



Lakota Jesus / John Giuliani / <https://www.hillstream.com/artist/john-giuliani>

Every Child Matters

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Season Of Creation

Sunday September 26, 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, people of the Spirit...
Filled with the breath of God!*

We Gather

Tolling of the Bells

Welcome

Land Acknowledgment

Bell x 3

A gathering prayer for liberation (*selections*)

Written by Rev. Anna Blaedel. Read by Catherine Pate

<https://enfleshed.com/liturgy/a-gathering-prayer-for-liberation/>

Litany for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

In gratitude to God who healed our broken relationship by reconciliation through Jesus Christ we receive a call to the Ministry of Reconciliation as a paradigm for healing broken relationships.

Today we acknowledge:

a shadow side to the history of Canada. We, settler peoples, have reaped the benefits of the land by pushing aside Indigenous people in order to seize their land.

Today we lament:

the attempted erasure of Indigenous peoples by Canada through the Indian Act which criminalized the practice of traditions and cultures, and mandated the seizure and indoctrination of children in residential schools.

Today we acknowledge and we have no appropriate words, so we stand respectfully in silent lament:

for the children who died while in custody of residential schools, died of active abuse, died of lonely hearts and separation from family.

Today we acknowledge we have no appropriate words, so we stand in silent respect:

for the families and communities who mourn, mourn their children who did not come home from residential schools, mourn the disruption of family and way of life, mourn the exploitation and desecration of their traditional lands.

Bell. Silence. Bell.

In gratitude to God who demonstrated the way of reconciliation with us. Today we commit: **We commit to walking together in a new way, acknowledging the true history and place of Indigenous Peoples on this land, living with respect, listening and learning as we move forward on the path of true reconciliation. Amen.**

by Ron Flaming: Truth and Reconciliation Action Group Waterloo North Mennonite Church

During the song, AbbeyKids place the Gospel in the center and then are welcome to stay or head over to the hall for AbbeyKids.

Gathering Song: O God our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure.
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away.
We fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts; Tune: ST. ANNE, William Croft/Public Domain

Poem

selected/ written by Benjamin Hertwig
AbbeyChurch Poet-in-Residence

We Proclaim

The Psalm: Psalm 124 *Nisi quia Dominus.*

We chant together

If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
if the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;

then would they have swallowed us up alive *
 in their fierce anger toward us;
 then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
 and the torrent gone over us;
 then would the raging waters *
 have gone right over us.
 Blessed be the Lord *
 who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
 the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
 Our help is in the name of the Lord, *
 the maker of heaven and earth.
 ... 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.

Gospel Acclamation:

More Voices / 62

♩ = 104

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart. With all the earth I will
 sing your prais-es. I prais-es.

A shorter song of praise suitable as an acclamation or a psalm refrain.

Words and music: David Robertson, after Psalm 138:1

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Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

ACCORDING TO MARK (9:38-50)

Vanessa Caruso

John said to Jesus, "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. If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." ...The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

We repeat the acclamation instrumentally.

Sermon

Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

Bell / Silence / Bell

The Creed (Sung)

I believe in God the Maker almighty
Creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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 heav'n
and is seated at the right hand of the Maker.
He will come again 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.

Ryan Flanigan, alt., © 2017, Common Hymnal, CCLI

Our Prayers

Jessica Ziakin Cook

Confession

Creation invites us to join our voices in praise to God. Let
us confess our sin, confident in God's mercy and grace,

Silence is kept.

**Generous God, you created us and placed us here to
care for all of creation. Forgive us for turning away
from you and for neglecting the earth. Raise us up and
make us again stewards of your creation that we may
see your presence in all that surrounds us; through
Christ we pray. Amen.** *PWRDF Season of Creation*

Absolution/Assurance of Grace

Let us rejoice that in Christ we are made a new creation.
God's love is stronger than sin, stronger even than death
and nothing can separate us from that love. Know that we
are a forgiven people. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the
mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

Offertory Song: The Heart of God Has Been Revealed

The heart of God has been revealed,
the heart of God has been revealed.
To bring love, not hate. To pour out, not dominate.
The heart of God has been revealed.

