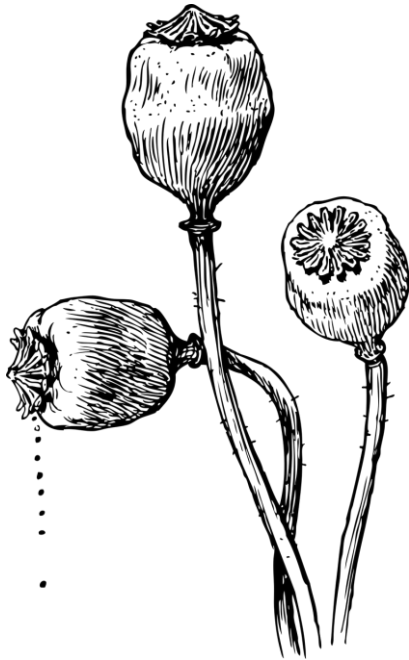


Christ Church Gabriola

A Collaborative Anglican – United Church
Open to All



Hybrid Church
19 JULY, 2026

“Seventh Sunday of Pentecost”

Rev. Deborah van der Goes
Music: Ian Cox

We acknowledge that these lands upon which we worship are the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Words for Worship

Words of response are in bold & italics

The altar and Christ candles are lit to remind us of Christ the Light of the world

Prelude and Welcome

Land acknowledgement

We prayerfully acknowledge with thanksgiving that we gather on the unceded territories of the Snuneymuxw people. Gracious God, help us to seek a new relationship with the first peoples here, one based in honour and respect. Amen

Let us pray together.

*God, by whatever name we call You...
however we experience You in our individual lives,
we come today ready to celebrate Your Presence.*

As we gather together, open our hearts to notice your voice.

*In the song of birds... in the rustle of leaves...
in the warmth of the sun in the wetness of the rain.*

In the wisdom of other peoples and cultures.

In our own longing for connection and Oneness.

Thank you for this time of prayer, reflection and learning.

We come ready and grateful to receive You.

Confession and Forgiveness

Before God, with the people of God, I admit my fears and failings...
the way I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world

*May God forgive you; Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.*

(silence)

And the people now pray

Before God, with the people of God, we confess our fears and failings. The ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

May God forgive you; Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

With the whole church, We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.

With people everywhere, We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

With all creation,

*we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life: the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.
Amen.*

Opening Hymn: We'll Sing in the Morning

¹We'll sing in the morning a song of creation,
of your breath that stirs up the waters to birth;
and all that is moving in sea and dry land,
we'll sing of your glory alive in the earth.

²We'll sing in the noontime a song of redemption:
how Naaman was cleansed in the flow of your grace;
we'll sing of the water that cleanses the nations,
and brings us as children to look on your face.

³We'll sing in the evening a song of your pastures,
of living streams that gladden the city of God;
we'll sing of the waters that shield us from danger,
and mark out the pathways our Saviour has trod.

The Collect – Prayer of the Day

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*(Church of England)***Amen.****Prayer before the Reading of Scripture**

O God, your Word is a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path.
Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love.

*(ACC & UCC Sources)***Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 55:10-13***God's word goes forth*

Reader: Susan Brockley

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

CP #37**Psalm 65:9-13** (sung as "The Trees of the Field")

You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace
the mountains and the hills
will break forth before you
there'll be shouts of joy

And all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands
And all the trees of the field Will clap their hands
The trees of the field Will clap their hands
The trees of the field Will clap their hands
While you go out with joy

Scripture: Romans 8:1-11*Living according to the Spirit*

Reader: Susan Brockley

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law--indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Reading*As is your custom, please stand or sit for the reading of the gospel.*

Reader: Deborah van der Goes

God be with you.

And also with you

The Good News of Jesus the Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Christ Jesus.**Gospel Acclamation : Halle, Halle****Halle, Halle, Hallelujah****CP #662****VU #958**

Matthew 13:1-9

The parable of the sower and the seed

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

The Good News of Jesus the Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

VU #958

Sermon: Fresh Seeds

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O people of God,

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 greatest commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbor as yourself.

There is no greater commandment than these.

Life & Work of the Church

Prayers of the People

Loving God,

Hear our prayers.

Catherine Woodward

Lords Prayer (sung)

VU #959

***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.***

Peace of Christ

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another

*(You are invited to turn to those directly around you and share Christ's peace.
Those on Zoom, please unmute and share with one another)*

Offering

(offering now to be collected – with quiet music, when collected please bring forward)

Offering Prayer

CP #669

Praise God the Source of life and birth,

Praise God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.

All Glory, honour to God's name.

Holy Communion

Assistants: Betty Schultze and Pat Armstrong

Invitation

Here is the table of the Lord.

We joyfully gather at the Lord's table, open to all.

The Great Thanksgiving

(Lutheran Book of Worship)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and all places, give thanks and praise to you, Almighty and Merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. With all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join in their unending hymn.

Sanctus: (sung)

MV #203

O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread,
and gave thanks; and broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this to remember me.

And again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this to remember me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: *(sung)* **MV #204**
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! x2

With this bread and cup
We remember your Word
Dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth
In his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come Lord Jesus.

Holy God, We long for your Spirit,
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy one of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
One God, now and forever
Amen

Breaking of the Bread

Loving God,
***as we break bread and share the cup,
we give thanks for the bread and the wine,
fruits of your earth and of our labour.
We commit ourselves to your service
and that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith.***

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

We offer you, O God, this bread and this wine.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
That all who eat and drink at this table
And all the tables of the world
may be one body, one holy people

Communion is Shared

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table.
Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God,
***May our participation in these sacramental gifts transform us
that we may live lives of thanksgiving
and be faithful to your will.***

Closing Hymn: My Life Flows On (vs 1,4,5)

CP #401

¹My life flows on in endless song
Above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

⁴When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
And hear their death knells ringing;
when friends rejoice both far and near,
How can I keep from singing? R

⁵The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his;
How can I keep from singing? R

Blessing For Here and at Home

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy
you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life.
***May we who seek to listen to the Great Spirit
trust in your power to restore all things,
who gives life to all creation. Amen.***

Postlude

*Prayer is sitting in silence until it silences us,
Choosing gratitude until we are grateful.*

Richard Rohr