

St. John the Divine Anglican Church



Sunday, May 3rd, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Service of the Word

We gather on the unceded territory of Squamish Nation

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Diocese of New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

*Take a deep breath.
And again.*

The Gathering of the Community

Leader Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Leader May his grace and peace be with you.

All May he fill our hearts with joy.

Leader Let us pray.

All We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord. Amen

Leader Dear friends in Christ,
as we turn our hearts and minds
to worship almighty God,
let us confess our sins.

**All 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. Amen.**

Leader Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen

Leader May the Peace of God be with you.

All And also with you.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Glory to God who does wondrous things,
Let all the people God's praises now sing,
All of creation in splendor shall ring: Alleluia!

Alleluia...

2. See how salvation for all has been won,
Up from the grave our new life has begun,
Life now perfected in Jesus, the Son: Alleluia!

Alleluia...

3. Now in our presence the Lord will appear,
Shine in the faces of all of us here,
Fill us with joy and cast out all our fear: Alleluia!

Alleluia...

4. Call us, Good Shepherd, we listen for you,
Wanting to see you in all that we do,
We would the gate of salvation pass through: Alleluia!

Alleluia...

5. Lord, we are open to all that you say,
Ready to listen and follow your way,
You are the potter and we are the clay: Alleluia!

Alleluia...

6. If we have love, then we dwell in the Lord,
God will protect us from fire and sword,
Fill us with love and the peace of his word: Alleluia!

Alleluia...

The Collect of the Day

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004) alt.

O God, whose Son is the good shepherd, send us out as shepherds to seek the lost, to heal the injured and to nurture all with grace and compassion; through Jesus, who calls each by name. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Acclamation: Hallelujah

sung through 4 times

CP324

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

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Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and

will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Leader Let us confess our faith as we say,
All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son**

**he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church
We acknowledge on baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

With the Spirit of God alive in us, with the breath of life filling our bodies, with the light of Christ warming our hearts, let us join together in prayer

Most Holy God, we give you thanks for this time of worship. Even though we are not physically together through you we are together in spirit.

Blessed are you God of grace.

You have called each one of us to be your love in the world. Grant us the grace to move beyond our own self and our preoccupations that we may be grounded in your peace.

Blessed are you God of grace.

Empower us to live out your holy message in ways that bring justice and integrity to all people and all of creation. Deliver us from our lethargy and cynicism. Guide us in ways that will support all who are in need.

Blessed are you God of grace.

We pray for those suffering from illness, and for those paralyzed by grief or sorrow. We pray for all who mourn the death of a loved one, the death of a relationship, the loss of work and for those steeped in loneliness. Grant them all your peace. Blessed are you God of grace.
we pause to pray for your world O God, and all of the places and people who rest on our hearts.

pause

We hold before you Heather Bewza, Eleanor, Lori, Tyler, Edie, The Howe Sound Women's Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls, the Elders of Squamish Nation and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care

professionals, researchers and emergency personnel. We pray for those in positions of power and for those who provide us with the essentials of our day to day living.

We pray for all who call the Downtown East Side home as they face the trauma of enduring two health crises simultaneously.

Guide us in your love, O God, to live your compassion, justice and tenderness with one another.
Blessed are you God of grace.

Trusting in your wisdom we offer all our quiet thoughts and prayers into your care. In your Holy name we pray. Amen

Offertory Hymn: Jubilate Deo CP308

Jubilate Deo
Jubilate Deo,
Alleluis

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Leader Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
**All 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**

Leader Glory to God
**All 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, forever and ever. Amen**

Leader May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

St. John the Divine Prayers for May3rd, 2020

The Church

The Diocesan Management, Finance and Property Committee - Bob Hardy, ODNW (Treasurer and Chair), Shailene Caparas (Staff)

St. John the Divine, Squamish- The Reverend Cameron Gutjahr

Immediate Prayer Requests

Heather Bewza, Eleanor, Lori, Tyler Olfert, Edie Hildreth, The Howe Sound Women's Centre, the residents of Hilltop House, the residents of Shannon Falls and the patients of Squamish General Hospital.

In this time of COVID-19, we pray for all who are sick, for all who are grieving, for health care professionals, researchers and emergency personnel.

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Reverend Cameron's Reflection

Since the first Monday in Easter, I have been reading through the book of Acts in 30 days. Now, almost at the halfway mark, I am feeling grateful for this nourishing practice.

Every day, I read one chapter from Acts. This slow, steady diet has allowed me to really relish the stories. I read each short snippet 2, sometimes even 3 times each day, to really savour it, and allow the words to sink in.

As I work my way through, I am reminded how many of my favourite stories are found in this book:

- The Rise of the Deacons (Acts 6:1-6)
- The Invitation of the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-39)
- Sinner2Saint: The Saul/Paul Story (Acts 9:1-28)
- The Centurion and the Picnic* (Acts 10)

**Titles imagined by me!*

The Acts of the Apostles was written early in the life of the Church, reflecting on its origin and spread. It asks and wrestles with some important questions: what now? What does it look like to follow the resurrected and ascended Jesus? Who are we – the Church, the followers of Jesus; and who are we for? Acts is full of stories of identity and change, trying things for the first time and figuring stuff out.

I think that this book is particularly relevant for us right now, because these are some of the same questions and themes that we have been wrestling with, both now, and even before this pandemic.

I invite you to join with me in exploring the book of Acts, maybe reading every day, or perhaps just checking out some of the stories I mentioned above. I invite you to imagine where God might be calling us, through these accounts of those who have come before us – our spiritual ancestors and fellow members of Christ's body, the Church.

Thanks be to God!

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