

Today's Services of Holy Communion

8:00 am Service

Preacher and Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Jane Rowland

Deacon: The Rev. Rosemary Bishop

10 am (Book of Alternative Services)

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jane Rowland

Celebrant: The Rev. David Ney

Liturgical Assistant: Jeff Oneski

Deacon: The Rev. Julianne Hendrickson

The Leadership Team at St Peters

If you or someone you know is ill or in need of pastoral care,
please leave a message at the office or email one of our clergy.

Please feel free to direct any inquiries, questions or concerns to one of the wardens.

The Rev. Dr. Jane Rowland, Incumbent	403-252-0393	jane@stpeterscalgary.ca
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The Reverend Julianne Hendrickson, Deacon		kitnevang@hotmail.com
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May 3rd, 2015
5th Sunday of Easter
10:00 am



St. Peter's Anglican Church
903-75th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta 403-252-0393

The 50 Great Days of Easter

The feast of Easter is fifty days, from Easter Eve through the Day of Pentecost. During this season, “alleluia” (praise the Lord) is said or sung repeatedly, which contrasts sharply with the season of Lent when the alleluia was omitted. The large Paschal (Easter) Candle, which represents Christ, the light of the world, is lit from now until Ascension Day.

If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Anglican Church, simply relax with the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Call to Silence

As today’s service begins, a gong will sound, calling us to stillness before God. As its sounds fade away, we stand to sing our processional hymn.

Processional Hymn #224 Awake, Arise, Lift Up Your Voice

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

May his grace and peace be with you. **May Christ fill our hearts with joy.**

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace.

Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life.

Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit.

Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love.

Source of life, Word of life, Breath of life,

we worship you.

The Gloria

Gloria to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father:

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect

O God, **you give us the Son as the vine, apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, so that we bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006), alt.

Children's Talk

The Children are invited to come forward, then leave for Spirit Zone and return for Eucharist. Nursery is also available. Speak to an usher for more information.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30, BAS p. 728 (Green Book)

Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love [their brothers and sisters also](#).

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: All My Days by Stuart Townend

All my days I will sing this song of gladness
 Give my praise to the Fountain of delights
 For in my helplessness You heard my cry
 And waves of mercy poured down on my life

Refrain:

***Beautiful Saviour Wonderful Counsellor
 Clothed in majesty Lord of history
 You're the Risen One heaven's Champion
 And You reign You reign over all***

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer
 I will sing of the blood that never fails
 Of sins forgiven of conscience cleansed
 Of death defeated and life without end **Refrain**

I long to be where the praise is never-ending
 Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades
 Where countless worshippers will share one song
 And cries of "worthy" will honour the Lamb

The Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

Homily: The Rev. Dr. Jane Rowland

Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Let us come to the One who waits to forgive us and make us whole.

We carry our fears around with us like so much pocket lint, Compassionate Heart, when you would take them and toss them aside, spent and useless. You invite us to sit and chat with someone who wants to know more about you, but we are busy running errands. You give us a simple command—to love—and we complicate it with rules, worries, and doubts.

Forgive us, Vine Grower. You have planted those seeds of mercy, of hope, of grace deep within us, so we might bear rich and nourishing fruit for others. May we not get in the way of your Gardener, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who will use the Holy Spirit to bring forth an abundant crop.

Silence is kept

God abides in you! God is breathing, living, forgiving, restoring you in this moment, and in the days to come. This is the good news for us!

As God is in us, so we can live, work, care for others, so that love, hope and joy might touch all people. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen. —Thom Shuman

The Peace

Alleluia. Christ has been raised from the dead.

The peace of the risen Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn #531 You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Prayer over the Gifts:

Gracious God, **you show us your way and give us your divine life. May everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving #1 BAS p. 193

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

Lord we died with you on the cross. **Now we are raised to new life.**
We were buried in your tomb. **Now we share in your resurrection.**
Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei (Sung)

**Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on us,
Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us,
Jesus redeemer of the world, give us your peace.**

Communion

All are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

If you desire personal prayer following communion, a prayer team is available in the Prayer Chapel. Prayer will also be available after the service.

Prayer after Communion

God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more that 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

Announcements

Recessional Hymn #211 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world – rejoicing in the Risen Christ!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Prayers

- In our worldwide Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church of Nigeria and their clergy, The Rt. Rev. Christian Ebisike.
- In our Diocesan Prayer Cycle we pray for St. Michael and All Angels, Strathmore and their clergy, The Rev. Bryan Beveridge and for the Vocational Deacons.
- In our Companion Diocese in the Windward Islands we pray for St. Andrew with Holy Innocents, St. Giles and St. Michael, Grenada and their clergy, The Rev. Fr. Michael Marshall; for Christ-The-King with St. Francis Carriacou, Grenada and their clergy, The Rev. Canon Clement Francis MPS (Emeritus).
- In our own parish let us ask for God's healing love to uphold and sustain all who are in any kind of need, especially: Marguerite Dimmer, Eileen Williams, Rachel Patrick, Edna Webb, Nathan Wadman, Mackenzie and the Walsh family, Samantha, Pamela Grigg, Cam Keith, Alan Manship, Sylvia Stanley, Jennifer Wiebe, Mary Wojna, Connie Hill, Olive Holgate, Howie Dawe, Joy Tufts, Judy and Emily Rousell and family, Kolby Thomson, Ruth Elford, Laurie Arsenaault, Kenneth Robertson, Tracey (Janzen) Grenier, Virginia Goodman, Ernie Rice, Edith Lenko, Nellie Werth, Joan Brisbane, Chad McGregor, Peggy Brookes, Mariam Jacobs, Andrew Howe, Linda Redel.
- Please pray for the Rev. Julienne Hendrickson as she supports the ministry at Tsuu T'ina.

Flowers are given this morning to the glory of God.

Mary Westell is Warden on Duty.