
10:00 am

September 8, 2024



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope

(Rom 8:19-25)

Introit: “Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary”

Opening Hymn: “Let Us Build A House” (*see video screens*)

Land Acknowledgement

Call to Worship

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

Almighty God, **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sung Gloria: “Gloria, Gloria, in Excelsis Deo” (CP #376)

Kyrie: Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the powerful who oppress and dominate Creation, so you never forsake your creatures who live in harmony with nature's order; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Reading: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 (*Amanda Hansen*)

Psalm 125 (VU 849)

The Second Reading: James 2:1-10, 14-17 (*Beverley Unsworth*)

Gradual Hymn: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (CP #306)

The Gospel: Mark 7:24-37 (*Sharmila Lakhani*)

The Sermon: *Godly Play "The Story of Creation" with Meaghan Hicks*

"Silence & Stillness for Prayer & Reflection"

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God creates all things, renews all things, and celebrates all things. We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with all creatures. We believe every creature joins us in praising God. We believe that God became incarnate as a part of Earth, Jesus Christ, that he lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation. We believe that the risen Jesus Christ fills the whole creation, reconciling all things to God, renewing all things. We believe the Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with every suffering creature, and waits with us for the rebirth of the whole creation. We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation, reconciled, restored, and renewed.

Prayers of Intercession (*Caroline Burgess*)

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

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.**

The Peace: The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: "Wind Upon the Water" (CP #408)

— *The Celebration of the Eucharist* —

Prayer Over the Gifts

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, so that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

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 thanks and praise.**

It is right at all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where the Fraser River meets the Salish Sea, where city and farm, wilderness and industry are side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

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.

Together with angels and ancestors, orca and salmon, bear and raven, salal and cedar we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song: *(CP #732)*

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. Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptised in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he travelled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers 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.

Again 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 justice 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 to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sung Lord's Prayer by Gordon Light

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name; your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as in heav'n. 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Communion Anthem

Refrain: Come and eat this Bread, come and drink this cup,

Come and share the feast that God has spread,

You have promised us, you are here with us, in the breaking of the bread.

1. Now from this table to the ends of earth,

Gather all of your people in this feast of all creation.

Come to the banquet for now all is ready.

These are the gifts of God for you, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

If you require a gluten free wafer, please only extend one hand. If you do not feel comfortable drinking from the cup, please just acknowledge it and let it pass.

We ask that you refrain from intincting or dipping your wafer.

Communion Hymn: “Eye has not Seen, Ear has not Heard” (CP #548s)

Prayer after Communion

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, so that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

The 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.

Sung Blessing

The Closing Hymn: “Will You Come and Follow Me” (CP #430)

The Dismissal: Go in peace, share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**



Season of Creation: Signs of Hope

In the letter of Paul the apostle to the Romans, the biblical image pictures the Earth as a Mother, groaning as in childbirth (Romans 8:22). Francis of Assisi understood this when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his Canticle of Creatures. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used.

And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather groaning, crying, and actively striving for new life amidst the struggles. Just as in childbirth, we go through a period of intense pain, but new life springs forth.

Participation Opportunities

Take pictures of “signs of hope” in Creation to be posted around St. Anne’s.
Email them to Marnie at rector@stannessteveston.ca

Sunday, Sept 8: Labyrinth Walk

Meet at Our Saviour Lutheran Church at 12 noon

Saturday, Sept 21: Dyke Path Clean-Up

Meet on the path at the end of Francis Road at 10 am

Sunday, Sept 29: Blessing of the Animals

Pets are invited to the 10 am service for a special blessing

Announcements

The Path Book Study Resumes: Wednesday, September 11

11 am in person / 7 pm on Zoom

Youth Group Kick Off: September 21 @ 4 – 5:30 pm

All youth 8 – 13+ are invited to Gilmore Park United Church.

Faith & Family Resumes: Sunday, September 22 @ 12 – 2 pm, Gilmore Park United

This program is for all children and youth and their parents and grandparents and guardians from Gilmore Park United, South Arm United, Our Saviour Lutheran & St. Anne's Churches. Bring your lunch and enjoy discussion, fellowship and crafts.

Get Involved @ St. Anne's

OMID is the Farsi word for HOPE and the name of our ministry to bring a refugee family to Canada. They are currently in Pakistan and we're hoping to move them here by the end of the year. If you would like to help with any aspect of this ministry, there are lots of opportunities. Please visit the OMID page on our website to learn more. We are currently collecting signups for donations to furnish the family's new home.

Does visual aesthetic enhance your worship experience? Our Altar Guild prepares the Sanctuary for worship services with each season change. We could use some additional hands to join this team and help prepare the Holy space and elements. Talk to Marnie to learn more.

Is prayer an important part of your life? Or do you enjoy writing? Intercessory Prayer might be interesting to you. Have a chat with Marnie or another Intercessor to learn more.

Are you digitally-minded or well-versed in Zoom? Our tech crew needs help with our Audio Visual (AV) ministry on Sunday mornings. We're also looking for additional Zoom greeters. Talk with Bob McGall or any of the AV crew on Sunday mornings to inquire.



ST. ANNE'S STEVESTON
ANGELICAN CHURCH

4071 Francis Road,
Richmond, BC V7C1J8



Phone: 604-277-9626



Email: st_annes@telus.net



Website: www.stannessteveston.ca



Follow us on Facebook: [stannessteveston](https://www.facebook.com/stannessteveston)

Bishop ❖ *The Right Reverend John Stephens*

Rector ❖ *The Reverend Marnie Peterson*

Music Director ❖ *Jonathan Der*

We gather and worship on the ancestral and unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.