



## **Lent I**

February 21, 2021 + 4pm

## **Welcome to the AbbeyChurch**

No matter who you are or what you are carrying today, know you are beloved and so very welcome here!

At the AbbeyChurch, we tell stories of faith, encourage hope, share meals, care for each other and for God's creation – and strive to practice the teachings of Jesus.

We're at different places in our faith journey - but we share a guiding sacred Story as found in scripture (The Bible) and summarized in ancient Christian creeds.

We share a willingness to honestly wrestle with God, and with our questions and doubts.

We invite diversity in our community and our leadership; old, young, rich, poor, conservative, liberal, radical, single, married, LGBTQ2IA+, straight, evangelical, progressives, overeducated, undereducated, overhoused, underhoused, certain, doubting, hurting, thriving (to name a few).

We believe that Christ's love binds our differences together in unity as we gather each week at Jesus' table of welcome.

*The AbbeyChurch worships, prays, plays and gathers  
on the traditional and unceded lands  
of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.*

***Come as you are. a wilderness people...  
basking in grace.***

## **Tolling of the Bells**

### **Opening words**

God our loving Creator, touch our hearts that we may enter the silence where you wait for us...

*Bell / Silence / Bell*

...Artist of souls, you sculpted a people for yourself out of the rocks of wilderness and fasting.

**Help us as we take up your invitation to prayer and simplicity, so that the discipline of these forty days may sharpen our hunger for the feast of your holy friendship.**

Let your breath enter and calm us, your mystery surround us, your truth fill us and the wings of your love enfold us. **Amen.**

### **Tenebrae Candles and Confession**

We welcome this wandering-wilderness-lent as a time to seek conversion and reconciliation. Let us offer our gratitude and draw to mind the places in our lives, in our world, in our community in need of mending.

*Silence is kept.*

### **Kyrie**

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Eric Wyse / Brentwood / 2006 VineRidge / CCLI and OneLicense

Let us pray,

Holy God, as we walk deeper into this winter wilderness, we give thanks for the gift of rest and healing and for your sustaining nourishment in times of trial.

In times of high anxiety, in days of stress and worry, we give thanks for the healing power of darkness and confess the ways we have participated in a culture that privileges productivity over rest and burdens your people and your earth. In the holy darkness of Lent, let us return to you and rest. **Amen.**

*[We extinguish the first candle]*

### **Song of Descent: Gone Is the Light**

Into the darkness we must go

Gone, gone is the light

Into the darkness we must go

Gone gone us the light

*Gord Johnson / Signpost Music 2008 / CCLI*

### **Absolution**

#### **Song: Come and Find the Quiet Center**

Come and find the quiet center

in the crowded life we lead,

find the room for hope to enter,

find the frame where we are freed:

clear the chaos and the clutter,

clear our eyes, that we can see

all the things that really matter,

be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,

cools the heat and slows the pace,

God it is who speaks and names us,

knows our being, touches base,

making space within our thinking,

lifting shades to show the sun,

raising courage when we're shrinking,

finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,

open to each other's pain,

let our loves and fears unravel,

celebrate the space we gain:

there's a place for deepest dreaming,

there's a time for heart to care,

in the Spirit's lively scheming

there is always room to spare!

Words: Shirley Erena Murray; Music: BEACH SPRING, B.F. White

**Poem** selected and read by our poet-in-residence céline chuang (莊善寧)

## **The Readings**

### **A Reading from the book of Genesis (9: 8-17)**

Marilyn Gough, EC

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth." The word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 25 Ad te, Domine, levavi**

Chanted

To you, O Lord, \*  
I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.  
Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.  
Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.  
Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright are you, O Lord; \*  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right \*  
and teach your way to the lowly.

Glory to you Source of All Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.

*Let us prepare our hearts to hear the gospel.*

### **Gospel Acclamation: Celtic Mass**

Praise and honour, honour and glory,  
glory to you Lord Jesus Christ!

