**All Saints Anglican Church**

**6904 Lougheed Highway, Agassiz, B.C. V0M 1A0**

**Bulletin October 6th, 2025 – October 12th, 2025**



**‘The ground we walk does not belong to us; for thousands of years it has been - and remains - the territory of the Stó:lō. We are grateful for their sharing.**

***Phone: 604-796-3553***

***Website:*** [***www.allsaints-agassiz.ca***](http://www.allsaints-agassiz.ca/)

[***https://www.facebook.com/groups/AllSaintsFamily***](https://www.facebool.com/groups/AllSaintsFamily)

**OUR DOOR IS OPEN AND ALL ARE WELCOME**

**October 5th, 2025, 17th Sunday after Pentecost**

Priest in Charge: The Reverend Philip Barker

Hosts: Graham Featherstone/Jennifer Pinlac

 Intercessor: Lynn Laughlin

 Lay Administrator: Dorothy Cresswell

Announcer: Virginia Jennings

 Organ/Piano: Francesca Froehlich

**Vicar’s cell phone:** Revd. Philip Barker. 778-867-2461

**Vicar’s Warden:**Ginny Jennings. 604-796-2206

**People’s Warden:** Lynn Laughlin. 604-799-5131

**Parish email**:   revpb1950@gmail.com

Please contact either warden if you have an issue that needs to be brought to the attention of the Vicar - or contact the Vicar direct (see above for details).

**Wardens Pitch**

* Book Club resumed on Zoom on September 3rd. Our new book is an exciting contemporary autobiography entitled "God's Double Agent: The True Story of a Chinese Christian's Fight for Freedom" by Bob Fu with Nancy French. It is available on Kindle or in paperback for $24.00 on Amazon. Please email Sheila at sjbarker0369@gmail.com if you would like to join the group discussions or have her order a book for you.
* Bible Study with Karol is every Saturday morning 8:30-9:00 on Zoom.
* Prayer Requests can be given on a piece of paper to either of the Wardens or the Vicar or entered in the Prayer Request Book on the lectern. Alternatively, you can contact Anthea Lewis at antheamlewis@shaw.ca for Pray First Prayer Circle, which is a confidential online prayer circle.
* Music Requests may be given to the Wardens or the Vicar.
* AA meets in the hall every Tuesday and Friday at noon.
* Every Thursday in the hall 1100-1200 we have a social time with coffee, games if you like or just talk.
* At 1000-1100 on Thursdays there is an Interactive Bible Study on the day’s Lectionary readings. All are welcome – discover the treasures in this amazing book!
* 5th Sunday of each month will be a potluck lunch after the service.
* Don’t forget our Craft Fair on October 25th

**Ministerial Meandering**

*When you can’t pray*

I’m sure you’ve had those moments when the heavens seem closed to you - God is clearly not listening to you - even if He’s there at all. Perhaps He’s simply *en vacances*, and you’ll just have to wait until He gets back - whenever that is.

So that’s not really ‘when you can’t pray’ - as the title of this MM suggests, but when nothing seems to be getting through. There’s an ‘Out of Office’ reply to all emails.

However, I’m talking more about the times when you can’t pray because you really don’t want to. It is more than a mental block - it is more like a true rebellion; “Why should I have to pray to you, God, in order to be able to get anything done in this world - or my life? It just doesn’t seem reasonable!”

This is our old friend ‘Self’ creeping in with the whispered promise of being able to handle whatever comes - without any need to invoke anything supernatural. Psychologists would probably call it our ‘ego’.

The problem with ‘self’ is that it is all-consuming; there’s really no escape from ‘self’, once he or she has got their claws into you. One of the things I remember feeling when I gave myself to Christ was an incredible sense of relief - that I didn’t have to carry the can for all the crap I’d done, and all the messes I’d made of my life to that time. Bring back ‘self’, and you’d better go and pick up that backpack, and make sure it’s a big one - you’re going to need it.

So here I am, in rebel mode, feeling resentful that I have to pray to God. And some thoughts come to me…

My relationship with God is supposed to be just that - a relationship. How’s that going to work out if I never talk to him? Heaven knows, it’s hard enough sometimes to talk to our spouses - never mind God! But we have to acknowledge them, or they might just walk out on us. And who could blame them?

