

**Twenty-Third Sunday
after Pentecost
16 November, 2025**



**St. Helen's
Anglican Church of Canada
Diocese of New Westminster**

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

OPENING HYMN Lo. God Is Here! Let Us Adore

CP 328

All stand.

In this time and place
We gather on the ancestral lands of the Musqueam nation
From many places and peoples we come to this house of prayer.

In this time and place
We meet in the presence of the living God
The living God who creates us and all that is.

In this time and place
The risen Christ stands in our midst.
The risen Christ who accompanies us and all people.

In this time and place
God's Holy Spirit breathes in and through us
The Holy Spirit who transforms us and all life.

In this time and place
Together, one people of God.
**+ In the name of God, Source of all being,
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Jesus said:
Before you offer your gift,
go and be reconciled.
As siblings in God's family,
we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

KYRIE CONFESSION

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are everlasting.

Kyrie Eleison (sung once)

CP 706

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.

Christie Eleison (sung once)

CP 706

O keep my soul and deliver me;
let me not be put to shame, for I have put my trust in you.

Kyrie Eleison (sung once)

CP 706

ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Almighty God,
you sent your Son Jesus Christ
to be the light of the world.

Free us from all that darkens and ensnares us,
and bring us to eternal light and joy;

through the power of him
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING ISAIAH 65:17-25

Suzanne Windsor-Liscombe

A reading from the book of Isaiah

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 3, (ISAIAH 12:2-6)

Dm Dm C/D Dm Dm F G Em⁷ A(sus⁴) A D/F Gm F/A B^b maj⁷ C

Singprais-es to the Lord, singprais-es to the Lord, singprais-es to the

D(sus⁴) D Dm/C B^b E^b⁷ A⁷ D(sus⁴) Dm Dm Dm Dm⁷/C

Lord, for he has done glo-rious - ly.

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
For the Lord God is my strength and my might;
He has become my salvation. **R.**

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
Make known his deeds among the nations;
Proclaim that his name is exalted. **R.**

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
Let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R.**

SECOND READING 2 THESSALONIANS 3:6-13 Shawn de Raaf

A reading from the second Letter of Paul to Thessalonians

Now we command you, beloved in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CP 712

Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Word of God came and lived here among us, so all who believe might be the children of God. **Alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 21:5-19

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CP 712

Alleluia, Alleluia.

The people are invited to sit.

SERMON

The Rev. Mark Munn

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith, as together we say:

**You, O God, are Creator of all,
by whom every being in heaven and earth
is fashioned, named, and sustained.
You call us each by name.**

**You, O God, are Living Word,
who came and pitched your tent with us,
lived and died and rose again.
You speak to us now through faith.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit,
who comforts, strengthens, and inspires,
sending us forth to share your love.
You are the breath of grace.**

**You, O God, are Trinity:
Creator, Word, Spirit;
artist, healer, friend.
You are holy mystery.
We worship you. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hepsi Chand

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY

As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. A QR code is provided at the back of the leaflet for those who prefer to donate online. During the collection, a hymn is sung.

OFFERTORY HYMN Songs of Praise the Angels Sang

CP 370

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Let us pray:

Holy God,

in this eucharist we renew our baptismal covenant.

Help us, through our offering this day,

to renounce all things that draw us from your love.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
for the gift of a world full of wonder,
and for our life which comes from you.
By your power you sustain the universe.

You created us to love you with all our heart,
and to love each other as ourselves,
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.
In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world
and gather us into one great family.

Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven,
we praise your wonderful name, as we sing,

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

CP 719

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father,
because in sending Jesus, your Son,
to us you showed us how much you love us.
He cares for the poor and the hungry.
He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken,
he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love.
On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death.
By raising him from the dead
you show us the power of your love
to bring new life to all your people.

On the night before he gave up his life for us,
Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,
“Take this, all of you, and eat it:
this is my body which is given for you.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said,
“Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,
which is shed for you and for many,
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in memory of me.”

Gracious God, with this bread and wine
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,
and we offer ourselves to you in him.
Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,
that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread,
and share in the life of the family of your children.

Father, you call us to be your servants;
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,
that all the world may gather in joy
at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father,
through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us 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

This is the bread of life given in love for us.
This is the cup of restored relationship with God.
These are the gifts of God for all God's people.
Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD

CP 745

COMMUNION HYMN

How Firm A Foundation

CP 527

All Who Love and Serve Your City

CP 590

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Gracious God,

in this sacrament

we have shared the body and blood of Christ.

May we who have been nourished by holy things

bear witness to his light,

and share in his eternal priesthood;

for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Wisdom of God

the Love of God

and the Grace of God

strengthen you

to be Christ's hands and heart in this world,

+ in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESESSIONAL HYMN

You Call Us, Lord, to Be

CP 450

Please be seated for the postlude.

The community disperses in silence. In respect of those who may linger in contemplation, conversation is reserved for the narthex.

Mystical Hope – An Advent Book Circle

Advent is a wondrous time of hope and longing. But what kind of hope can we have in such anxious times?

Cynthia Bourgeault's book *Mystical Hope* invites us to engage in a hope that centres on the vibrancy created in our relationship with God and one another, rather than on unreachable dreams. Mystical hope helps us see in new ways and gives us a greater capacity to act well in the world, even in times of trouble.

Please join us for evenings of discussion and prayer based on the book, *Mystical Hope*.

Tuesdays at 7:30pm **November 18 + 25, December 2, 9 + 16**

Discover the History + Imagine the Future of West Point Grey

Come learn about the history and future of our shared home, **West Point Grey**. Storytelling by former City of Vancouver planners Jeannette Hvalach and Christina DeMarco. Connect with neighbours, reflect on the past, and dream about the future.

Dates: Wednesday **December 3, 2025 — 7:00 PM**

Wednesday **January 14, 2026 — 7:00 PM**

Light refreshments will be served.

Advent Quiet Morning—"Hannah's Song – The Quiet Revolution of God"

As Advent draws to its close, we invite you to step into stillness before the celebration of Christmas. Join us for a morning of quiet prayer and reflection centred on Hannah's Song (1 Samuel 2:1–10), a cry of joy that rises from long silence, revealing a God who upends power, lifts the lowly, and fills the hungry with good things.

We'll begin together at 9 a.m. with Advent Morning Prayer, followed by an extended period of silence for personal prayer, journaling, or contemplation in the church. We'll regather at noon for closing prayers and end by 12:30 p.m.

This is a gentle space for anyone longing to breathe, listen, and rest in the deep quiet where God's transforming work begins.

All are welcome; no registration required.





How to Contribute to St. Helen's Financially

We deeply appreciate financial contributions to our shared congregational life and mission. The best ways to donate are:

- Set up a Pre-Authorized Donation - simply send an email to sthelenswpg@gmail.com to get started or change your amount
- Donate via interact e-transfer to sthelenswpg@gmail.com
- Scan the QR code to the right or visit sthelensvancouver.com/give to donate via credit card
- Use one of the envelopes available at the back of the church by the offering plate to donate via cheques or cash

Volunteers for this week:

Intercessor: Hepsi Chand

Readers: Suzanne Windsor-Liscombe, Shawn de Raaf

Counter: Lynn Raymond

Zoom: Irene Vavasour

Bread & Wine: Shawn de Raaf, Claire Munn, Paula Pryce

Volunteers for next week:

Intercessor: David Van Blarcom

Readers: Gillian Moore, Tony Hodgson

Counter & Zoom: Lynn Raymond