginning and ending of all life, into your loving embrace we entrust all those who have died. Surround those who grieve with your presence, we pray...

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: We make our prayer in the name of the Creator, Spirit of God, who gives birth to the entire Universe of Creation in love; and in the name of the Word of God, spoken into the silence, giving shape and form to all Creation; and in the name of the Wisdom of God, who weaves the evolving web of life, drawing us toward ever-greater justice, love, and peace with Creation.

All: Amen.^{vi}

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: In this season, our collective confession focuses primarily on those sins most directly impacting God's creation.

We begin with a time of silence for us to recall our sins against creation, one another, ourselves, and God.

Silence is kept.

**All: Merciful and sustaining God we have sinned against you.
We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.
We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.
We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.
We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection.**

Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, forgive our sins, known and unknown and inspire us afresh to be worthy stewards of creation, may we work together for peace and justice and a sustainable future. **Amen.**^{vii}

The Peace is an invitation for us to greet those with whom we worship as a sign of our reconciliation to them through the blessing of God's absolution of our sins. You are invited to greet those sitting nearest you with a handshake or other non-touch greeting.

The Peace

Celebrant: The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

All: Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.^{viii}

During the singing of the Offertory Hymn, the greeters will bring the offering plates through the congregation. Financial offerings may be placed in the plates at the entrances to the worship space or made online at www.ststephenburnaby.ca/pages/donate. St Stephen's depends on the generosity of our members and visitors to continue to offer Christ's light to our neighbours.

 **Offertory Hymn "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"**

CP-374

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: Merciful God, receive all we offer you this day. Give us grace to love one another that your love may be made perfect in us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where the Fraser River meets the Salish Sea, where city and farm, wilderness and industry are side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced

from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, orca and salmon, bear and raven, salal and cedar we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song:

♪ **Sanctus** *"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord"*

CP-719

Celebrant: We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever^{ix}.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Uniting our voices with Christians throughout the ages and throughout the world, let us pray as our Saviour taught us.

♪ **The Lord's Prayer**

SGP-12

**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

Celebrant: This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

All: All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body^x.

♪ Fraction Hymn "The Bread Which We Break"

CP-746

Celebrant: These are the gifts of God for all God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Communion

To Receive Communion:

Please come forward to the step before the Altar to receive. We begin with the choir, the tech team, and the pews behind them and then move to the other side. Be attentive to physical distancing as you move within the space.

- *To receive, extend both hands, one on top of the other so that the wafer may be placed on your palm. For the wine, you may take a sip from the chalice. We do not dip the wafer into the wine.*
- *If you are not receiving wine, you may stay until the chalice is offered to you or return to your seat immediately.*
- *If you would prefer a blessing instead, please ask for one.*
- *If you need Communion brought to you, please alert a greeter or wave at the priest when everyone else has received.*

Those on Zoom may say this prayer together.

If you are attending in-person, but are not receiving communion at this time, you may also wish to say the following prayer.

In union, O God, with all your faithful people gathered wherever the eucharist is celebrated this day, we offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption given to us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, and for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

We pray that we may know you in heart, and soul and mind. Let nothing separate us from you. May we serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your promised reign of justice and peace; through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

♪ Communion Hymns

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

CP-386

"Wind Upon the Waters"

CP-408

The Sending Forth of the Community

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant: 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.^{xi}

Glory to God,

All: **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.**

Announcements

Blessing

Celebrant: May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
That reflect God's glory in creation.
And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son,
and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you today and always. Amen.^{xii}
Amen.

♪ **Sending Hymn** *"To God Be the Glory"*

CP-371

Dismissal

Deacon: Tend the earth, care for God's good Creation;
as you have received freely, so give freely.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

You are invited to join us for coffee and tea after the service.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Prayer Chain: prayerchain@ststephenburnaby.ca

Rector: The Venerable Ruth Monette

Curate: The Reverend Neil Jongbloed

Music Director: Natan Bádue

Parish Administrator: Lois Holmlund

Rentals: rentals@ststephenburnaby.ca

Wardens: Val Krause and Sara Shaw

Associate Warden: Sandra Sutherland

THANK YOU to our choir members, our readers, our tech support; and to our other volunteer servers this Sunday: our Zoom host Lois, Parish host Val, Lay Administrator: Val, Sacristan, Bob D, Prayers: Val, our Greeters Man and Pat H; our Offering caretaker: Dawn; Altar Guild: Elaine and Wendy, Sunday School, Betty, Coffee: Colleen and Betty.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR IS LOCATED ON THE UNCEDED LANDS OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES, ON THE SHARED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF SKW̱WÚ7MESH (SQUAMISH), səliłwətaʔ (TSLEIL-WAUTUTH), X̱wMƏΘKw̱ƏY̱ƏM (MUSQUEAM) AND ḵw̱ikw̱əłəm KWIKWETLEM (COQUITLAM) FIRST NATIONS.

Liturgical Notes:

* The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

* In the context of Christian worship, Israel does not refer to the current political state but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East, or in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

*Elements of this liturgy without an endnote come from the Book of Alternative Services, (BAS).
The prayer for those not receiving Holy Communion is borrowed from Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster.
The summaries of the scripture readings are from Comments, a ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal.*

Hymns, unless noted otherwise, are from the "Common Praise" hymnal of the Anglican Church of Canada. All other hymns are licenced via: OneLicence Church Music copyright permission.

ⁱ Logo is from the "Peace with Creation" Season of Creation 2025: A Catholic Liturgical Guide.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NqisbZO6ystPucMbxWht95bQbJlr6G9w/view?pli=1>

ⁱⁱ The opening words are from Season of Creation 2025 Peace with Creation: A Catholic Liturgical Guide,

ⁱⁱⁱ The Collect of the Day is found in "*For all the Saints*" (page 279)

^{iv} The Psalms are taken from the George Black Psalter at the Church of the Redeemer website, Anglican Church of Canada. <https://theredeemer.ca/music/george-black-psalter/>

^v *Affirmation of Faith* Adapted From India. Source: Sinfonia Oecumenica, Gütersloher Verlagshaus, Gütersloh 1998. Reproduced by ECEN for Creation Time 2003, found in Addendum 1: Ecumenical Prayer Service, Season of Creation Celebration Guide: To Hope and Act with Creation, 2024, <https://seasonofcreation.org/resources/>.

^{vi} The Prayers of the People are adapted from *Season of Creation 2025: Peace with Creation - A Catholic Liturgical Guide*.

^{vii} Confession & Absolution combine Season of Creation: Eucharistic Material, The Church in Wales, <https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/publications/liturgy/Creationtide/> and Season of Creation resources posted by www.greenanglicans.org.

^{viii} Peace from "A Service of Welcome," The Iona Community, Iona Abbey Worship Book (Glasgow, UK: Wildgoose Publications, 2001), 60. Sourced from TEC Season of Creation resources.

^{ix} Eucharistic Prayer is from Salal+Cedar, a ministry of the Diocese of New Westminster.

^x Breaking of the Bread: Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes, 2024, www.newcreationliturgies.org.

^{xi} Prayers After Communion is from "*For All the Saints*" (page 279)

^{xii} Blessing and Dismissal from Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes, 2024. As above.