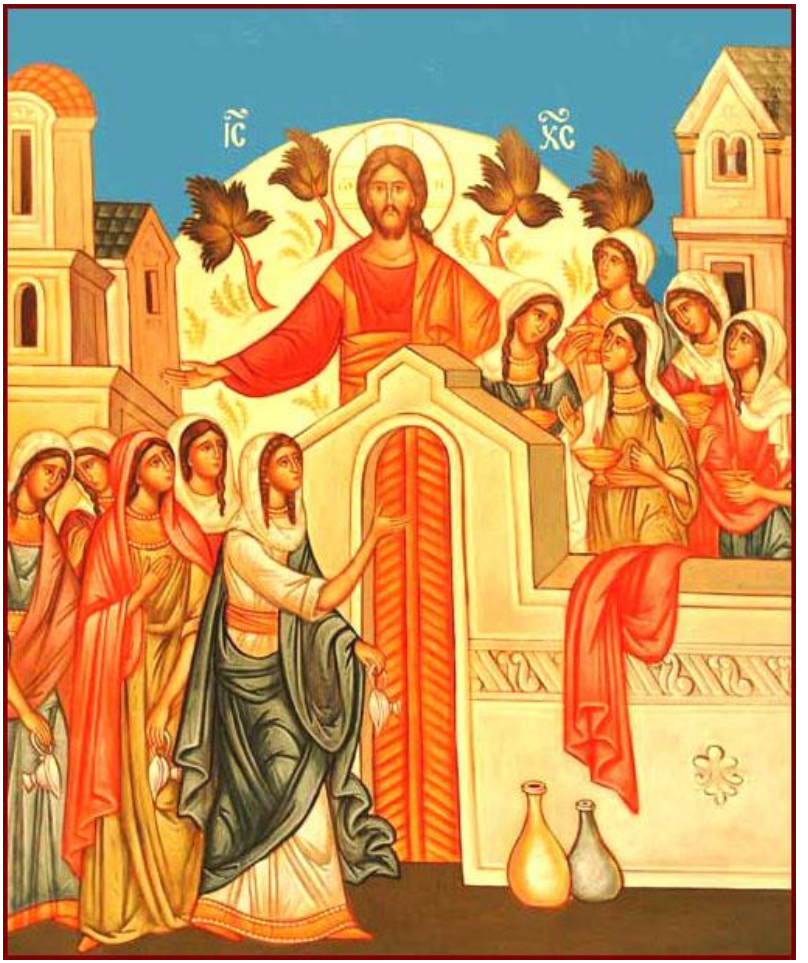
St. Helen's Anglican Church of Canada
Diocese of New Westminster

The 24th Sunday After Pentecost



Presider: The Rev. Sebastian Way
Preacher: The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss
Deacon: The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss
Music Director: Dale Throness

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

Please Stand

OPENING HYMN O Praise Ye the Lord CP 330

GREETING AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

As we gather on the traditional territory of the Musqueam people,
Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil divisions and hatreds.

Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace and reconciliation
which God wills for us.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

GLORIA **Glory to God** **CP 691**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
who caused all holy scriptures
to be written for our learning,
grant us so to hear them,
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
that we may embrace and ever hold fast
the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please be seated

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING Joshua 24:1-3A, 14-25 Liz Hodgson

A reading from the Book of Joshua.

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

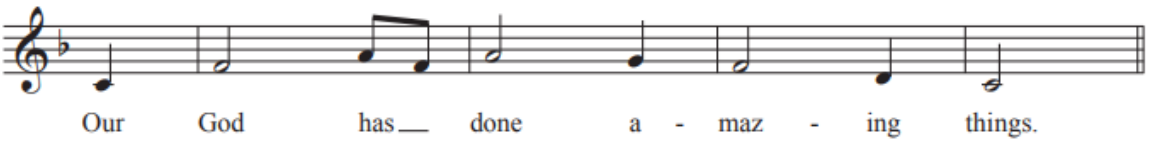
Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 78.1-7
Attendite, populе

Refrain:



Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times. ***R***

That which we have heard and known,
and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from their children

We will recount to generations to come
your praiseworthy deeds and your power, O God,
and the wonderful works you have done. ***R***

You gave your decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel,
which you commanded them to teach their children.
That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children.
So that they might put their trust in you, O God,
and not forget your deeds, but keep your commandments; ***R***

THE SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18 Kyle Taylor

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION CP 714

Please stand

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (2x)

Choir:

Watch and be ready,
for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL OF THE DAY Matthew 25.1-13

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia

THE SERMON The Rev. Sebastian Way

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please Stand

We join Christians across time and place
as we affirm our faith in God our Creator.

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come 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 life everlasting.
Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

INTERCESSIONS

Please stand, sit or kneel for prayer

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives."

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the Congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness CP 447

THE PRAYERS OVER THE GIFTS

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
Through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
Fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation
Blessed be God forever.

