



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026



"Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing." (Ezekiel 47:9,12)

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

10:00 am — September 13, 2026

Opening Hymn: "From the Waters of Creation" (SNC #25)

Land Acknowledgement

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are on. We give thanks to the Coast Salish peoples, the first people of this land. Creator let us be of good mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray. Amen.

Call to Worship

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

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.

Sung Gloria: “Gloria, Gloria, in Excelsis Deo” (CP #376)

The Collect

O God, because in our ignorance and selfishness we so often fail to care rightly for your Creation, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may soften and unite our hearts with all living beings who suffer; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Children’s Reflection

Children’s Song: “I’ve Got Peace Like an Ocean”

The First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31 (*Susan Parsons*)

Psalm 114 *see screens for reading and sung response*

The Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12 (*Penny Batchelor*)

Gradual Hymn: “Listen Now for the Gospel” (SNC #188) *verse 2*

The Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 (*Roger Farrier*)

The Sermon: *Geoffrey Clark-Tosca, VST MDiv Student*

“Silence & Stillness for Prayer & Reflection”

An Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, seen in the suffering one,
the poor one, the malnourished one,
the climate refugee - who loves and cares for this world
and suffers with it.**

**And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.**

**We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end
to death and all destructive forces.**

Prayers of Intercession *(Peter Bayley)*

Confession and Absolution

Lamenting is a passionate expression of sorrow or grief; a song, hymn or poem of mourning to express sorrow, mourning, or regret aloud; to regret strongly. Often sins are confessed in the plural, as a sign that, even if we personally have not committed each sin, our souls are bound up one with the other. The response in this service is, 'Ashamnu' which means in Hebrew 'we have all been guilty'.

We look upon your waters, O God, and we grieve:

Rivers run polluted.

Oceans choke with plastic.

Marine life disappears from warming seas.

Coral reefs fade and fisheries collapse.

Ashamnu

The seas rise and swallow coasts.
Storms grow stronger.
Floods destroy homes.
Drought cracks the Earth and children thirst.

Ashamnu

We confess that we have not guarded your waters.
We have consumed water without restraint.
We have polluted what you called good.
We have forgotten that the river of life flows from your throne.

Ashamnu

God's mercy flows like living water. The love of God, incarnate in Jesus who spoke to troubled waters, forgives us and calms our hearts so that justice may flow to all the dry places in our lives.
In the name of Christ, may this grace free us to follow and proclaim the good news of the healing of all creation.

Amen.

The Peace: The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: "How Great Thou Art" (CP #423)

— *The Celebration of the Eucharist* —

Prayer Over the Gifts

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, so that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you. **And also with you**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**
Let us give thanks to God our Creator. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is right at 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: *(CP #732)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptised
in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he travelled in fishing boats and told parables
of farmers and seeds, labour 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. **Amen.**

Sung Lord's Prayer *by Gordon Light*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as in heav'n. 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Communion Anthem: "Come, Share with God" (VU #469) *verses 1, 2, 1*

Come to the banquet for now all is ready.

These are the gifts of God for you, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

If you require a gluten free wafer, please only extend one hand. If you do not feel comfortable drinking from the cup, please just acknowledge it and let it pass.

We ask that you refrain from intincting or dipping your wafer.

Communion Hymn: "Not for Tongues of Heavens Angels" (CP #494)

Prayer After Communion

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, so that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

The Doxology

Glory to God, 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.

The Blessing

Sung Blessing

The Closing Hymn: "We Will Take What You Offer" (SNC #34)

The Dismissal: Go in peace, share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Faithful giving expresses gratitude to God, reflects Christ's call to serve and leaves a lasting legacy. There is an offering plate near the Sanctuary entrance where you may place cheques or cash in person – envelopes are available if you'd like the donation to be credited to you.

You can also make donations online.



Announcements

Flowers in Worship

Today's flowers are given by Rev. Marnie to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for her 6th anniversary as Rector at St. Anne's.

Season of Creation 2026: Immersion in Living Water

"Reflections on Water"

You are invited to submit a prayers or poems along with a picture, which will be collected and shared in weekly emails throughout the Season of Creation.

Blessing of the Animals: October 4 at 10 am

All pets who are comfortable in crowds on their leashes are invited for a special blessing.

Summer Book Club Finale: Discussion TODAY after 10 am Worship!

Exploring Lay Ministry: September 20 after the 10 am Service

If you are interested in learning more about lay ministry opportunities such as pastoral visiting, worship leadership, preaching, youth ministry, and outreach – join us for this information session.

St. Anne's School Lunch Program

Our school lunch program is resuming. If you would like to volunteer to either make sandwiches or deliver them, please contact Sharmila or the Church Office.

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Welcome



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Archbishop ✙ The Most Reverend John Stephens

Rector ✙ The Reverend Marnie Peterson

Music Director ✙ Jonathan Der

*We acknowledge that we gather and worship
on the ancestral and unceded territories
of the Coast Salish Peoples.*