

The Anglican Church of St. Peter, Quamichan
2nd Sunday after the Epiphany - January 17, 2021
CELTIC SERVICE

People of God in this place and in all places, we give thanks that you have joined us for worship, and we welcome you to the Anglican Church of St. Peter, Quamichan. With many churches across this country and around the world, we observe this season of Epiphany with this our service from the Liturgy from the Holy Isle of Iona.

Opening Acknowledgment:

Officiant: In this time and place, we gather on the unceded ancestral territories of the Coast Salish people and the Cowichan Tribes.
In this time and place we gather in the name of the living God.
In this time and place we gather with the community of faith around the globe and across the ages
In this time and place we are not alone, but one in Christ
In this time and place Hallowed, expectant, one people in God

All: In this time and place heaven and earth are one. In the name of the Holy and Blessed one, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn: Will You Come and Follow Me

Opening Responses

Leader: In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said, "let there be light."
All: And there was light.

Leader: In the beginning, when it was very quiet, the Word was with God.
All: And what God was, the Word was.

Leader: When the time was right, God sent the Son.
All: He came among us, he was one of us.

Leader: O God, who brought us to the bright light of this new day
All: Bring us to the guiding light of eternity.

Call to Prayer

Officiant: We gather in God's name.
All: We claim Christ's promised presence.

Collect of the Day

Officiant: God be with you.
All: And also, with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.
All: Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Officiant: I invite you to settle your hearts and minds and be attentive as we listen to Holy Wisdom.

Scripture: 1 Samuel (3:1-10)

Psalm 139

1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * **you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**

2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * **and are acquainted with all my ways.**

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * **but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**

4 You press upon me behind and before * **and lay your hand upon me.**

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * **it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; * **you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

13 I will thank you because I am marvellously made; * **your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

14 My body was not hidden from you, * **while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.**

15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; * **they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.**

16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! * **how great is the sum of them!**

17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; * **to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

All: God of mystery and power, even our minds and hearts are the veils and signs of your presence. We come in silent wonder to learn the way of simplicity, the eternal road that leads to love for you and for your whole creation. We come as your Son Jesus Christ taught us, and in his name. Amen.

Gospel: John 1:43-51

Deacon: We greet the Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Deacon: This is the Gospel of Christ.

Response: Amen! Thanks be to God.

Homily (Kirsten Evenden, Seminarian)

Music for reflection

Affirmation of Faith:

Deacon: Let us affirm our faith, as we say these words in the Celtic tradition.

All: We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present, and His kingdom will come on earth. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us pray.
Maker and Lover of us all, in the mystery of your kindness You have bound us to each other and called us to serve the earth and its people. So, hear us as in this ancient place of worship, we pray for the church to which we belong that we may ever be a center of faith, hospitality and imagination, modelling the future rather than lamenting the past *(pause)*
God, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Grateful for the life in our bodies, we pray for those whose lives are diminished by ill health, depression, grief or rejection, asking for the healing, the affirmation, the listening, which will encourage and restore them. We remember especially, Rocke, Sandee, Jennifer, Vera, Vital, Teresa, Frank, Pearl, Brian, Connie, Brandon and Connie *(pause)*
God, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Conscious of the peace of this place, we pray for those who have no peace because of war or the fear of war, or the threat of violence, or the grip of hunger, or the loss of hope. May the voice of the victims be heard and may the work of the peacemakers be blessed. *(pause)*
God, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Surrounded by rugged and tender beauty, we pray for the earth, especially where it is damaged by human carelessness and threatened by human greed; and ask that we may learn to care for the earth as you do. *(pause)*
God, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: I invite your prayers for those you carry in your heart. *(pause)*
God, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: And because we are here to meet with Jesus, we join our words to those he taught us, saying,

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; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil; for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn: *Just As I Am*

Prayer of Confession and Restoration

Deacon: My sisters and brothers, not out of dread and fear but believing that God is faithful to forgive, let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

All: **Eternal God, maker of the skies above, lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth, Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters, In earth, sea and sky, you are there. O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul behind all souls, in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, your presence is around us, and we give you thanks. But when we have not touched but trampled you in creation, when we have not met but missed you in one another, when we have not received but rejected you in the poor, forgive us, and hear our plea for mercy.**

Officiant: Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: your sins are forgiven. Go in peace and follow me. *(Pause)*

All: **Lead us now, O God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries Glory through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Offering Prayer

Officiant: All that we have and all that we are, are God's gifts to us. So, here we return a token of our wealth asking that it and all we possess be used to God's glory.

All: **Blessed be God forever.**

The Blessing

Leader: May the everlasting God shield you east and west and wherever you go. And the blessing of God be upon you

All: **The blessing of the God of life.**

Leader: The blessing of Christ be upon you,

All: **The blessing of the Christ of love.**

Leader: The blessing of the Spirit be upon you

All: **The blessing of the Spirit of grace.**

Leader: The blessing of the Trinity be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision*

Dismissal:

Leader: Let us go into the world, being the hands and heart of Christ for all that we meet!

All: **Thanks be to all that is Holy, Alleluia, Alleluia!**