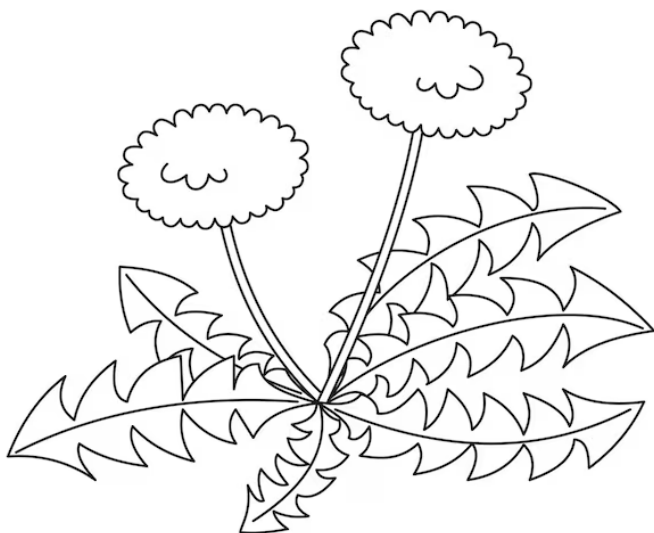


# Christ Church Gabriola

A Collaborative Anglican – United Church  
Open to All



**Hybrid Church**  
**July 19, 2026**  
**“Eighth Sunday of Pentecost”**

*Rev. Sally Bullas*  
*Musician: Ian Cox*

*We acknowledge 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*

### Prelude

### Acknowledgement of the Land

*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.*

### Centering & Stillness

“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my  
anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.”

*(Psalm 139:23-4)*

*(invitation to sit in silence)*

### Introit: All Creatures of Our God and King

**VU #217**

<sup>1</sup>All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Bright burning sun with golden beam,  
Soft shining moon with silver gleam,  
Sing praises, sing praises,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

<sup>2</sup>O rushing winds and breezes soft,  
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
O rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
O lights of evening, find a voice.  
Sing praises, sing praises,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

<sup>3</sup>Earth, ever fertile, day by day  
brings forth rich blessings on our way:  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,  
Let them God's glory also show:  
sing praises, hallelujah!

<sup>4</sup>And everyone of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
All who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and yield up all your care:  
sing praises, hallelujah!

<sup>5</sup>Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship God in humbleness,  
sing praises, hallelujah!  
Praise God eternal, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, three in one:  
sing praises, hallelujah!

### Opening Words

*(Thandiwe Dale-Ferguson, worshipwords.co.uk)*

God, you came into the world weak:  
A baby born in a stable,  
Sleeping in a feeding trough  
With animal sounds and smells all around.

#### ***This is how love came to earth.***

God, you have made us vulnerable.  
Our bodies can get sick and hurt.  
Our hearts are easily broken.  
Life is not always safe.

#### ***This is how love lives on earth.***

God, you have also made us resilient.  
Bodies can heal.  
Hearts can mend.  
Lives and communities can change.

#### ***This is how love heals us all.***

God, your power is made perfect in our weakness.  
For weakness breaks us open  
And makes room for us to grow and flourish

#### ***So that we can be your love***

#### ***Today, tomorrow and every day.***

Let us worship our God.

### Lighting of the Christ Candle

For the love of Christ,  
***we bring light into the world.***

*(Christ Candle is lit)*

### Prayer of Confession

*(Ana Gobledeale, worshipwords.co.uk, adapted)*

What's this pit in my stomach, God?  
Where has my equilibrium gone?

#### ***Why does my trust waver?***

Events, some which have not yet transpired, fill me with fear.  
The writing – bold crude graffiti – seems to be on the walls  
Surrounding my thoughts

#### ***Love, break through***

Hope, shine relentlessly into this darkness  
Unity, remind us of our humanness, our oneness, our sameness

#### ***Forgive my doubt***

Do I have the strength of faith to endure a world at war?  
Do we have the will to avoid it?  
Release me from this strangling cord of despair.  
Release us from our hatred of one another.

