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# **Sunday's Scripture & Reflections**



SEASON OF CREATION 1

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 AT 10 AM PENINSULA UNITED CHURCH PETER JONES, GUEST SPEAKER

Watch the service | Watch the reflection

# Read the Word

#### **Text**

Garden of Peace Isaiah 32:14-18

Isaiah 32:14-18 (NRSV)

### **Key Verses**

17 The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust for ever. 18 My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting-places.

# Reflect on the Message

#### The Holy Spirit and transformation

Isaiah 32:15 says, "until a spirit on high is poured out on us."

- How do you see the Holy Spirit's role in transforming our lives and our relationship with creation?
- Can you think of a time when prayer, reflection, or worship reshaped how you view the planet?

"Holy Spirit, pour yourself out upon us. Transform our hearts, minds, and lives so that we may see the world with new eyes and live with respect in creation."

#### Justice, righteousness, and creation

Sunday's reflection suggested that justice and righteousness are essential for peace, quietness, and trust for ever. "My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting-places."

- Where or when in human history have people experienced peace with creation?
- What can we learn from them as we practice and promote justice and righteousness in today's world of strong men/dictators, massive consumption and waste, etc.?

"God of justice and righteousness, show us how to live rightly with you, with one another, and with the earth."

#### Awe, gratitude, and daily life

Sunday's reflection mentioned feeling awe and gratitude when contemplating the atmosphere, the carbon cycle, and our bodies.

- What everyday experiences fill you with that same sense of wonder?
- How might cultivating gratitude help us realign with God's creation in practical ways?

"Creator God, open our eyes to the daily miracles around us—the breath we take, the food we eat, the beauty of the earth. Fill us with gratitude and teach us to honour you through how we care for creation."

### Living as if "everything is a miracle"

Einstein's words, "live as though everything is a miracle," were highlighted in Sunday's reflection.

- What would change in your daily habits, community choices, or faith practices if you lived with this perspective?
- How could this mindset influence how we respond to the climate crisis?

"Lord of life, help us to see every sunrise, every raindrop, every heartbeat as a miracle of your love. Give us the courage to live with wonder, hope, and responsibility for the earth and the fragile web of life we share."

#### We'd like to hear from you!

Did some part of this postscript speak to you? Send an email to minister@peninsulaunited.com.

Peninsula United Church offers small groups to enjoy a relaxed and thoughtful conversation inspired by Sunday's reflection (sermon). The small groups use the reflection questions and prayer prompts in this newsletter to explore our insights and responses, and encourage one another in applying them to daily life. Bring a friend! Haven't watched the service yet? No problem—everyone is welcome!

Join us on **Wednesdays at 1:30 PM** at **1685 152A St., Surrey (Community Room).** RSVP appreciated. Please contact **Marilyn** at **marilynhahnbc@gmail.com**, and she will save you a seat.

A second meets on Thursday afternoons at 2PM. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 11th at 2 PM. For details or to RSVP, please contact **Jean Kromm** at <a href="mailto:bjgekromm@shaw.ca">bjgekromm@shaw.ca</a> or 604-542-0304.

# Office Closed This Thursday

This Thursday, Sonia and Elpida will be attending a First Aid training course at Northwood United Church. The office will be closed for walk-ins that day and will reopen on Friday.

If you have an urgent request, please email <u>admin@peninsulaunited.com</u>. Messages will be checked during breaks.

### STAY CONNECTED WITH THE MINISTER AND STAFF

**Office Hours:** The church is open for walk-in appointments from 9 AM-2 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays. For general inquiries, call the office at 604-531-2979 or email at <a href="mailto:admin@peninsulaunited.com">admin@peninsulaunited.com</a>

- Rev. Dr. Greg Glatz, Coordinating Minister: minister@peninsulaunited.com
- Lonnie Delisle, Music Director: <a href="mailto:music@peninsulaunited.com">music@peninsulaunited.com</a>
- Sonia Sandhu, Operations Manager: <a href="mailto:operations@peninsulaunited.com">operations@peninsulaunited.com</a>
- **Elpida Howard**, Office Administrator: office@peninsulaunited.com
- Sheri Kathrein, Financial Administrator: <u>accounting@peninsulaunited.com</u>
- Liz Wilson, Facilities Caretaker: <a href="mailto:caretaker@peninsulaunited.com">caretaker@peninsulaunited.com</a>

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Peninsula United Church | 15639 24th Avenue | Surrey, BC V4A 2J6 CA

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