Christ Church Gabriola

A Collaborative Anglican – United Church
Open to All



Hybrid Worship

24th after Pentecost

8 November 2026

Rev. Deborah van der Goes
Music: Frances Amrstrong

We acknowledge that these lands upon which we worship are the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Words for Worship

Words of response are in bold & italics
The candle is lit to remind us of Christ the Light of the world

Prelude

Welcome beloved community – here and at home.

Land acknowledgement

We prayerfully acknowledge with thanksgiving that we gather on the unceded territories of the Snuneymuxw people. Gracious God, help us to seek a new relationship with the first peoples here, one based in honour and respect. Amen

Opening Prayer

Let us pray together.

God, by whatever name we call You…
however we experience You in our individual lives,
we come today ready to celebrate Your Presence.

As we gather together, open our hearts to notice your voice.

In the song of birds… in the rustle of leaves…
in the warmth of the sun

in the wetness of the rain.

In the wisdom of other peoples and cultures.
In our own longing for connection and Oneness.

Thank you for this time of prayer, reflection and learning.

We come ready and grateful to receive You.

Confession and Forgiveness

Before God, with the people of God, I admit my fears and failings…
the way I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world

May God forgive you; Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

(silence)

And the people now pray

Before God, with the people of God,
we confess our fears and failings.
The ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

May God forgive you; Christ renew you,
and the Sprit enable you to grow in love.

With the whole church,
we affirm that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.
With people everywhere,
we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.
With all creation**,**
We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life:
the unfolding purposes of God,
forever at work in ourselves and the world. Amen.

Opening Hymn: Let Saints on Earth in Concert Sing **CP #282**

[1]Let saints on earth in concert sing
with those whose work is done;
for all the servants of our King
in earth and heaven, are one.

[2]One family, we live in him,
one church above, beneath,
though now divided by the stream,
the narrow stream of death.

[3]One army of the living God,
to his command we bow;
part of his host have crossed the flood
and part are crossing now.

[4]But all unite in Christ their head,
and love to sing his praise:
Lord of the living and the dead,
direct our earthly ways!

[5]So we shall join our friends above
who have obtained the prize;
and on the eagle wings of love
to joys celestial rise.

The Collect – Prayer of the Day *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.*
O God, you call us to choose
between you and the false gods of this world.
In the midst of the darkness of sin and death
wake us from our slumber
and call us forth to greet Christ,
so that with our eyes and hearts fixed on him,
we may be led to eternal light. ***Amen****.*

Prayer before the Reading of Scripture *ACC & UCC Sources*
O God, your Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.
Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love.

Scripture: Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 Reader: Susan Brockley
Wisdom makes herself known
Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

The Word of God.
We give thanks for this word today.

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Reader: Susan Brockley
The promise of the resurrection
But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.
For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of God.
We give thanks for this word today.

Hymn: Let There be Light **CP #572**

[1]Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
Let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;

[2]Open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
Open the door of concord
opening into grace;

[3]Perish the sword,
perish the angry judgment,
Perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gai;

[4]Hallow our love,
hallow the deaths of martyrs,
Hallow their holy freedom,
hallowed be thy name;

[5]Thy kingdom come,
they spirit turn to language,
Thy people speak together,
thy spirit never fade;

[6]Let there be light,
open our hearts to wonder,
Perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.

Gospel Reading Reader: Deborah van der Goes

As is your custom, please stand or sit for the reading of the gospel.

God be with you.
And also with you
The Good News of Jesus the Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle **VU #958**
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Matthew 25:1-13
Wise and foolish bridesmaids
"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps.
The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Good News of Jesus the Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle **VU #958**
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Sermon: 'untitled'

An Affirmation of Faith *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,
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.

Life & Work of the Church

Prayers of the People Tim Leadem
We pray to our God,
Hear our prayers.

Lords Prayer *(sung)* **VU #959**
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 forever. Amen.

Peace of Christ
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us share the peace of Christ with one another

(You are invited to turn to those directly around you and share Christ's peace. Those on Zoom, please unmute and share with one another)

Offering
(with quiet music, offering now to be collected and brought forward)

Offering Prayer **CP #669**
Praise God the Source of life and birth,
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.
All Glory, honour to God's name.

Holy Communion

Assistants: Hilary Plowright, Don Moser

Invitation
Here is the table of the Lord.
We joyfully gather at the Lord's table, open to all.

The Great Thanksgiving *Lutheran Book of Worship*
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 our thanks and praise.
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and all places, give thanks and praise to you, Almighty and Merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. With all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join in their unending hymn.

Sanctus (sung) **MV #203**
O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread,
and gave thanks; and broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this to remember me.

And again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this to remember me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **MV #204**
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

With this bread and cup
We remember your Word
Dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth
In his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come Lord Jesus.

Holy God, We long for your Spirit,
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy one of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
One God, now and forever
Amen

Breaking of the Bread
Loving God**,**
as we break bread and share the cup,
we give thanks for the bread and the wine,
fruits of your earth and of our labour.
We commit ourselves to your service
and that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup
We offer you, O God, this bread and this wine.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
That all who eat and drink at this table
And all the tables of the world
may be one body, one holy people

Communion is shared
All are welcome at the Lord's Table.
Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Prayer after Communion
Gracious God,
May our participation in these sacramental gifts
transform us that we may live lives of thanksgiving
and be faithful to your will.

Closing Hymn: Holy Spirit, Storm of Love **CP #603**
[1]Holy Spirit, storm of love,
break our self-protective walls.
Bring us out and show us why,
nakedly upon the cross,
open to the wind and sky,
Jesus waits and Jesus calls.

[2]Show us, in his tortured flesh,
earth's Creator on display,
broken by affairs of state,
drinking horror, pain and grief,
arching in the winds of hate,
giving love and life away.

[3]Show us how this dying love
entered, bore and understood
all our deep, unconscious drives,
each exploiting, evil thread
woven through our nations' lives,
all our life apart from God.

[4]Thus convicted, claimed and called,
freed, as Christ we freely choose,
washed in love, reborn, re-named,
doing justice, knowing God,
may we witness unashamed,
confident to give good news.

[5]News that Jesus is alive,
as his people of the dove,
going out in praise and prayer,
meet the evils of our time
and the demons of despair
with forgiving, living love.

Blessing For Here and at Home
God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy
you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life.
May we who seek to listen to the Great Spirit
trust in your power to restore all things,
who gives life to all creation. Amen.

Postlude

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