Gracious God,
your word to us is food indeed.
Receive all we offer you this day,
and let your loving-kindness be our comfort,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, your living Word.
Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Creator, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who on this first day of the week
overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

In our unending joy
we echo on earth the song of the angels in heaven
as we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS CP 694

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Lord, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary, the Mother of God, St Helen and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Creator,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI CP 701

COMMUNION

Dipping the host into the chalice (intinction) is not permitted in this diocese. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than Holy Communion, please indicate this by placing your right hand over your heart.

COMMUNION HYMNS Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him CP 59
God of All Time, All Seasons of Our Living CP 67

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please Stand

Let us pray.

Lord of Heaven,
in this Eucharist you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
and bring us to the joy you promise.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

May God give you comfort and peace,
light and joy, in this world and the next;

and the blessing of the living God:
the Source of all being,
the eternal Word and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Stay watchful and awake, be alert to the Lord's coming.

Go in the peace of Christ.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN The Love of Jesus Calls Us CP 434

POSTLUDE

Please remain seated for the postlude. At 11:30 today we will gather in the Memorial Garden for a short Act of Remembrance, after which refreshments will be served.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. HELEN'S

Join us for our Sunday Worship on October 25th, 2026

Book of Common Prayer | at 8:00 am

This is a simple yet deep spoken celebration of the Eucharist using the traditional Book of Common Prayer.

Choral Eucharist | at 10:00 am

This is a modern Eucharist service, with choral music sung by the St. Helen's Choir.

Tuesday Eucharist at 12:15 pm

A simple service of spoken Eucharist is held each Tuesday at 12.15 pm.

Next week this service will take place on Friday at 12.15 as Sebastian is at a clergy day on Tuesday.

Contemplative Prayer

Contemplative Prayer sessions are held every Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Faith Formation Series: Anglican Beliefs and Practices

We continue our faith formation series this Sunday from 9-9.45 am. All are welcome and no preparation or prior attendance is required. Copies of the book can be purchased from the Church Office for $25, or speak to Sebastian if cost is an issue.

November Stewardship & Visioning Potlucks

Stewardship potlucks are taking place this month - many thanks to our hosts and to all who are taking part in these wonderful community building events. If you encounter any scheduling difficulties please contact Zayd or Sebastian.

The theme for our discussions this year is Growing Community. A package including pledge cards will be distributed soon.

Remembrance Day Memorial

Today we will mark Remembrance Sunday after the 10 am Eucharist with a short act of remembrance. This will be held at 11.30 am outside the Church in the memorial garden. The St Helen's Scouts will be in attendance and any friends or neighbours are welcome to join us. This will be followed by refreshments in the narthex.

Advent Book Circle

Beginning Wednesday, November 25th (continuing on December 2nd, 9th, and 16th) an Advent Book Circle will replace the Wednesday Contemplative Prayer sessions. The book will be *The Wisdom Way of Knowing* by Cynthia Bourgeault. Please talk to The Rev. Sebastian Way if procuring a copy is a financial difficulty.

Neighbourhood Ministry Shopping List for this Week

St. Helen's is one of four parishes in the West Point Grey neighbourhood supporting this important ministry to provide conversation, food, essential supplies, and other forms of care to our street-involved neighbours. Once a month our parish prepares food and packets of essential supplies for a team of volunteers to distribute on their rounds every Saturday morning.

We are grateful for the donations of supplies we receive on a regular basis. The Ministry has compiled a list of essential items to include in their packets. This month we would especially appreciate donations of **men's socks**, **small cans of tuna** (with pull tabs), and **Boost or Ensure**.

Other staples needed on a regular basis include:
Juice boxes
Fruit or pudding cups
(We have more than enough granola bars for the moment, thanks!)

Donations can be placed in the NM bins under the table in the narthex.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email Shawn at deraaf@gmail.com.

Intercessor Prayer Requests

Prayers for:
Liz
Paul
Ruth
Lois
Diane

Volunteers Today

Readers: Liz Hodgson, Kyle Taylor
Chalice Bearers: Jeffrey Preiss
Counter: Lynn Raymond
Zoom: Tony Hodgson

Scripture Readings for Next Week

First Reading: Judges 4:1-7
Psalm: Psalm 123
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

How to Contribute to St. Helen's Financially

We deeply appreciate financial contributions to our shared congregational life and mission. The best ways to donate are:

- Set up a Pre-Authorized Donation - simply send an email to sthelenswpg@gmail.com to get started or change your amount
- Donate via Interac e-transfer to sthelenswpg@gmail.com
- Scan the QR code to the right or visit https://sthelensvancouver.com/give to donate via credit card
- Use one of the envelopes available at the back of the church by the offering plate to donate via cheques or cash

Office Hours

Tuesday, 09:00am-5:00pm
Wednesday, 09:00am-5:00pm
Friday, 09:00am-5:00pm

Connect with us:

Office Administrator: **Zayd Mia** | office@sthelensvancouver.com | 604-224-0212
Priest-in-Charge: **The Rev. Sebastian Way** | rector@sthelensvancouver.com
Deacon: **The Rev. Jeffrey Preiss** | deacon@sthelensvancouver.com