

ST. COLUMBA  
ANGLICAN-UNITED CHURCH

**18th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**SEASON OF CREATION 3: ACT**  
**Holy Communion**  
September 15, 2024  
Priest, The Rev. Sheila Cook  
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**TO HOPE AND ACT  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

**Mission Statement**

**As followers of Jesus Christ, our church is a community called to love, honour, worship, and serve God. We invite others to share our Christian journey as we grow in faith and engage in ministry in our town and mission in our world.**

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Leader: regular font ~ **All: bold font** ~ *Sung words: bold italics* ~ Asterix\* stand as you are able  
† at this symbol in the service, the sign of the cross may be made.

I do not glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. *Galatians 6.14*

**Welcome and Announcements**  
**Land Acknowledgement**

The Gathering of the Community

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;  
**our God is full of compassion.**

Let us walk in the presence of the Lord  
**In the land of the living, through Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

\*Hymn VU 409 Morning Has Broken

***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!***

***Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.***

***Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!***

Words: Eleanor Farjean; Music: harmony, Alec Wyton.

Collect of the Day

O God, because in our ignorance and selfishness we so often fail to care rightly for your Creation, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may soften and unite our hearts with all living beings who suffer; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Huthilala's! Let us listen as God's Word is proclaimed!

Hebrew scripture: Proverbs 1:20-33

...The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19 VU 740

***Refrain 2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!***

The heavens declare the victory of God; and the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork

**One day speaks to another, and night shares its knowledge with night,**

And this without speech or language; their voices are not heard.

**But their sound goes out to all the lands, their words to the ends of the earth**

**R 2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy, like an athlete eager to run the race.

**Its rising is at one end of the sky, it runs its course to the other, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

**R 2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!**

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul,

**God's instruction is sure, giving wisdom to the simple;**

God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart;

**God's commandment is pure giving light to the eyes;**

God's fear is clean, enduring forever;

**God's judgements are true, every one of them righteous**

More desirable than gold, even much fine gold;

**Sweeter also than honey, pure honey from the comb.**

**R2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!**

By them is your servant warned,

**For in keeping them there is great reward.**

But who can discern unwitting sins?

**O cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the better of me.

**Then shall I be clean and innocent of great offense**

**R2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!**

**All: Let the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O God, my strength and my redeemer.**

Epistle: James 3:1-12

...The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Hymn VU 264 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,**

**In light in accessible hid from our eyes,**

**Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,**

**Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,**

**nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;**

**thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above**

**thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small,**

**in all life thou livest, the true life of all;**

***we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish but naught changeth thee!***

***Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light;  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all praise we would render, O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!***

\*The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to Mark.

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

*Mark 8:27-38*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Reflection

\*Affirmation of our 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.**

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the church, the nations, and all people seeking God's mercy and care.

*At the bidding:* God of love,

*Let us respond:* **hear our prayer.**

\*Confession

Let us confess our sins to the One whose eyes are open day and night to heed our cry and our prayer.

**Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you. We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives. We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life. We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control. We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection. Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Absolution

Friends do not despair: God renews us by the word of truth, that we might become the first fruits of God's creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

\*The Peace

Friends, Christ is our Peace, our infinite Peace. May the peace of God be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*(We all share a sign of peace together.)*

**THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED**

Offertory Hymn VU 226 For the Beauty of the Earth

***For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon, and stars of light,  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For each perfect gift sublime  
to our race so freely given;  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven.  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

Response VU 540 Grant Us, God, the Grace

***Grant us, God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully.***

Prayer over the Gifts

Holy God, accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharist Prayer, by Salal and Cedar, adapted.

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our creator.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you Creator on this beautiful morn, on the traditional and unceded Land of the *'Namgis People*, home to salmon, eagle, fir tree and river stone. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken, and its peoples need to reconcile.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the Land, were displaced from the Land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens... Blessed are you Gracious God... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**†Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of famers and seeds, labour and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me."

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup. Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of faith and community. Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation. Bring us with all your saints and our ancestors of light to your kingdom which is both now and yet to come. All honour and glory are yours, †Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Friends, as our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

“I am the bread which has come down from heaven,” says the Lord.

**Give us this bread for ever.**

Invitation

The table of bread and wine is now made ready. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a while or have never been; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have not; Come. All are welcome. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Communion will be served to you in your place and we partake together)*

Prayer after Communion

God of peace, in this eucharist we have been reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have been nourished by holy things always have the courage to forgive. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

\*Hymn MV 135 **Called by Earth and Sky**

***Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust,  
treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.***

***Precious these waters, endless seas,  
deep ocean's dream,  
waters of healing, rivers of rain,  
the wash of love again.***

***Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust,  
treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.***

***Precious this gift, the air we breathe;  
wind born and free.  
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,  
our gathering and our grace.***

***Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust,***

***treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.***

***Precious these mountains, ancient sands;  
vast and fragile land.  
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,  
Creation's faithful song.  
Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust,  
treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.***

***Precious the fire that lights our way,  
bright dawning day.  
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,  
our faith and justice one.***

***Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust,  
treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.***

Words and music: Pat Mayberry

#### Doxology

**Glory to God, 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

Creator, Send us anywhere you would have us go, only go there with us. Place upon us any burden you desire, only stand by us to sustain us. Break any tie that binds us, except the tie that binds us to you.

And the blessing of God; the Creator, who made and knows you; the Savior, who redeems and befriends you; and the †Spirit, who enlightens and sustains you, be with you this day and always.  
**Amen.**

**\*Three-fold Amen**

#### Dismissal

Go in Peace. You are the created. You are the Body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**



## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

*Season of Creation:*  
Proverbs 31:10-31  
Psalm 1  
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a  
Mark 9:30-37

***“So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.”***  
*-1 Thessalonians 5:11*

### Announcements

**Canned and dried food** are always appreciated.

**Mission Focus:** Fire Effectuated United and Anglican Churches in BC and Jasper, Alberta  
**Season of Creation,** Christians around the world are invited to give particular attention to praying and caring for God’s creation as part of the [global Season of Creation](#) (SOC), observed from September 1 to October 4 every year. [General Synod 2019 passed a resolution](#) adopting the Season of Creation in the Anglican Church of Canada as a time of prayer, education, and action and encouraging dioceses and parishes to participate. This year’s themes: *Pray, Learn, Act, Advocate, Bless.*

Liturgical resources:

Gathering Prayer & Prayers of Intercession *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B*, Vol. 2, Kim Long, ed., (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press), 2015, 166-169.

Collect & Confession: *Season of Creation: Episcopal Liturgical Guide 2024*. 24, 51.

<https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/SeasonOfCreationEpiscopalLiturgicalGuide2024.pdf>

The day’s liturgical prayers from: the *Anglican Book of Alternative Services*. Copyright © 1985 by the *General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada*.

Eucharist Prayer: *Salal and Cedar: A Watershed Community*, Vancouver, BC, [salalandcedar.com](http://salalandcedar.com)  
Adapted.

Invitation, Communion Liturgy of *the Iona Community*, UK,  
[https://media.acny.uk/media/Communion\\_Liturgy\\_Iona\\_2020.pdf](https://media.acny.uk/media/Communion_Liturgy_Iona_2020.pdf)

Blessing, attributed to The Rt. Rev. John Shelby Spang.

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