

St. PAUL'S  
ANGLICAN CHURCH



A Parish of  
The Diocese of  
New Westminster  
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – SERVICE OF THE WORD  
MAY 2, 2021 AT 10.00 AM**

*Welcome to our Online Service.*

*In preparation, you may want to think about posture and your environment at home. You may find it helpful to light a candle, place or hold a cross...whatever is helpful.*

**GATHERING THE COMMUNITY**

**PRELUDE** *Music will be played as part of our preparation for worship*

**THE GREETING**

*The minister makes the Territorial Acknowledgement and greets the people informally and then continues*

*Minister* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**All** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Minister* Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**All** **He has given us new life and hope.**  
**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

*Minister* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**All** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**All** **Faithful one, whose word is life:  
come with saving power  
to free our praise,  
inspire our prayer  
and shape our lives  
for the kingdom of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## CONFESSION

*Minister* Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**All** Lord, hear us and help us.

*Minister* We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**All** Lord, hear us and help us.

*Minister* We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**All** Lord, hear us and help us.

*Minister* 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 for ever.

**All** Amen.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Minister* Almighty God,  
your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.  
Give us grace to love one another  
and walk in the way of his commandments,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All** Amen

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Michael McManus

*Reader*            A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

ACTS 8:26-40

*Reader*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**All**                **Thanks be to God.**

*Musical Interlude*

### SECOND READING

*Reader*            A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN

Michael McManus

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.  
I JOHN 4:7-21

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**All** **Thanks be to God.**

*Musical Interlude*

## **THE GOSPEL**

Michael McManus

*Reader* +The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**All** **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches.

Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

JOHN 15:1-8

*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.  
**All** **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **HOMILY**

Margaret Trim

*After the Homily there will be a period of time for reflection.*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Minister* Let us confess our faith as we say,  
*All* **I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

David Facey-Crowther

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Minister* 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.**

## **DOXOLOGY**

*Minister*      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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The Minister gives the Announcements.*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*Minister*      Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**All**              **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Minister*      May Christ,  
                     who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,  
                     fill you with his new life;  
                     and the blessing of God, Creator,  
                     Redeemer and Sustainer of Life,  
                     be with you always.  
**All**              **Amen.**

*Minister*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**All**              **Thanks be to God**

*If you would like to join us for a virtual coffee hour on Zoom, please go to*

*<https://bit.ly/3hM6u2Z>      Meeting ID: 240 454 925      Passcode: 153936*