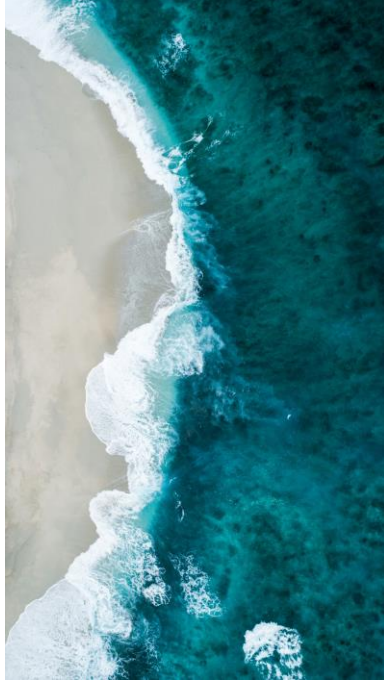


The Anglican Parish of
St. Peter and St. Paul
September 13th 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Home Church Connections



Nourishing Faith
and Community

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Words of Welcome

The Gathering of the Community

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

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

Renewing our commitment

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

Let us pray,

Almighty God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-41

A reading from the book of Exodus

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against

Egypt.’

Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.’ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 1 The Song of Moses

(Exodus 15.1–3, 6, 11, 13, 17–18)

I will sing to the Lord for his glorious triumph;
the horse and the rider he has hurled into the

sea.

The Lord has become my strength and refuge;
the Lord himself has become my saviour.

He is my God and I will praise him;
my father's God and I will exalt him.

The Lord himself is a mighty warrior;
the Lord, the Lord is his name.

Your right hand, O Lord, is majestic in power;
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods,
holy, awesome, worker of wonders?

In steadfast love you led your people,
you guided your redeemed with your great strength.

You brought them in safety to your holy place,
and planted them firm on your own mountain.

You brought them into your own house.
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

A reading from the Paul's Letter to the Romans

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand

or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

God be with you.
And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Matthew
Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his

fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Moment for reflection

Announcements

The Affirmation of Faith

(Taken from Season of Creation ecumenical service which was adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book)

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

You, O God, are infinitely generous,

good beyond all measure.

You came to us before we came to you.

**You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,**

**God made flesh,
who lived and died and rose again.**

You are with us now.

You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

Prayers of the People

Prayers of Confession and Assurance

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming of sinners. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us,

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

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.

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.

Blessing

The blessing of the Holy Trinity; the loving Creator, who is the source of all being, of Jesus Christ who is the love incarnate in the world, and the ever present Holy Spirit, hold you, surround you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Weekly Cycles of Prayer

The Anglican Church of Mexico; for our new Primate the Right Reverend Shane Parker; for Chris Harper, the National Indigenous Archbishop; Diocese of Quebec, Bishop Bruce Meyers; and for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada.

In our diocese, we pray for our bishop, The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee and in our region, St Philip Oak Bay, The Rev. Allen Doerksen.

In our parish we pray for: Lynda Millar; Joseph Montuz; Judy Parker; Doreen Peets; Mavis Pillar; Brian Poulsen; Don and The Rev Gail Rodger.

In our community we pray for Neighbourhood House.

For the month of September we pray for the our Food Drive.

Parish of St Peter and St Paul



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ESQUIMALT

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Rector's Warden John Ducker

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