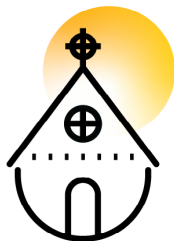




Image: "Resurrection Flowers" by Scott Erickson; @scottthepainter

Epiphany + 7
February 20, 2022 + 4pm



THE
ABBAY
CHURCH

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,
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 lands of the ɫkʷəŋən People, known today as
the Esquimalt and Songhees Nation.*

*Come as you are, people offering their lives in the beautiful
struggle of faith...*

We Gather

Announcement Loop Tolling of the Bells Welcome

Bell x 3

Open unto me, light for my darkness

Open unto me, courage for my fear

Open unto me, hope for my despair

Open unto me, peace for my turmoil

Open unto me, joy for my sorrow

Open unto me, strength for my weakness

Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion

Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins

Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness

Open unto me, love for my hates

Open unto me, Thy Self for myself

Lord, Lord, open unto me!

- Howard Thurman, from "Meditations of the Heart"

Come Spirit of life and open us to worship You. Hear our cries and touch our lips, our hearts, our lives, our tombs with your healing, renewing love. **Amen.**

During the next song AbbeyKids set the altar.

Gathering Song: How Long?

How long? Will You turn Your face away?

How long? Do You hear us when we pray?

On and on, still we walk this pilgrim way - How long?

How long 'til Your children find their rest?

How long 'til You draw them to Your breast?

We go on holding to Your promises - How long?

Refrain

'Til You wipe away the tears from ev'ry eye

'Til we see our home descending from the sky

Do we wait in vain?
Jesus, give us hope again!

How long 'til Your word will still the storm?
How long 'til You bare Your mighty arm?
How we groan 'til You snatch us from the thorns - How long?

How long? Sweet the dawn that ends the race.
How long? Weak our hearts but strong our legs.
Looking on - great that cloud of witnesses! How long? *Refrain*
Isaac Wardell / © Bifrost Arts Music 2016 / Used by permission

Poem selected or written by Benjamin Hertwig
AbbeyChurch Poet-in-Residence

We Proclaim

A Reading from 1 Kings (17:17-24, Wil Gafney trans.)
After the miracle of multiplying the meal and oil, the child of the woman, the owner of the house, became ill and his illness was so overwhelming that there was no breath left in the child. And she said to Elijah, “What is between me and thee, man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to kill my child!” Then he said to her, “Give me your child,” and he took the child from her bosom and carried the child up into the room upstairs where he, Elijah, was staying and laid the child on his own bed. Then he cried out to the Holy One of Old, “Holy One my God, have you actually wrought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn by killing her child?” And Elijah stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the Most High, “Holy One my God, let this child’s soul come into him again.” And the Most High God listened to the voice of Elijah and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived. Then Elijah took and brought the child down from the house’s upstairs room, and gave the child to the mother and said, “Look! Your child lives.” So the woman said to Elijah, “Now this I know, you are a man

of God and that the word of the Holy One of Old in your mouth is truth.”

...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm: Psalm 116:1-9 (*Wil Gafney trans.*)

I love the GOD Who Saves, because she has heard
my cry and my supplications.

Because she inclined her ear to me,

I will continue to call all my days.

The snares of death encompassed me;

the pangs of Sheol found me,

I found distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of She Who is Life:

“Fount of Life, pray, save my life!”

Gracious is the Saving God, and righteous;

our God mother-loves deeply.

She Who is Wisdom protects those without guile;

I was brought low and she saved me.

Return, my soul, to your rest,

for She Who is Faithful has rewarded you abundantly.

For you have delivered my soul from death,

my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I will walk before the Living God

in the land of the living.

The Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Jerry Sinclair / © 1972, Renewed 2000 by Manna Music, Inc., (ASCAP) / OneLicense

The Gospel

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops.

With our words and with our lives!

