

ASCENSION SUNDAY

24 MAY 2020



St. Hilda's By the Sea Anglican Church Open Doors · Open Hearts · Open Minds

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev Ayoob Adwar

Musician: Katherine Hume

Deacon: The Ven Bruce Morris

Reader: Amelia Foster **Prayers:** Bev Niebergall

Opening Hymn *Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise* vs 1-4 CP 247



1 Hail the day that sees him rise,
2 There for him high tri - umph waits; al - le - lu - ia!
3 High - est heaven its Lord re - ceives,
4 See! He lifts his hands a - bove,



to his throne a - bove the skies; al - le - lu - ia!
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates;
yet he loves the earth he leaves;
See! He shows the prints of love;



Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners given,
he hath con - quered death and sin; al - le - lu - ia!
though re - turn - ing to his throne,
Hark! His gra - cious lips be - stow



en - ters now the high - est heaven!
take the King of glo - ry in. Al - le - lu - ia!
still he calls the world his own.
bless - ings on his church be - low.

Greeting

Celebrant Alleluia Christ is Risen!

PEOPLE Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

PEOPLE And also with you.

Celebrant In this time and place,
we gather on the ancestral territory of the shishálh Nation.

**PEOPLE From many places and peoples
we come to this house of prayer.**

Celebrant In this time and place, together, one people of God.

**PEOPLE In the name of God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Glory to God

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,
ALL and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated on the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Holy God,

**ALL send your promised Spirit of revelation and wisdom,
so that, in the blessed freedom of hope,
we may witness to the grace of forgiveness
and sing with joy to the One who makes us one.
Amen.**

✠ The Proclamation of the Word ✠

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11.....Amelia Foster

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. ‘This’, he said, ‘is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’

So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 47 *All read together*

- 7 Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with a cry of joy.**
- 2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared,
the great sovereign over all the earth,**
- 3 who subdues the peoples under us
and the nations under our feet;**
- 4 who chooses our inheritance for us,
the pride of Jacob whom God loves.**
- 5 God has gone up with a shout,
with the sound of the ram’s-horn.**
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our sovereign, sing praises.**

⁷ **For God is sovereign of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill.**
⁸ **God reigns over the nations
and sits upon the holy throne.**
⁹ **The nobles of the peoples have gathered together
with the people of the God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God,
who is highly exalted.**
**Glory to God, Source of all being,
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23Amelia Foster

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn He Came Down CP 368

He came down that we may have *love; He
 came down that we may have love; He came down that we may
 have love, Hal-le-lu-jah for ev-er-more.
 Cantor: Why did he come?

Text: Cameroon traditional

Tune: Cameroon traditional; transcribed and arr. by John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

The Gospel Luke 24:44-53

Deacon May God be with you

PEOPLE And also with you

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

PEOPLE Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then [Jesus] said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he

withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Deacon The Gospel of Christ

PEOPLE Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon..... Fr. Ayoob Adwar

An Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith

**ALL 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. Amen.

The Prayers of the People..... Bev Niebergall

We have gathered in this ordinary, yet sacred space, again. May we continue to create here a circle of love, ever expanding, ever growing. A place of wisdom. A place of connection. A place of hope.

We stand in solidarity with those who have not the freedom to express their concern or celebration for fear of discrimination or condemnation. The virus has exposed a rampant, pervasive inequality and injustice in the world, within societies and communities. May we be encouraged to advocate for justice, reject violence and call out racism.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

May those in Public health services and in the medical profession, all who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families, be

strengthened and encouraged. We pray that the leaders of the nations may speak the truth, halt the spread of misinformation and act with justice. May they focus on working for an economic system that prioritizes people and the planet over profit, and protects the livelihood and human rights of people.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

May we be made vigilant, attentive and proactive in the eradication of all diseases, malaria, dengue, HIV & AIDS, and others that create suffering and often result in death for many people.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

Our hearts ache with those who lost friends and families in the violent attack in a mosque where several lost their lives in Afghanistan, following a shocking attack on a Kabul maternity ward last week. We pray for peace, especially during this time of pandemic in order to guarantee humanitarian access and to protect people from COVID-19.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

We remember the more than two and a half million people evacuated in Bangladesh and India by the super cyclone Amphan. We pray that they may find strength and hope within the destruction that surrounds them in addition to the pandemic with which they are currently struggling. Also, our hearts are with the family of Capt. Jenn Casey as they mourn her loss in the tragic Snowbird crash. May her family find comfort and peace at this time.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

We also hold in our hearts and prayers, those whose work it is to be supporting their faith communities and are not able to do so at this time. May they tune themselves to a different rhythm to find depth in listening and trusting.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

We are immensely grateful when we see how people have mobilized, finding ways to serve their neighbours, advocating for justice and peace, even if physically distant.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

We pray for those known and unknown in our community who struggle with illness, grief, worry or fear. Let us remember them at this time.

**Jude & Vick Dusik, Fred Hibbard, Phil Hopkins,
Janet McConnell, Tom Pape, Lorelei Reier,
Sher & Morrie Sacks, Donna Walsh Wheeldon,**

and any others we may name

We also ask that you receive Rudy Dusik into your arms and grant him everlasting peace.

