

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 9, 2026

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE LIVE AND WORSHIP ON THE UNCEDED TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE KWIKWETLEM FIRST NATION, WHICH LIES WITHIN THE SHARED TERRITORIES OF THE TSLEIL-WAUTUTH, KATZIE, MUSQUEAM, SQUAMISH AND STÓ:LŌ NATIONS. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE CARED FOR THIS LAND SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL AS WE SEEK TO JOURNEY TOWARDS A MEANINGFUL RECONCILIATION.

Liturgy: ELW Setting 10

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome & Announcements & Land Acknowledgement

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess to you all our sins.**

We feel the burdens of life,

**and so turn to things for relief that leave us feeling ashamed
and even more burdened.**

We justify our failure to love our neighbours

by telling ourselves someone else will care.

We are full of good intentions around deepening our faith

**but always find other things to do
instead of giving you our time.**

**In all these ways and more we are trapped in sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

Please, in your mercy, call us back to you.

Give us a vision of what life can be

in loving relationship with you, each other, and all creation.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us by your Holy Spirit

**to walk in your ways
and find our peace in you.**

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

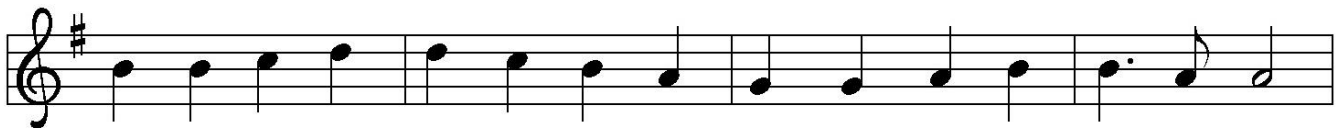
Gathering Song ACS # 1024 – Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Canticle of Praise – Glory to God in Heaven



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

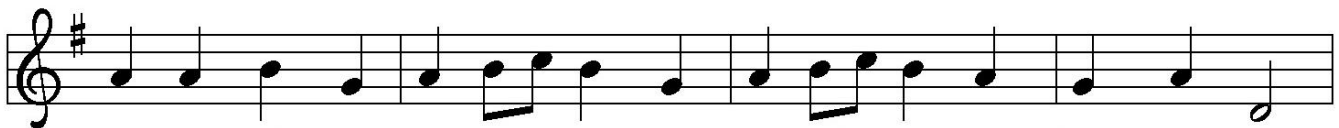
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Children's Time

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

P: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:8-13

Refrain:

You o - pen wide your hand and sat - is -

fy the de - sire of ev - 'ry liv - ing thing.

L: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

C: **Refrain**

L: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

C: Refrain

L: The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.

C: Refrain

Second Reading: Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

'The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart'

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Text: Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW # 755 – Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of Heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition, the pastor will say "God of grace" and the congregation will respond "**hear our prayer.**"*

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

All are invited to share a sign of peace with those around them, as we recognize the image of God in each other.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering and Offering Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