Christopher Walker / OCP / OneLicense

### **The Gospel**

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO MARK (1:9-15)

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was  
baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up  
out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit  
descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven,  
"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And  
the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He  
was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was  
with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after  
John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good  
news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom  
of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."  
....The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*We repeat the gospel acclamation.*

### **Sermon**

Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

*Bell / Silence / Bell*

## **Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe that God is present  
In the darkness before dawn;  
in the waiting and uncertainty  
where fear and courage join hands,  
conflict and caring link arms,  
and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in Jesus, a with-us God  
who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit and a faith  
that takes us beyond a safe place:  
into action, into vulnerability  
and onto the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change  
and put ourselves on the line;  
to bear responsibility, take risks,  
live and pray powerfully  
and face humiliation;  
to stand with those on the edge;  
to choose life and be used by the Spirit  
for God's new community of hope. Amen.** (Iona -alt)

## **Our Prayers**

### **The Peace**

ASL by Nancy Walker

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

### **Offertory Song: God's Highway**

My feet are strong, my eyes are clear  
I cannot see the way from here  
But on we go, He knows the way  
And in His arms, He keeps me safe.

*Refrain:* Fear not, keep on, watch and pray  
Walk in the light of God's highway

The shadows flee, The valley is deep  
But evil cannot conquer me  
Your rod and staff, They protect me  
You give me rest, You give me peace (*Refrain*)

I see the shore, from troubled seas  
This tiny ship that carries me  
It is not yet, But it will be  
So heaven come, It's you we need (*Refrain*)

I'm holding onto you, Lord  
You're holding onto me... (*Refrain*)  
Sandra McCracken / Drink Your Tea Music / CCLI

### **Prayer Over The Gifts**

Holy God, with the birds of the air, the beasts of the field, and the tiny ones who burrow in the ground, we offer you thanks and praise: for your unending goodness; for the beauty of the earth; receive all we offer you today so may we colour the earth with the ways of peace until all creation rests with you in completeness. In Jesus's name we pray. **Amen.** *Feasting on the Word*

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Holy God, how wonderful is the work of your hands...  
...and a justice that would never fail.

**Glory to you forever and ever.**

Through countless generations your people hungered for the bread of freedom... ...and join with heaven and earth in the hymn of unending praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord. Lord God of power and might.**

**He---av'n and earth are full. Full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest**

**Ble--ssed is he who come comes,**

**Who comes in the name of Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Tune: Picardy / French Carol 17th cent.

While Jesus was eating with his disciples,  
he took a loaf of bread,  
and after blessing it,  
broke it, gave it to them, and said,  
“Take, this is my body.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

**Glory to you forever and ever.**

As supper was ending, Jesus took the wine  
and after blessing it, poured it,  
gave it to them and said,  
take, this is my blood,  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Glory to you forever and ever.**

Holy God we give you thanks for the mystery of faith given to us  
in Jesus your Child:

**Dying you destroyed ou-r death,  
rising you restored ou-r life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Tune: Picardy / French Carol 17th cent.

As you sustained Jesus in his hunger and thirst, strengthen us  
to keep our Lenten fast... ..be gathered and made one in your  
love. **Amen**

As beloved children of a loving parent, let us pray... *(this may be  
said in a language or paraphrase of your choice, or as below):*

**Our Father, (or Parent, if you prefer)**

**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 trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Amen.**

*Silence.*

These are the gifts of God for the people of God given for the life of the world. Feed on Christ in your hearts through faith with thanksgiving! **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world.  
Have mercy on us. *Caroline Allen*

## **Prayer after Communion**

God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we follow you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

### **Closing Song: Precious Lord**

Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand  
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone  
Through the storm, through the night  
Lead me on to the light  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

When my way grows drear  
Precious Lord, linger near  
When my life is almost gone  
Hear my cry, hear my call  
Hold my hand lest I fall  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

When the darkness appears  
and the night draws near  
And the day is past and gone  
At the river I stand  
Guide my feet, hold my hand  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

Thomas A. Dorsey © 1938 (Renewed 1965) UNICHAPPELL MUSIC INC. / CCLI

## **The Sending**

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Chanted*

*Bell x 3*





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