Diocese of New Westminster. Archbishop & Metropolitan: The Most Reverend Melissa Skelton



**St Clement’s Anglican Church**

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 17th 2020**

**Morning Prayer**

***We welcome everyone worshipping online with us today!***

**The Gathering of the Community**

*Presider* We acknowledge with respect that we worship on the traditional territories of the Tsleil-Waututh – *People of the Inlet,* the Musqueam – *People of the River Grass,* and the Squamish – *Mother of the Wind.*

Let us pray that we may live more deeply into the calls to action from Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

***People* May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of reconciliation and peace.**

*Following the ringing of the bell, a moment of silence is kept*

**Introductory Responses**

*Presider* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

***People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Presider* Let us praise our God

***People* who has given us life and hope**

**by raising Jesus from the dead.**

*Presider* Let us rejoice, then, even in our distress.

***People* We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

*Presider* O God, you have claimed us as your own

***People* and called us from our darkness into the light of your day.**

*Presider* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

***People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Presider* Blessed are you, God of our salvation,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt

and led them to freedom in the promised land,

so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness

and brought us into the loving reign of the risen Christ.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation,

rejoice in this new day you have made

and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

***People* Blessed be God for ever.**

**Hymn #3 Morning has broken**

**1. Morning has broken like the first morning;
 blackbird has spoken like the first bird.**

 **Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!**

 **Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word.**

**2. Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,**

 **like the first dew-fall on the first grass.**

 **Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,**

 **sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning**

 **born of the one light Eden saw play!**

 **Praise with elation, praise every morning,**

 **God’s recreation of the new day.**

*Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881 – 1965) ©David Higham Associates Ltd.; Music: Gaelic trad., arr. C Richard Hunt (1930 -) ©*

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**The Reading**

**A Reading from the Book of Acts** (Acts 77 : 22 – 31) *NRSV*

**22**Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way.  **23**For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.  **24**The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, **25**nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.  **26**From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, **27**so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.  **28**For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

**29**Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.  **30**While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, **31**because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 66 : 7 – 18**

7 Bless our God, you peoples;

make the voice of God’s praise to be heard;

8 **Who holds our souls in life,**

**and will not allow our feet to slip.**

9 For you, O God, have proved us;

 you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 **You brought us into the snare;**

 **you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

11 You let enemies ride over our heads;

 we went through fire and water;

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 **I will enter your house with burnt offerings**

**and pay you my vows,**

 Which I promised with my lips

 and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

13 **I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;**

 **I will give you oxen and goats.**

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God,

 and I will tell you what the Lord has done for me,

15 **The One to whom I called out with my mouth**

 **and whose praise was on my tongue.**

16 If I had found evil in my heart,

 the Lord would not have heard me;

17 **But in truth God has heard me**

**and has attended to the voice of my prayer.**

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,

nor withheld steadfast love from me.

**Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:**

 **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

**The Gospel Reading**

*Stand or sit for the Gospel reading, as seems appropriate for your setting.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14 : 15 – 21) *NRSV*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**15**“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.  **16**And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.  **17** This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

**18**“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.  **19**In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.  **20** On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.  **21**They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Did anything stand out for you in this story while you heard it this time?*

*What does this story have to say to you today?*

**Homily: The Rev. Philippa Segrave-Pride**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**Hear, O Israel,**

**the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

**Love the Lord your God**

**with all your heart,**

**with all your soul,**

**with all your mind,**

**and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.**

**The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.**

**There is no commandment greater than these.**

**The Prayers of the Community**

**The Litany**

For the Church of the Living God in every place as we look for new ways of

being community and agents of God’s love in the world.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For the Search Committee for our next Rector, for the candidates, and for ourselves as we wait for the appointment to be made.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For the planet and the complex web of life it sustains.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For the leaders of the world as they make decisions affecting the health and wellbeing of the peoples of the world.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For health care workers and researchers as they bring their energy and skills

to overcome the virus; for all other essential workers.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For people whose living conditions does not allow for physical distancing, in

care homes, inner cities, refugee camps and gaols; for people in remote areas who do not have ready access to medical care.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For children, youth and young adults whose hopes and plans have been disrupted by the suspension of normal activities.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For people who have lost their source of income, and those who are facing a return to working conditions that may be unsafe.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For people living with anxiety, depression, fear, grief or loneliness; for people

for whom home is not a safe place, and those who are far from home.