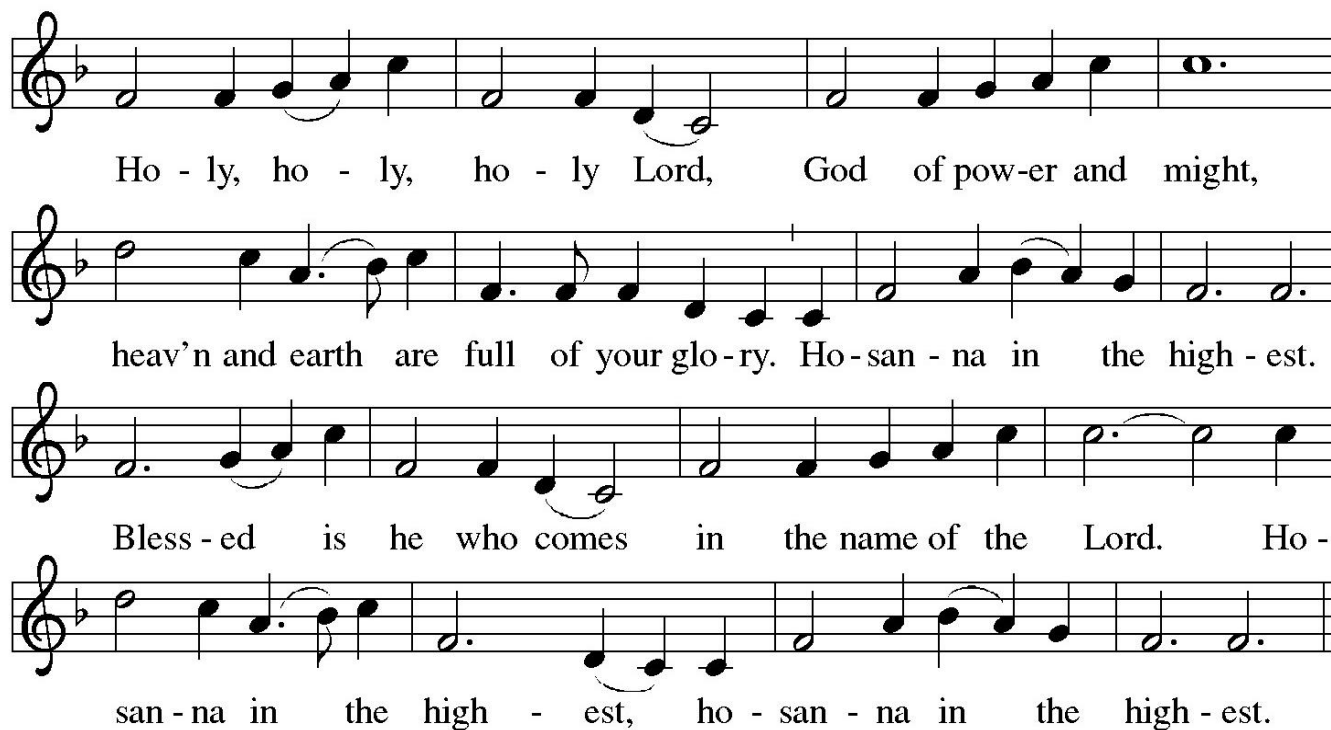
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

The pastor continues, concluding...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord's Prayer

C: **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.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Song – O Lamb of God



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion is distributed

Directions for Communion: All are invited to this meal of grace, including children. At the Usher's direction, you are invited to advance to the communion rail through the centre aisle, commune in groups, and exit back to your pews through the window aisles, depositing your used wine/juice vessel in the repository tray at the head of each window aisle. Wine is located in the two outer rings of the tray and the grape juice in the centre. We also have a gluten-free option for bread, and the common cup for wine. Please note your preference at the time of serving. If you would prefer to receive communion in your pew once all have come forward, please raise your hand and the servers will come to you.

Songs Sung During Communion:

TFF # 198 - When the Storms of Life Are Raging



- 1 When the storms of life are rag - ing, stand by me;
- 2 In the midst of trib - u - la - tion, stand by me;
- 3 In the midst of faults and fail - ures, stand by me;
- 4 In the midst of per - se - cu - tion, stand by me;
- 5 When I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble, stand by me;



when the storms of life are rag - ing, stand by me;
in the midst of trib - u - la - tion, stand by me;
in the midst of faults and fail - ures, stand by me;
in the midst of per - se - cu - tion, stand by me;
when I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble, stand by me;



when the world is toss - ing me like a ship up - on the sea;
when the hosts of hell as - sail, and my strength be - gins to fail,
when I do the best I can, and my friends mis - un - der - stand,
when my foes in battle ar - ray un - der - take to stop my way,
when my life be - comes a burden, and I'm near - ing chil - ly Jordan,



thou who rul - est wind and wa - ter, stand by me.
thou who nev - er lost a bat - tle, stand by me.
thou who know - est all a - bout me, stand by me.
thou who saved . . . Paul and Si - las, stand by me.
O thou Lil - y of the Val - ley, stand by me.

ELW # 756 - Eternal Father, Strong to Save

ELW # 501 - Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus

TFF # 62 - I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say – Refrain (Chant)



Shine on me, shine on me, let the light from the



light-house shine on me. Oh, shine on me, shine on



me, let the light from the light-house shine on me.

Communion Blessing and Prayer After Communion

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Sending Blessing

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn ELW # 774 – What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 9, 2026

Flowers are placed on the altar in praise and gratefulness that through the holy Word of scripture, the comfort of the eucharist meal, and in the refreshment of God's created world, we experience hope and peace – and an invitation to practice being the sign of God's presence in this needy world.

Pastor Eric away This Week: Pastor Eric is away August 10-15, helping with the BC Synod Youth Camp at Loon Lake. Please contact the office should a pastoral need arise during his absence.

