

# VESPERS

**April 9, 2026**

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

*Officiant*

# Gathering

Welcome, everyone.

As evening comes, we gather to rest in God's presence and reflect on the day.

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.” (Psalm 27:1)*

**Thanks be to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

# Confession

**Leader:**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

**All:**

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.  
Amen.**

# The Invitatory

**Leader:**

O God, make speed to save us.

**All:**

O Lord, make haste to help us.

**All:**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

# The Psalm

Psalm 121 (selected lines)

**Palmist:**

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved, he who keeps you will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
- 8 The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and for evermore.

**Pause for silent reflection.**

*Reader*

# The Readings

A Reading from the Gospel according to John (RSV):

<sup>26</sup> But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

<sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant*

# The Magnificat

**All:**

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour...**

**His mercy is on those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm...**

**He has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things...**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**

**Amen.**

*Officiant*

## Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith as we recite “Hear, O Israel”.

**Hear, O Israel,  
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 the great commandment.  
The second is like it:  
Love your neighbor as yourself.**

**There is no commandment greater than these.**

*Officiant*

## Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

### **Reader:**

Let us pray to God for light and healing in the Church and in the world. To the bidding, 'Healer of our blindness', please respond, 'Hear our prayer.'

Lighten the darkness of our world where so many stumble and fall in the blindness of pride, false trust, greed, and misused power. We remember those people and places in conflict, danger, and disaster... pause here... When people doubt the divine love and are suspicious of the signs of its working, let the words of those who have known your grace overcome the voices of mistrust. Healer of our blindness,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Officiant*

## Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

### **Hear our prayer.**

Strip from us the sin that prevents us looking farther than skin-deep. Cleanse us from racism, sexism, discrimination, and prejudice against those who are different from our experience.

We celebrate the advances in equity for women and girls in work, education, and human rights but confess that there is much still to do to value every person in society. Healer of our blindness,

### **Hear our prayer.**

Give to our families and to all the homes of this community the love that remains faithful in adversity. Let us not fear when hostility comes from outside, but in all our meetings with others may we speak the truth with boldness. Help us to recognize and witness to the blessings we receive in this life. Healer of our blindness, .

### **Hear our prayer.**

*Officiant*

## Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

We pray for those who need healing in body, mind, or spirit. We lift their names aloud or in silence... pause here...

Help us to advocate and work to create more inclusive and accessible spaces and events so that barriers to full participation may be overcome.

Healer of our blindness,

**Hear our prayer.**

We remember the departed, whose sins have been washed away and who live now in heaven's light that will never fade. Grant that we may come to share with them the perfect vision of God. Healer of our blindness,

**Hear our prayer.**

May our prayers be accepted in the name of Christ, the light of the world.

**Amen.**

*Officiant*

## Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

**Leader:**

I invite your prayers, spoken or silent.

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*Officiant*

# The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you despise nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent.

Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Officiant*

# The Lord's Prayer

Believing in the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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,  
and 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.**

# The Sending Forth

*Deacon / Presider*

Let us go forth into the night, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Presider*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**