

Welcome / Announcements / Land Acknowledgement **Dennis**

We recognize that the land where we gather for worship belongs to God, as does all of creation. We also know we are here as guests on the traditional and unceded territory of the ləkʷəŋən and the WSÁNEĆ – Esquimalt and Songhees nations. May we continue asking God to forgive us for injustices we are directly or indirectly part of and may we be led along paths of reconciliation and solidarity.

□ Come, now is the time to worship

Call to Worship

We need everything that God provides.

And so, we come seeking...

Forgiveness that restores and renews,

Grace that amazes and enables,

Community that strengthens and supports,

Truth that informs and guides,

Love that redeems and heals.

God is truly in our midst!

□ Come, know my joy, the Maker says

788

Gathering Prayer / Words of Hope

□ The clay-stained hands of love

296 – Alternate tunes 481 or 661?

Prayer for Understanding **Anne**

Shine the light of your Word on the path ahead, O God. Help us choose the way of your wisdom, so we may bear fruit that is pleasing to you and shines your light into the world around us. Amen

Scripture **Psalm 54 responsive/displayed**

Save me, O God, by your name,

and vindicate me by your might.

Hear my prayer, O God;

give ear to the words of my mouth.

For the insolent have risen against me,

the ruthless seek my life; they do not set God before them.

But surely, God is my helper;

the Lord is the upholder of my life.

God will repay my enemies for their evil.

In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.
**For God has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.**

James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a (NT 230)

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.

For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

Mark 9: 30-41 (NT 45)

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, *“The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.”*

But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, *“What were you arguing about on the way?”*

But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.

He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, *“Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”*

Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, *“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”*

John said to him, *"Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."*

But Jesus said, *"Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us."*

For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Message

□ Brother, sister, let me serve you **635**

Offering and Prayer

□ Praise God from whom all blessings flow **306**

Wise and faithful God, we offer our gifts to you in thanksgiving for your gifts to us in Christ and in creation. Bless these offerings and the good works they will support, so that the world may know your wisdom and faithfulness through Jesus, the Christ. Amen

Pastoral Prayers / The Lord's Prayer

...Our Father, who art in heaven – hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come – thy will be done – on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen

□ Christ, you call us all to service **585**

Blessing

□ May the God of hope go with us every day **726**