Next Sunday – August 16: We will enjoy some time listening to reflections from a special guest next Sunday - new CLWR Executive Director Darryl Loewen. We hope you can come in person to hear him speak to us about CLWR and how their new initiatives – including the Friends of Creation Lake Chad rehabilitation that we are getting involved with – are positively impacting the world around us.

Friends of Creation – Lake Chad Fundraising Page: In advance of the *Season of Creation* that begins next month for 5 weeks, our church has initiated an online CLWR **Friends of Creation – Lake Chad** fundraising initiative. CLWR has kindly set up a specific on-line fundraising page for our church, which launches our goal to raise \$5,000 (100 acres at \$50 each) to help remediate the area that was formerly the Lake Chad lake basin, which has severely diminished in size due to global warming. Our GSLC online donation page is accessible by clicking [here](#), or via the QR code on the poster that follows. If your preference would be to donate cash or a cheque towards this initiative, we have special envelopes available for that purpose as well. Donations can be anonymous or else you can opt to show your name next to your donation amount – the choice is up to you! As the *Season of Creation* is almost here, we welcome your support through the launch our "CLWR - Friends of Creation" fundraising page. Donate once or donate as often as the Spirit moves you. See the bulletin board for more info.

Summer Foodbank Drive: Please don't forget Foodbank Donations over the summer. Food insecurity doesn't stop because of summer holidays. Please check out the items NEEDED, on the sign in the Narthex. (where the bin is) Donations will be delivered to the SHARE Food Bank periodically over the summer. Thankyou for your continued generosity.
~ From Your Outreach Team

Our Next Big Community Event!: Plans are taking shape for our next big fall community celebration. It will be a music festival on our parking lot featuring folk, jazz and rock music acts. There will be free food and ice cream, kids activities, contributions from the Kwikwetlem First Nation and some quieter indoor activities. We are looking for volunteers to help out with various tasks, and you can sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Ushers Table. As well, please see the poster that follows and plan to attend.

Favourite Hymn Sing: As is our usual practice over the summer months, we gather ten minutes before the service starts (at 10:20 am) to sing a couple of our favourite hymns before our regular service begins. The songs sung are selected by those attending, so come early and nominate your favourite hymn!

Vacation Bible School 2026: Plans are well underway for VBS Summer 2026. It will be held at our church **August 24-28, 9:00-12:00**, hosted by Saint Laurence and Good Shepherd Lutheran. VBS is for kids ages 4-11 and this year's program "Rainforest Falls – Exploring the Nature of God" is filled with learning and fun through games, crafts, storytelling, science experiments and music. See the poster that follows for all the details and to register you can click [here](#). If you would like to help out in any way, please contact Amy MacLeod our VBS co-coordinator, or Pastor Eric.

Job Opportunity – Youth Minister: ignyte, the joint youth ministry of Good Shepherd and St. Laurence Anglican, is looking to hire a new leader. This is a role for someone who loves working with young people, thrives on

genuine relationships, and is ready to build something meaningful in partnership with a community poised for growth. To see more details, click on the ignYte page on our website [here](#).

Next Conversation Across the Church: All are invited to join Bishop Larry and members of the ELCIC for the third Conversation Across the Church on **Sunday, September 13th at 3 pm PST**. The focus will be on the Season of Creation and why this is a priority for our church. Register [here](#) to register for the Zoom link to participate.

Advocacy for Natalie Abudayyeh and the ELCJHL: See the letter that follows from Bishop Larry Kochendorfer.

Liberating Lutherans: Theology & Organizing for the Church Today: *Spirit of Life* and *Church of the Cross* (2 churches in our Synod) are collaborating on an on-line education offering consisting of 1 hour classes on **Thursdays**, from September 17 to November 5. This is brief survey of Liberation Theology and its application to ministry today in our context. This is not an academic course, but a reading group open to anyone who wants to join. For more information, contact either of the church offices who will forward your email on.

spiritoflifelutheranoffice@gmail.com

lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca

Campfire in the City: You are invited to come and join us at Dunbar Lutheran's garden (3491 West 31st Ave) for evenings of family-friendly campfire fun – songs, stories, and s'mores. Stop by for the evening, or just for a while. Bring a lawn chair if you have one – if not, we'll find a seat for you. Light drizzle won't stop us, but in case of heavy rain, the event will be cancelled. We gather in the summer months on one **Friday evening, with the next gathering on August 14th**, then lastly on **September 11th, 7:30 pm – 9 pm**. See the poster that follows for all the details.

Youth Camp Starts Tomorrow: BC Synod is hosting a Youth Camp from **August 10-14** at Loon Lake Lodge in Maple Ridge. It is open to all youth ages 11 to 18. If you are interested in helping, please contact the synod office [here](#).

