

St Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church, Burnaby

Morning Prayer with Zoom Option

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 15, 2026 - 10:00 AM



'The Anointing of David' | 10th Century, Manuscript illumination

The Zoom codes for **all** our worship services are:

Meeting ID: 83846564281 Passcode: 244245

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83846564281?pwd=DxZqcFXDEK6Fi7uS7Srv906FS7Xd3I.1>

Today Bob Doyle leads us in Morning Prayer.

*Thank you for joining us for worship this morning! This document provides a guide for our time together. You are invited to join in saying the words in **bold**. Bookmarks to pre-mark the hymnals are available where you picked up this guide. Hymns today are in the blue "Common Praise" hymnals, with the one extra hymn from a different source printed in the bulletin.*

Words of Welcome & a Territorial Acknowledgement

Opening Hymn – "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" CP-397

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found, call upon him when he draws near; let the wicked forsake their ways, and the evil ones their thoughts; and let them return to the Lord, and he will have compassion, and to our God, for he will richly pardon.
Isaiah 55.6, 7

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 John 1:8–9

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

Silence is kept.

The officiant and people say together,

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.**

Almighty God, have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All We cast our burdens upon you, O Lord,
and you will sustain us.

All Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.

All Cast us not away from your presence
and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

All Give us the joy of your saving help again
and sustain us by your bountiful Spirit.

All Blessed are you, O Holy One,
the God of our salvation who bears our burdens.

All Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

All Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The children and their teachers move to Sunday School.

Invitatory Hymn – “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

CP-520

The Proclamation of the Word

First readingⁱⁱ - 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Our reader is Pat H

Saul, King of Israel, was initially in favour with God, but after disobeying the prophet Samuel's orders and then God's orders, he has been rejected by God.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

All Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
Thanks be to God!

The cantor sings the refrain first, then everyone repeats it the second time. The cantor sings the verses.



O God is my shep - herd, I shall not be in want.

Refrain: "O God is my shepherd, I shall not be in want".

O God, you are my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters. **[Refrain]**

You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **[Refrain]**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in your house, O God, for ever. **[Refrain]**

Second reading - Ephesians 5:8-14

Our reader is Elaine.

The author has exhorted his readers to conduct themselves ethically as benefits those who have adopted the way of Christ. In baptism, they cast aside pagan ways and became members of God's community.

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

All Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation "Glory and Praise to You"
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

CP-716

Gospel Reading – John 9:1-41

Reader The Lord be with you.
All And also with you.
Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Jesus has said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." As Isaiah foretold, Jesus gives sight to a man born blind.

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those

who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

The Gospel of Christ.
All Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation “Glory and Praise to You” CP-716
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily – via video The Rev Neil Jongbloed

Opportunity for Contemplation with Musical Interlude Natan Bádue

The Canticle – A Song of Humility – Hosea 6:1-6
*Read alternately by left side and **right side***

Come let us return to the Lord who has torn us and will heal us.

God has stricken us and will bind up our wounds.

After two days, God will revive us, and on the third day will raise us up, so that we may live in the presence of the Lord.

Let us strive to know the Lord, whose appearing is as sure as the sunrise.

God will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.

“O Ephraim, how shall I deal with you? How shall I deal with you, O Judah?”

Your love for me is like the morning mist, like the dew that goes early away.

**Therefore, I have hewn them by the prophets,
and my judgement goes forth as the light.**

For loyalty is my desire and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.”

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Creed: “I Believe in God Almighty” CP-44

Meditation Hymn: “Our Darkness is Never Darkness” CP-549

Prayers of the People led by Val

Leader Let us offer our intercessions, petitions, and thanksgivings, saying,
“God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.”

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth,

All God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

Leader For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples,
All God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

Leader For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected,
All God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

Leader For all whom we have injured or offended,
All God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

Leader For grace to amend our lives and to further your reign,
All God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud.
 After a period of silence, the following concluding prayer is said.*

Leader Gracious God, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.^{iv}

All Amen.

The Peace is an invitation for us to greet those with whom we worship as a sign of our reconciliation to them through the blessing of God's absolution of our sins. You are invited to greet those sitting nearest you with a handshake or other non-touch greeting.

The Passing of the Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace. *Romans 5: 1,2*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you.

During the singing of the Offertory Hymn, the greeters will bring the offering plates through the congregation. Financial offerings may be placed in the plates at the entrances to the worship space or made online at www.ststephenburnaby.ca/pages/donate. St Stephen's depends on the generosity of our members and visitors to continue to offer Christ's light to our neighbours.

Offertory Hymn – "Healer of Our Every Ill"

CP-612

Offertory Sentence

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

Thanksgiving Prayer

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us.
 We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation,
 for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.
 We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,
 and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts,
and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.
We thank you also for those disappointments and failures
that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ;
for the truth of his word and the example of his life;
for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation;
for his dying, through which he overcame death;
for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit,
that we may know Christ and make him known;
and through him, at all times and in all places,
may give thanks to you in all things.

All Amen.

Collect of the Day

Let us pray,

All Creator and Healer, you work your Sabbath will in the chaos of our life: teach us the insight that gives true judgement and praises you wherever you are found, making miracles from spit and mud; through Jesus Christ, the Son of earth. Amen^{iv}

Uniting our voices with Christians throughout the ages and throughout the world,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us.

The Lord's Prayer *"The Lord's Prayer"*

SGP-12

**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.**

Announcements

Sending Hymn - *"God Whose Almighty Word"*

CP-560

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

All Amen.



ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN CHURCH

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Parish Administrator: Lois Holmlund

Rentals: rentals@ststephenburnaby.ca

Wardens: Val Krause and Sara Shaw

Associate Warden: Sandra Sutherland

THANK YOU to our Lay Worship Leader, Bob Doyle, and to all our choir members; our readers; our tech support: Shin and Josie; and to our other volunteer servers this Sunday: our Zoom host: Barb; Parish host: Sara; our Greeters: Elaine and Man; Prayer leader: Barb; our Offering caretaker: Elaine; Altar Guild: Elaine and Josie; and Sunday School: Betty

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR IS LOCATED ON THE UNCEDED LANDS OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES, ON THE SHARED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF SK̓W̓X̓W̓Ú7MESH (SQUAMISH), səliłwətaʔ (TSLEIL-WAUTUTH), X̓w̓M̓Ə̓K̓w̓Ə̓Y̓Ə̓M (MUSQUEAM) AND k̓w̓ik̓w̓ə̓ł̓əm KWIKWETLEM (COQUITLAM) FIRST NATIONS.

Liturgical Notes:

- In the context of Christian worship, Israel does not refer to the current political state but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East, or in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.
- *Elements of this liturgy without an endnote come from the “Supplementary Eucharistic Prayers, Services of the Word and Night Prayer” (2001)*
- *Hymns, unless noted otherwise, are from the “Common Praise” hymnal of the Anglican Church of Canada. All other hymns are licenced via: OneLicence Church Music copyright permission.*

Endnotes

ⁱ The Anointing of David”

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/diglibfulldisplay.pl?SID=20220110209419103&code=act&RC=55312&Row=11>

ⁱⁱ The notes on the readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary Commentary, at the montreal.anglican.org site [Link](#), written by Chris Haslam.

ⁱⁱⁱ The Psalms are taken from the George Black Psalter at the Church of the Redeemer website, Anglican Church of Canada. <https://theredeemer.ca/music/george-black-psalter/>

^{iv} Collect is from Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)