Holy One, **Hear us.**

For people who are sick, at home or in the hospital; for those who are dying.

*Silence – a space to name those people for whom you wish to pray.*

Holy One, **Hear us.**

We give thanks for all the blessings we receive.

*Silence – a space to give thanks.*

Holy One, **Hear us.**

We give thanks for the lives of people who have died, entrusting them to

God’s gracious care.

*Silence – a space to remember those people who you love who have died.*

Holy One, **Hear us.**

Holy One, we commit all these prayers to you, those we have spoken and those that remain unspoken, in the name of the risen Christ.

**Amen.**

**The Collect**

Merciful God,

you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination.

Pour into our hearts such love toward you,

that we, loving you above all things,

may obtain your promises

which exceed all that we can desire;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.** *Book of Alternative Services*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Rejoicing in God’s new creation and gathering our prayers and praises into one,

let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**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.**

**The Sending Forth of the Community**

 **Hymn #205 The Day of Resurrection!**

 **1. The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroard,**

 **the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God!**

 **From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,**

 **our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory!**

 **2. Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright**

 **the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,**

 **and, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain his own “All hail!” and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.**

 **5. Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth her song begin;**

 **the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein.**

 **Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,**

 **for Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end**

 *Text: John of Damascus (696 – 754?); tr John Mason Neale (1818 – 1866)*

 *Music: Gesangbuch, Wurttemburg, 1784.*

**The Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

**Amen**.

*This liturgy was taken from the new morning and evening offices prepared for seasonal use,*

*as adopted by General Synod in 2019.*

**Prayers**

The following are for your prayers this week

**In our own Diocese**: Pray for Melissa, our Archbishop and Metropolitan; for Stephen, Archdeacon; and Patrick, Regional Dean; for the North Vancouver Regional Ministry Team and churches. For Linda, our Primate; for Mark, the National Indigenous Archbishop; for the Parishes of St Dunstan, Aldergrove; St Helen, Vancouver; and St Helen, Surrey.

**For the wider Church**: For the Anglican Church of Korea. For the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada. For Bishop Brent Alawas, the clergy and people in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines, specifically for our partner Parish of St Clement of Alexandria, Payeo – its ministry and mission; and for all Churches of North Vancouver.

**In our Parish community**: for Philippa, our Priest; for Elizabeth and Peggy, our Deacons; for the Wardens, Philip and Phoebe. For the staff: Lynley and Yvonne; and Lay Leaders: Lynda, Mike, and Robin. For the Youth and Children’s ministries in our parish – teachers, children, and teens.

**In our parish cycle of prayers**: for Randall, Nori and Lucas Alexander; Jill Allerton; Caroline, Perry and Alice Battista and James Wilson; and their families.

**For healing**: Pray for Beth Bailey; Fiona; Colleen and Matt Foster; Jack Griffiths; Marjorie Jeffries; Michael Jeffries; Lynda Mills; Carol Norwood; Joyce Oswald; Judy, Suzi Smith; Vanessa; Kevin Zakus; and for their families and caregivers.

**In the neighbourhood**: For the residents, nursing staff, care aides, and administration at Lynn Valley Care Centre, Lynn Valley Lodge, Cedarview, and for all seniors’ care homes in our community.

**For Outreach**: for all newcomers to Canada: for Saber and his family, Honada, Said and family; for Bukhari; for Neema Grace, Malis *(pronounced Ma-lees)* and his family, for Fatemeh, Nasrullah, and Nazrin and family.

For the community groups that use our building, that they may be weathering this time of absence safely and well.

**Scripture readings for Sunday, May 24th 2020 – Ascension Sunday**

Acts 1 : 1 – 11 / Psalm 93 / Ephesians 1 : 15 – 23 / Luke 24 : 44 – 53

**Ministry Connections**

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