Seeking Accommodation: Yvon Malenfant and Michelle Ryu are seeking temporary housing. If you have any, or know of any, please let them know. Yvon writes:

***We are looking for temporary housing for the interim. 1 bedroom with a bathroom would be great!
Something not too expensive. Let us know if you have anything. Thank you for your kind consideration.***

Yvon & Michelle: 778-862-5240 Y / 778-863-5240 M

'Every Square Foot Counts' – Educational Opportunities for Congregations:

- This month's blog post is "**What the Quiet Season Is Asking of Us**" which invites congregations to reflect on how their buildings and land they sit on are seen and understood by their neighbourhoods. Read the full blog [here](#).

ignYte Return it Express Account: You're invited to support our ignYte Youth Ministry with your recyclables. See the instructions on the bulletin board.



GREATER CHURCH NEWS

- **Monthly Reflections on Climate Justice:** The Task Force on Carbon Neutrality provides monthly reflections on climate justice to encourage engagement, share resources and call for prayer, reflection and learning. *Biblical Passages Related to Climate Change and Carbon Neutrality* and *Community Focused Environmental Stewardship* are monthly reflections that you can read today by [clicking here](#).
- **Ministry with the Sick and Dying in the Context of MAID:** You may be interested in the ELCIC's 2019 *Call to*

Faithfully Journey with the Dying and/or the Anglican Church of Canada's [liturgical prayer resource](#) in the context of Medically Assisted Dying.

JUSTICE UPDATES

- **Next National Housing Strategy**: The **Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH)** recommends **Five Things Canada Can Do** in the next National Housing Strategy to Drive Large Scale Reductions in Homelessness. To read more about the recommendation and how you might help click [here](#). CAEH also invites you to email your MP to [call for a transformed Canada Housing Benefit](#).
- **New Resource on Responding to Christian Nationalism**: A new resource titled *Kingdom Over Nation* created by [Churches Together in England \(CTE\)](#), offers timely guidance for navigating conversations around Christian Nationalism. Rooted in ecumenical collaboration, *Kingdom Over Nation* invites Christians to consider what shapes their vision of the world and to place God's Kingdom above national identity. Get this resource when you [click here](#). To read more about the creation of this resource, check out the [interview](#) by the World Council of Churches. This resource is a thoughtfully developed collection of theological and pastoral materials designed to support reflection on faith, identity, and discipleship in today's cultural context.
- **Canada is Better and Stronger with Refugees and Migrants**: Ask your MP to join us and so many others in supporting and celebrating the ways in which welcoming refugees enriches our community. Please join our call to protect Canada's legacy as a welcoming country by [writing a letter to your MP](#) and sharing this call to action in your networks.

A gentle reminder that in consideration of those who have severe sensitivities and allergies, the church has been designated a fragrance-free zone. Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

This Week At Church (Note 1)

This Sunday *Favourite Hymn Sing* at 10:20 am
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time worship service with Holy Communion
at 10:30 am (view live-stream [here](#))

Monday-Friday ... Pastor Eric is away at Loon Lake for Synod Youth Camp

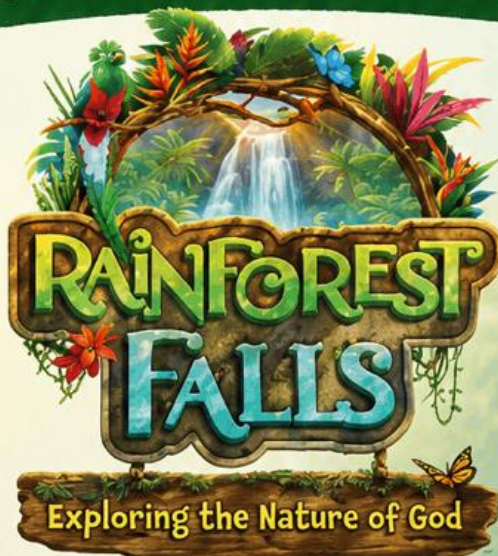
Next Sunday *Favourite Hymn Sing* at 10:20 am
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time worship service with Holy Communion with
Darryl Lowen, CLWR Executive Director as guest speaker at 10:30 am.
(view live-stream [here](#))

Note: Most events are in-person events except those noted "on Zoom" or "Online". The links to these online events are accessible through our website [here](#). Our Sunday morning worship service is offered in-person, live-streamed and via on-line recording posted to our website shortly after the service is over, unless otherwise noted.