As People of the Resurrection, Let us live in hope and love.

Through little acts of kindness - the healing powers that lie within a smile, and the miracles worked by gentle words of praise - we touch and change the human face of this world. Only by the power of the human heart does misery turn to beauty, despair to new life, and the killing weight of endless suffering become the freedom of possibility. And life calls us, once more to celebrate its presence with love – the deep and burning kind of love that costs so much. May we find within our own hearts the power of that love waiting to be spilled freely and lavishly in every place we might find need. This world is ours to heal. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners and invites them to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

~ Silence is kept. ~

Most merciful God,

**ALL 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be with you all.

PEOPLE And also with you.

Offertory HymnLet There Be Peace on Earth



Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With

God our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we.

Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment now.

With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow; To

take each mo - ment, and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly!

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

Text & Tune: Sy Miller, 1908-1941, Jill Jackson, © 1955, 1983, Jan-Lee Music Used with permission.

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Eternal God,

PEOPLE our Saviour Jesus Christ
has promised to be with us until the end of time.
Accept all we offer you this day,
and renew us in his transfigured life;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 3BAS p. 198

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE We lift them to God.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

PEOPLE It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant Blessed are you gracious God
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who after his glorious resurrection
appeared to his disciples,
and in their sight ascended into heaven
to prepare a place for us;
that where he is, there we might also be,
and reign with him in glory.
Therefore we praise you with angels and archangels
and will all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Sanctus 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.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
for the goodness and love
you have made known to us in creation;
in calling Israel to be your people;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.
In him, you have delivered us from evil,
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In him, you have brought us
out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said,

“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them, and said,
“Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore Father, according to his command,

PEOPLE **we remember his death,**
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all;
presenting to you, from your creation,
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,
that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ
and his blood of the new covenant.
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,
that we, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new,
and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn of all creation,
the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever. **Amen**

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 forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.

PEOPLE Now we are raised to new life.

Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.

PEOPLE Now we share in your resurrection.

Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant Eternal Giver of love and power,

**ALL your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom.**

Confirm us in this mission,

**and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Family Thanksgiving & Announcements

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,

PEOPLE 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

Closing HymnAlleluia! Sing to Jesus vs. 1-2 CP 374

1. **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!**
His the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. **Alleluia! Not as orphans**
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Dismissal



This Sunday's liturgy has been compiled from various sources, including:

- Greeting adapted from *Gathering Sentences for the Church Year* from Diocese of New Westminster
- Psalm text from *A Liturgical Psalter (5th ed) Pointed for Psalm Tones* by The Rev Dr Richard Geoffrey Leggett and Pointed by The Rev James Brown.
- Affirmation of Faith from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, (HarperCollins 1997) p. 481
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- *Let There Be Peace on Earth* Text & Music Sy Miller & Jill Jackson © 1955, 1983 Jan-Lee Music

St. Hilda's By the Sea Anglican Church

5838 Barnacle Street PO Box 302 Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0 Phone: 604.885.5019

Email: admin@sthilda.ca Website: www.sthilda.ca

Interim Priest-in-charge ...The Rev Ayoob Adwarrector@sthilda.ca... 765-7085
 Deacon.....The Ven Bruce Morris.....bmorris@vancouver.anglican.ca... 740-6408
 Music DirectorKatherine Humekhpiano@telus.net... 885-2069
 Bishop's Warden.....Carol Eades.....eadescarol@gmail.com... 886-9646
 People's Warden.....Mike Starrstarrmj@me.com... 961-9256
 Associate WardenJill Halliwelljcwellspring@gmail.com... 885-1994
 Envelope SecretaryMaggie Scott.....maggiescott76@gmail.com.....885-3312
 Office AdministratorKaren Weatherington.....admin@sthilda.ca.....885-5019

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PARISH PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Anglican Communion	The Anglican Communion around the world For the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, and all primates and bishops
Diocese & Partners	The Deanery of Tri-Cities / North Burnaby – The Rev Eric Mason, Regional Dean Holy Trinity Mission in Bantey (twinned with St. Hilda's) Companion Diocese: Bishop Brent Alawas, & the Clergy & People of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Philippines BC Synod of the ELCIC, Bishop Gregory Mohr
Local Agencies	Multiple Sclerosis Self Help Support Group
Local Churches	Gibsons United
Justice Umbrella	Kairos (an ecumenical social & ecojustice organization) SC syiyaya Reconciliation movement
Prayer Requests	Jude & Vic Dusik: comfort in their time of grief Fred Hibbard: comfort and peace Phil Hopkins: strength & peace while healing Janet McConnell Tom Pape Lorelei Reier: strength recuperating from chemo Sher & Morrie Sacks: comfort & peace Donna Walsh Wheeldon: heart disease investigation
Rest in Peace	Rudy Dusik
Parish Families	Julie Stevens, Meg Stevens, Margaret Thorne, Sue Towers

Prayer requests are listed for 4 weeks - to extend, please contact the office.