#### ***Open my heart to you***

Open our hearts to love

#### ***One more day***

Everyday

### Words of Assurance

*(Sam Goodman, worshipwords.co.uk)*

Hold onto the tears

#### ***Dwell in the lament***

Gently adhere

#### ***Live with intent***

Grasp the purpose

#### ***Seize the joy***

Not things that hurt us

#### ***Let hope be employed***

Touch the expanse

#### ***Of divinity rejoicing***

Join in the dance

#### ***That eternity is voicing***

Feel the embrace

#### ***Of angels thronging***

Come face to face

#### ***By belonging***

### Hymn: You, God, Are My Firmament

VU #279

<sup>1</sup>You, God, are my firmament,  
Roof for my head,  
Shelter from storm,  
Nourishing bread,  
Tender and warm.

Refrain:

I will give thanks,  
I will sing praise  
with all of my heart,  
all of my days.

<sup>2</sup>You God, are a tower of strength.

I shall not fear,  
I shall not fall,  
knowing you're near,  
guardian of all. R

You, God, are my guiding light,  
beacon from birth  
helping to see,  
lighting the earth,  
enlightening me. R

### **Passing of the Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

***And also with you.***

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

### **Prayer Before the Reading of Scripture**

By the gift of your Spirit, calm and quiet our souls that we may hear your Word today and be lifted up to walk with you. In Christ's name we pray.  
Amen

**Scripture: Genesis 28:10-19a** (NRSV)

Reader: Betty Schultze

#### ***Jacob's Dream at Bethel***

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this

place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

This is the Word of God.

***Thanks be to God.***

### **Gospel Reading**

Reader: Betty Schultze

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

God be with you.

***And also with you.***

The Good News of Jesus the Christ according to Matthew

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

### **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

#### ***The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat***

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This is the Gospel of Christ.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Reflection:** "Weeping and Gnashing of Teeth"

**Hymn: Oh A Song Must Rise**

Refrain

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend  
Oh a song must rise once again (again)  
Singing out God's praises and glory,  
the faithful voices blend,  
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend. (descend)

<sup>1</sup>From the mountains to the valleys,  
from the desert to the sea,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the voices of our leaders,  
the voice of you and me,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

<sup>2</sup>From poverty and riches,  
from the voice of young and old,  
a song must rise once again. (again)  
From the free and the imprisoned,  
the timid and the bold,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

<sup>3</sup>From ev'ry house of worship,  
in ev'ry faith and tongue,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the villages and cities  
a new song must be sung,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

**Offering**

**Doxology** (*sung*)

**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.**

**Offering Prayer**

Loving God, thank you for all the gifts you have given us.

***Help us be grateful.***

Now we share our gifts.

(worshipwords.co.uk)

**MV #142**

***Please accept these gifts of love that we offer to enhance the lives of others.***

For you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sister, we do for you.

***Thank you for providing us with the means, the will and the opportunity to share your love.***

May our gifts be used for your mission in our church and the world.

***Amen***

**Prayers of the People**

Susan Brockley

God of infinite mercy,

***Hear our prayer.***

**The Prayer of Jesus** (*sung*)

**VU #959**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your Kin-dom 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 Kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.**

**Hymn: I Have Called You by Your Name**

**MV #161**

<sup>1</sup>I have called you by your name, you are mine;  
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.  
I will not abandon you;  
all my promises are true.  
You are gifted, called, and chosen;  
you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>I will help you learn my name as you go;  
read it written in my people, help them grow.  
Pour the water in my name,  
speak the word your soul can claim,  
offer Jesus' body given long ago.

<sup>3</sup>I know you will need my touch as you go;  
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.  
Like the woman reaching out,  
choosing faith in spite of doubt,  
hold the hem of Jesus' robe,  
then let it go.

<sup>4</sup>I have given you a name, it is mine;  
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.  
With my wonder in your soul,  
make my wounded children whole;  
go and tell my precious people  
they are mine.

### **Blessing**

*(Ana Gobledale, worshipwords.co.uk)*

God's peace: carry, keep and hold you.

God's love: nourish, bless and enfold you.

God's spirit: inspire, lift and mold you.

May God, merciful and just, help you persevere on the path before you.

### **Postlude**