Last Week at Church

Bob and Linda are currently away for the next few Sundays,
so as usual, weekly reporting of financial data will be delayed
during this time span and provided upon Bob's return.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THIS SUMMER!



AUGUST 24-28
9AM - 12PM



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Corner of Schoolhouse St. & Sprice Ave.



KIDS AGES 4-11



**BIBLE STORIES, CRAFTS,
SCIENCE & GAMES!**

**SCAN TO
REGISTER!**



**FUN, FAITH &
FRIENDS!**



MUSIC IN THE

PARK(ING LOT)

FEATURING

ROCK - Gift Shop - The Ultimate Tribute to the Tragically Hip

FOLK - Yvon Malenfant & Friends

JAZZ - The Nikolaj Hansen Quartet

DETAILS



12:00 - 4:00 PM Sept 12



1504 Spruce Ave, Coquitlam

FREE Admission

Food, Kids activities,
kwikwəłəm First Nation,
and much more.

(please bring your lawn chair)

More Info:



Come join us for

Campfire *in the City*

Summer Fridays 7:30 – 9 pm

June 12

August 14

July 10

September 11

Songs, stories, and s'mores

Bring a lawn chair if you have one

Dunbar Lutheran Church garden
3491 West 31st Avenue
dunbarlutheran.ca



Friends of Creation *Milestones*

Our Friends of Creation journey so far

- ☐ Climate + Water
- ☐ Climate + Food
- ☐ Climate + Economy
- ☐ Climate + Peace
- ☐ Put faith in action
- ☐ Reached goal
towards _____ acres!

\$ _____ !

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

[clwr.org/
goodshepherd-coquitlam](http://clwr.org/goodshepherd-coquitlam)





**JOIN US ON THE PATIO FOR
FREE BBQ'D HOT DOGS, A
BAGS OF CHIPS AND A DRINK
(BEEF, VEGGIE, HALAL)**

HAPPY SUMMER HOLIDAYS

**EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 16TH
AT 11:30AM**

**DOWN THE LANE ACROSS FROM
HOWAY SCHOOL**



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Canada

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Jordan and the Holy Land*



الكنيسة الإنجيلية اللوثرية
في الأردن والأراضي المقدسة

ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer is encouraging members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada to contact Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs and their local Member of Parliament in support of Natalie Abudayyeh.

Abudayyeh is a 21-year-old university student and youth member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) who remains in Israeli detention. [In a letter to the church](#), Bishop Kochendorfer shared an update [received from ELCJHL Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad](#).

Natalie has now been held for nearly two months, with Israeli authorities denying requests for her release on bail and refusing to allow her family to visit or contact her. A military court has ordered that she remain in prison until her next court appearance on September 23.

"As your bishop, I continue to be deeply shocked and heartbroken by this news," writes Bishop Kochendorfer. "Each update weighs heavily on me. The thought that Natalie has now spent two months without being able to see or even speak with her family is profoundly distressing."

The bishop is inviting members across the ELCIC to join in advocating for Natalie's safe release by writing to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Anita Anand, and to their local Member of Parliament. [A letter template has been prepared](#) to help members share their concerns and encourage the Government of Canada to continue its diplomatic engagement on Natalie's behalf.

"We cannot allow this situation to fade from our attention," Bishop Kochendorfer writes. "Our voices matter. When Members of Parliament and the Minister of Foreign Affairs hear from constituents across the country, it reinforces the urgency of Canada's diplomatic engagement and advocacy for Natalie and the others who remain detained."

Members are encouraged to join National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer in advocating for Natalie Abudayyeh's safe release by contacting Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs and their local Member of Parliament. Bishop Kochendorfer's letter, an advocacy letter template and additional resources are available on the ELCIC Holy Land webpage.

[Find those resources here.](#)

The ELCIC also continues to invite prayers for Natalie, her family, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and all those affected by the ongoing violence in the region

Welcome to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

We welcome you to worship today. It is our prayer that you sense the joy that is present in Jesus Christ. God loves and values each of you without conditions attached. We bring our joys and needs before God, trusting in God's presence.

1504 Spruce Avenue, Coquitlam, BC, V3J 2P6

Phone: 604-936-2939

goodshepherd@telus.net www.gslcc.ca

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
@ GSLCoquitlam

Pastor Eric Krushel Cell: 604-220-5450
Office: 604-936-2939

General Office Hours				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00	10:00 – 2:00

We always recommend phoning before stopping by.



Good Shepherd
Website