The heart of God has been revealed,
the heart of God has been revealed.
To forgive, not blame. To make whole, not shame.
The heart of God has been revealed.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! The heart of God has been revealed.

Alana Levandoski © 2015/Signpost Music/CCLI

We Feast

The Invitation

The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready.
It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him.
It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world,
with whom Jesus identified himself.
It is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate.

**Made one in Christ and with God's creation, we offer these
gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living
sacrifice. Amen.** *Iona Community.*

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.

You have entered this place, O God, and in your holy
shadow, heaven tangles with earth in the bread and
wine, and the promise of flesh is realized.

Come now, God.

As you once came to us in a stable in Bethlehem
come now and be with us in the bread, in this world that
hungers and waits for truth. **Come now, God.**

As once your Spirit poured forth life upon the earth
come now and pour the wine for this creation, waiting for
renewal. **Come now, God**

Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of light, Giver of all life,
Source of love. We bless you for all your gifts. You bring
creation to birth and send prophets to awaken us to your
presence in the spaces between us, in our homes, in your
world, in the gathering of your faithful in person, in hearts, and
on screens.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, in whom you gather the
hopes and fears of all the years. We bless your Holy Name,
joining with all your people of ever time and place, with angels
and archangels, and the whole company of earth and heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending praise:

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

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

God has given us these gifts of bread and wine. For it is God's
people who knelt on the earth, planted the seeds, prayed for the
rain, sang for the grain, made the harvest, cracked the wheat,
pounded the corn, kneaded the dough, kindled the fire and
filled the air with the smell of fresh bread. And there was bread,
and it was good. Ordinary bread made by ordinary people, made
holy when we take time to eat and remember.

And God's people hilled up the earth, tended the vines, prayed
for the sun, danced for the fruit, gathered the harvest, crushed
the grape, fashioned the cask, aged the brew and filled the air
with the pungent aroma of wine. And there was wine, and it was
good. Ordinary grapes taken by ordinary people, made into
ordinary wine, is holy when we hold it to our lips and drink
and remember.

Today we say: thank God for bread; thank God for wine; thank God for power and courage; thank God for this time together, for each other and for ourselves. Thank God for these holy gifts. Thank God for these holy moments.

Transforming God your son came in the ordinary substance of human flesh and bone and on his last night with his companions he took the ordinary materials of bread and wine and after blessing it, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take, this is my body. Do this in remembrance of me." From ordinary to holy. Remember. **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. From ordinary to holy. Remember. **Glory to you forever and ever.**

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

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

God, send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts.
Strengthen us, restore us, be present with us. Amen.
(Joining the Angels Song alt)

Silence.

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):
Eternal Spirit, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker, Source of all that is and shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The Hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your Justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your Commonwealth of Peace and Freedom sustain our hope and come on earth! With the bread that we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test,

strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God, given for the life of the world. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

All are welcomed to receive at Jesus' table. For those in-house the bread is gluten-free.

Communion Song: Let All who are Thirsty Come

Let all who are thirsty come,

let all who wish receive - the water of life, freely.

Amen, come Lord Jesus; amen, come Lord Jesus.

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Prayer after Communion

Loving God, you invite us to abide in you. Nourish our life in your resurrection, so that we bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy; Remember us, separated by pandemic, but united by faith in the body of the risen Christ. Sustain us in our isolation by the power of your Spirit, that we may practice resurrection in your new creation. **Amen**

We Are Sent

Closing Medley: This is God's Wondrous World / Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world, I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world. God shines in all that's fair,
In the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let heaven ring: God reigns, let earth be glad!

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low
Give thanks to God in love made known
Creator, Word and Spirit one. Amen!

Malbie D. Babcock; Tune: TERRA BEATA, English traditional / OneLicense
Thomas Ken; Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH / Public Domain *Voices United 541 and 296

Blessing

The Sending

Go in the peace of Christ to tend the earth and care for
God's good creation.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

Bell x 3



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