

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

The Feast of The Creator
September 6th, 2026



Presider: The Rev. Sebastian Way
Preacher: The Rev. Sebastian Way
Deacon: The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss
Music Director: Dale Throness

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN Let All Creation Bless the Lord CP 419

Please Stand

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that we gather on the ancestral territory of the Musqueam peoples. May the Spirit's unifying fire empower us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, to love our neighbours as ourselves, and to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.
We confess our sin in penitence and faith:

Consider the birds of the air; they do not sow or gather into barns,
yet our heavenly Father feeds them.
Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison

CP 706

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;
they do not toil nor spin,
yet even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
Christ, have mercy.

Christe eleison

How little faith we have.
Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.
Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you with his blessing;
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Creator,
you have wonderfully fashioned the heavens and the earth,
and us in your own image.
Teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your breath in all creatures
that we may be of service in the healing of the earth,
through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit,
through whom you breathe all creation into being. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING Proverbs 8.22-31

Angela White

A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside
him,
like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,

rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

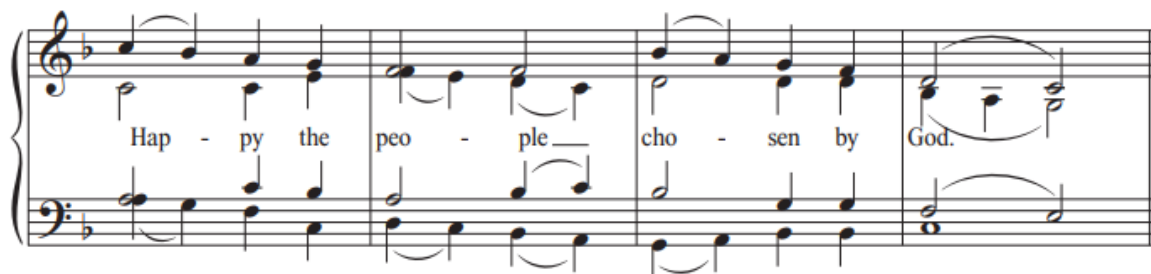
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 33.1-9

Exultate, justi

Refrain:



Rejoice in God, you righteous;
It is good for the just to sing praises.
Praise God with the harp;
play to the Holy One upon the psaltery and lyre.
Sing for God a new song;
Sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet **R**.

For your work, O God is right,
And all your works are sure.
You love righteousness and justice;

Your loving-kindness fills the whole earth. ***R.***

By your word, O God, were the heavens made,
By the breath of your mouth all the heavenly hosts.
You gather up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin
and store up the depths of the sea. ***R.***

Let all the earth fear you, O God;
Let all who swell in the world stand in awe of you.
For you spoke, and it came to pass;
You commanded, and it stood fast. ***R.***

A reading from the Letter to the Colossians.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

All stand

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (2x)

Choir:

*“The Word of the Lord lasts forever.
God has spoken to us through his Son,
through whom he created the worlds.”*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (2x)

THE GOSPEL OF THE DAY

John 1.1-5

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him,

and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia (2x)

THE SERMON

The Rev. Sebastian Way

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I Believe in God Almighty

CP 44

Please Stand

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

INTERCESSIONS, PETITIONS, AND THANKSGIVINGS

David Van Blarcom

Please stand, sit or kneel.

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

Christ is the image of the invisible God,
The firstborn of all creation

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN

God Who Gives to Life Its Goodness

CP 624

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
Through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
Fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation

Blessed be God forever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

May God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS

CP 735

O God, our creator, you placed us in this world,
but did not leave us to live alone.

You surround us with your wondrous creation
That we might live in harmony with it,
taking only what is necessary to preserve our common life.

Of the world you made a garden for the flourishing of your people,
yet we strayed from your path.

We judged ourselves powerful and mighty,

planting destruction between us and nature,
and creating a world of inequity, imbalance, and injustice.
Countless times, your prophets led us to repentance and new life,
yet we choose to walk in other ways and persist in our selfish error.

In the fulness of time and in your infinite mercy,
you sent us your Son Jesus Christ, the source of new life.
He taught us to live in unity with you,
opening the doors to a new creation:
one reconciled to you and sustained by your love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread.
Having given thanks to you,
he broke it and gave it to those who were with him, saying,
“Take, eat. This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine,
and having given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying,
“Take, drink. This is my Blood of the new and eternal Covenant
which is shed for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the wondrous mystery:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

And, giving thanks to you for restoring us in the ways of your Kingdom,
we offer you these gifts of bread and wine:
Fruits of the earth and of your own creation.
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit,
that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Sanctify us also, that in union with Christ
we may fill the world with your love,
renewing it with the gift of your Gospel.

Preserve us in rebuilding the world around us
and restoring the balance of nature.

Grant that we may see in your creation that splendid garden,
worthy of our respect and care.
Evermore strengthen your Church in the struggle
to preserve the environment and the diversity of life within it.