And even though my wife knows that I need food to eat and clothes to wear, if I don’t occasionally ask her for what I want - how’s she going to know that I really fancy roast vole with peas tonight? How will she know I haven’t got any training shorts if I haven’t told her I just put the last pair in the wash?

“Sure” - you might say - “she should know you well enough to anticipate your needs”…but is that how you would wish to be treated? Is that how we treat those who love us? Probably not. And where’s the gratitude in that?

How do I get past the block? By walking away - and thinking of all the things that I couldn’t possibly enjoy if she weren’t here, and how communication is critical to maintaining relationship. If I can think of only one thing today that I am grateful for - that would probably be enough for my long-suffering wife.

And if you just went to God and told Him, “I’m having a really shitty day today – but you know all about those. I’ll try and make it up to you tomorrow. And thanks that I still have a pulse” - I think you’ll probably find that you feel a bit better. Even before tomorrow comes around.

Philip+

**Truth and Reconciliation**

I am writing to invite you to join me for a series of informal (but structured) small group conversations about reconciliation.  I am actively working on my own learning about this huge topic and I am inviting you to come along with me on this journey.

I recently signed up to learn how to host other settlers and non-Indigenous people in conversations that support us to build new practices to help us understand how to be in better relationship with Indigenous peoples. The program is called [Table Talks](https://kinshift.ca/table-talks/), and has been developed by an Indigenous led organization based in syilx territory called IndigenEYEZ.

The Table Talks approach is informative, challenging and fun. I will host a series of 8 1hr conversations after coffee time on Sundays. If you’re interested in learning more about this opportunity to feel engaged, inspired and mobilized, please join me for a Table Talks information session on Sunday, September 28th, from 12-1.00 pm in the church.

If you’re interested in finding out more, please RSVP to Sheila sjbarker0379@gmail.com

**Chuckle**

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

**Birthdays this MonthOctober**

Maureen Moore – 7th

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We Pray for the Clergy and Congregation of:**

St. Oswald, Port Kells – The Revd. Tim Morgan

The Archdeaconry of Fraser – The Venerable Luisito Engnan, Regional Archdeacon

**Anglican Church of Canada Cycle of Prayer: We Pray for:**

Bishop, clergy and people of the of the Diocese of British Columbia. The Dean, Council, and congregations of the Lower Mainland Region of the British Columbia Synod. Remember missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people and their families, and pray for an end to gender-based violence.

**Collect**

Almighty God, you have built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ out Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings**

**Lamentations 1:1-6 Valerie Hamilton**

1How deserted lies the city, once so full of people!
How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations!
She who was queen among the provinces has now become a slave.

2Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are on her cheeks.
Among all her lovers there is no one to comfort her.
All her friends have betrayed her; they have become her enemies.

3After affliction and harsh labor, Judah has gone into exile.
She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place.
All who pursue her have overtaken her in the midst of her distress.

4The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to her appointed festivals.
All her gateways are desolate, her priests groan,
her young women grieve, and she is in bitter anguish.

5Her foes have become her masters; her enemies are at ease.
The Lord has brought her grief because of her many sins.
Her children have gone into exile, captive before the foe.

6All the splendor has departed from Daughter Zion.
Her princes are like deer that find no pasture; in weakness they have fled before the pursuer.

**Psalm 137**

1By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.

2There on the poplars we hung our harps,3for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

4How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land?

5If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill.

6May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, if I do not consider Jerusalem my highest joy.

7Remember, Lord, what the Edomites did on the day Jerusalem fell. “Tear it down,” they cried, “tear it down to its foundations!”

8Daughter Babylon, doomed to destruction, happy is the one who repays you according to what you have done to us. 9Happy is the one who seizes your infants and dashes them against the rocks.

**2 Timothy 1:1-14 David Hamilton**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

6For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. 8So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. 9He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. 12That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

13What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. 14Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

**Luke 17:5-10 Vicar Philip**

5The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

6He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

7“Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’? 8Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’? 9Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? 10So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”