

VESPERS

April 16, 2026

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

Officiant

Gathering

This evening's thematic thread is the joy of salvation—not shallow cheerfulness, but the deep, steady gladness that comes from God's redeeming work

Dear friends in Christ, as the day draws to its close, we gather in gratitude, trusting that the God who saves us also sustains us.

Let us set aside the weight of the day and open our hearts to the joy that cannot be taken from us.

Silence is kept.

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Confession

Officiant:

Let us confess our sins, trusting in the mercy that restores our joy.

All:

God of compassion, we confess that we have turned from your ways and forgotten the joy of your salvation.

Forgive us, renew us, and set us free to delight again in your presence and to walk in your light.

Amen.

Officiant:

May the God who is rich in mercy forgive us, strengthen us, and restore to us the joy of salvation.

Amen.

The Invitatory

Officiant :

O God, open our lips.

All:

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant :

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen.

The Psalm

Psalm 98

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

² The LORD has made known his victory,
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³ 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.

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

Psalmist

The Psalm

Psalm 98

⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!

⁸ Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together

⁹ before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word, and Spirit of joy,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen

The Readings

A Reading from Isaiah 12:1–6 (RSV):

You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to thee, O LORD, for though thou wast angry with me, thy anger turned away, and thou didst comfort me."

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that his name is exalted."

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Readings

A Reading from Luke 24:36–43 (RSV):

[36](#) As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them. [37](#) But they were startled and frightened and supposed that they saw a spirit. [38](#) And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? [39](#) See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."

[40](#) "And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet."

[41](#) And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" [42](#) They gave him a piece of broiled fish, [43](#) and he took it and ate before them.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour...

His mercy is on those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm...

He has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things...

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen.

All

The Apostles' Creed

Original Wording

**I believe in God, the Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Saviour,
who lived among us, died for us, and rose again.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
who brings life, joy, and hope to the world.
I believe in the holy Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Prayers

Let us pray with joy and confidence

God of salvation, fill your Church with the joy of the risen Christ.

— ***Renew us in hope and gladness.***

Strengthen all who serve in your name, especially those who lead in small communities and homes.

— ***Renew us in hope and gladness.***

Bring peace to places of conflict and joy to those who live in fear.

— ***Renew us in hope and gladness.***

Lift up the weary, comfort the grieving, and restore those who have lost their joy.

— ***Renew us in hope and gladness.***

Prayers

Lift up the weary, comfort the grieving, and restore those who have lost their joy.

— ***Renew us in hope and gladness.***

We remember before you those in need... *(names may be spoken)*

— ***Renew us in hope and gladness.***

We give thanks for the gifts of this day... *(thanksgivings may be offered)*

— ***We rejoice in your salvation.***

Amen

Officiant

The Collect

God of everlasting joy,
you raised Jesus from the dead
and opened for us the way of salvation.
Pour your gladness into our hearts,
that we may delight in your presence,
trust your promises,
and share your joy with the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Officiant

The Lord's Prayer

Believing in the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we 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,
and 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 Sending Forth

Holy God,
you have brightened this evening with your presence.
As we rest, keep us in the joy of your salvation
and guide us into the peace of Christ. Amen.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice." Philipians 4:4