And, at the last day, bring us to your heavenly Kingdom,
where in the company of St Mary the Mother of God, St Helen,
and all your saints,
we may never cease to glorify you in the new creation of Jesus Christ.
By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,
Almighty God, now and forever.
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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**We proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

Dipping the host into the chalice (intinction) is not permitted in this diocese. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than Holy Communion, please indicate this by placing your right hand over your heart.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Let's Sing Unto the Lord
For the Fruit of All Creation

CP 417

CP 259

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please Stand

Let us pray.

Creator of all,
**In the death and resurrection of Jesus,
you have reconciled all things in heaven and on earth.
May this bread and wine open our eyes
to your love and justice woven through all of creation.
we ask this through Jesus, your creating Word. Amen.**

BLESSING

May God our creator,
Who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the air
bestow on you his care
and increase the harvest of your righteousness;
and the blessing of the living God: the Source of all being,
the eternal Word and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

CLOSING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

CP 450

POSTLUDE

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

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. HELEN'S

Join us for our Sunday Worship on September 6, 2026

Book of Common Prayer | at 8:00 am

This is a simple yet deep spoken celebration of the Eucharist using the traditional Book of Common Prayer.

Choral Eucharist | at 10:00 am

This is a modern Eucharist service, with choral music sung by the St. Helen's Choir.

Contemplative Prayer

Contemplative Prayer sessions are held every Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Liturgical Notes: The Season of Creation

On September 1, Christians around the world entered the Season of Creation, a time of prayer, thanksgiving, and renewed attention to God as Creator and to our place within the whole community of creation. The season has deep roots in the Orthodox Church and has grown into an ecumenical observance shared by Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Reformed Christians, and many others. It continues through October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

At St. Helen's, we begin our observance this Sunday with the Feast of the Creator, using new liturgical resources prepared by the Anglican Church of Canada and authorized for trial use. During the weeks that follow, we will also draw from *Common Worship* resources for the Season of Creation.

While some of the words we pray together will change with the season, the shape of our worship will remain familiar. As we do throughout the Church year, we will continue to worship within the established patterns of Anglican liturgy, while drawing upon seasonally appropriate language and resources approved for our use by Archbishop John. Some of these *Common Worship* materials will also be familiar from previous celebrations at St. Helen's.

Through these prayers, we join Christians across the world in giving thanks for the gift of creation, recognizing our kinship with all that God has made, and renewing our calling to care for the earth and one another.

Faithfully,

The Reverends Sebastian and Jeffrey

Message from The Ven. Richard Leggett

Dear Friends,

It has been my privilege to serve as your priest-in-charge for the past eight months. You have been generous in giving of your time and talents to continue the ministries of the Parish even during a difficult time of uncertainty.

This has shown a maturity of spirit and a commitment to be agents of the good news of God in Christ in West Point Grey and beyond. I am confident that the ordained and lay leaders who serve you now will continue to nurture you with the gifts of the Spirit.

Thank you for the gift of friendship you have extended to me. I shall carry it with me into whatever new chapter lies ahead.

With every good wish and blessing,

Richard +

Intercessor Prayer Requests

Prayers for:

Lissy & Neenimon

Ebony

Paul

Ruth

Lois

Diane

Neighbourhood Ministry Shopping List for this Week

St. Helen's is one of four parishes in the West Point Grey neighbourhood supporting this important ministry to provide conversation, food, essential supplies, and other forms of care to our street-involved neighbours. Once a month our parish prepares food and packets of essential supplies for a team of volunteers to distribute on their rounds every Saturday morning.

We are grateful for the donations of supplies we receive on a regular basis. The Ministry has compiled a list of essential items to include in their packets. This month we would especially appreciate donations of **men's socks, small cans of tuna** (with pull tabs), and **Boost or Ensure**.

Other staples needed on a regular basis include:

Juice boxes

Fruit or pudding cups

(We have more than enough granola bars for the moment, thanks!)

Donations can be placed in the NM bins under the table in the narthex.

We would also appreciate volunteers to prepare sandwiches and/or boiled eggs for the **September 26** and **October 24** outings (sign-up sheet in the narthex).

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email Shawn at deraaf@gmail.com.

We appreciate your support for our neighbours in need!

Volunteers Today

Intercessor: Hepsi Chand

Readers: Liz Hodgson, Angela White

Lay Administrators: Rev. Jeffrey Preiss, Tony Hodgson

Counter: Lynn Raymond

Zoom: Lyn Raymond

Volunteers Next Week

Intercessor: David Van Blarcom

Readers: Angela White, Paula Pryce

Lay Administrators: The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss, Paula Pryce

Counter: Lynn Raymond

Zoom: Kyle Taylor

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 Interac e-transfer to sthelenswpg@gmail.com
- Scan the QR code to the right or visit <https://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



Office Hours

Tuesday, 09:00am-5:00pm
Wednesday, 09:00am-5:00pm
Friday, 09:00am-5:00pm

Connect with us:

Office Administrator : **Zayd Mia** | office@sthelensvancouver.com | 604-224-0212
Priest-in-Charge : **The Rev. Sebastian Way** | rector@sthelensvancouver.com
Deacon : **The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss** | deacon@sthelensvancouver.com