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke:

The day after healing a centurion’s slave Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. He had just approached the gate of the town and suddenly, being carried out was a man who had died,

his mother's only son and she was a widow; with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Messiah saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then Jesus came forward and touched the coffin, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God visited God's people!" This word about Jesus spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country. (7:11-17; *Wil Gafney trans.*)

...Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops.

With our words and with our lives!

We repeat the sung acclamation

Sermon

Lynn Mills

Silence for Reflection

The Apostles Creed

We believe in God Almighty,
Maker of all heav'n and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, our Saviour:
God's own Son of matchless worth;
By the Spirit was conceived
of the virgin Mary born,
God in whom we have believed:
God Almighty Three-in-One.

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
on the cross, he bled and died;
Placed within the grave so silent,
where for three days he did lie;
Then the stone-sealed tomb was empty;
we believe he did arise;
Triumphed o'er the grave forever,
over death he is the Christ.

Into heaven he ascended -
seated at God's own right hand

'Til he comes again in glory,
gracious judge o'er every land;
We confess the Holy Spirit
who was sent through Christ the Son
Who is Lord and giver of life -
God, the Spirit, Three-in-One.

We believe the Church of Jesus,
catholic it 'ere remains;
We are one through all the ages,
the communion of the saints.
We believe sins are forgiven,
that our bodies shall be raised
Everlasting life the promise -
may God's holy name be praised.

Mindy Deckard; arr. Bruce Benedict / Rob C-S verses © 2006 Cardiphonia Music / CCLI

Our Prayers

The Confession

Let us take a moment in silence to bring before God the places
in our lives which need cleansing, healing, wholeness and
renewal.

Silence.

Together we say: **We confess that we have not beheld your
glory in each other and in your creation. We have too often
broken our word and hurt each other. We have too often
taken the easy way instead of the right way. Guide us into
your paths of holiness and justice so that we may live in
right relation with you, each other and your whole creation.**

Absolution or Assurance of Grace

The Peace

Beloved in Christ, The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

We acknowledge the face of Christ in each other with a nod/ bow.

Offertory: Walk With Me (Otis' Dream)

Walk with me Lord, walk with me
Walk with me Lord, walk with me
While I'm on, on this tedious journey
I want Jesus to walk with me

Be my friend, Lord, be my friend
Be my friend, Lord, be my friend
While I'm on this tedious journey
I want Jesus to be my friend

New Arrangement by Brittney Spencer (BMI), Otis Moss III (ASCAP), Mark Alan Schoolmeesters (BMI)/ © 2020 Common Hymnal Publishing (ASCAP / CCLI

We Feast

Prayer Over The Gifts / Invitation to the Table

The table of bread and wine is now made ready and all are welcome. 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. For the sake of all that aches in this world, our church, and within every creature and creation, we come to your Table, hungry for a taste of your Kingdom. **Amen.**

The Iona Community/Enfleshed

Silence

The Holy Eucharist

(chanted) 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 God of Love

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God how wonderful is the work of your hands, all of creation echoes the music of your praise...

... and a justice that would never fail.

Glory to you forever and ever.

Through countless generations...

...therefore with all of creation we sing:

**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 is the highest.**

As Jesus was eating with his disciples...
...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
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

Send your Holy Spirit upon us...
...be gathered and made one in your love. (*Chanted*)
Amen.

The Prayer of Jesus

As beloved children of a loving parent let us pray:
**O Great Spirit, our *Father from above, (*or Parent)
we honour your name as sacred and holy.
Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways
in the spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.
Provide for us day by day
All the things we need for each day.
Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others
for the things done wrong to us.
Guide us away from the things that tempt us
to stray from your good road,
and set us free from the evil one and his worthless
ways... May it be so!**

First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament, 2021. Alt.

Silence is kept.

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. It may contain dairy
and/or almond flour. If you'd like a dairy or nut free option,
please let the presider know.*

Communion Song: Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with thine
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch / Tune: TRENTHAM, RObert Jackson / Public Domain

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Gracious God, in the eucharist we celebrate
your love for us and for all people. Grant that
strengthened by these holy gifts, we may show your love in
our lives, and know its fulfillment in your presence.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We Are Sent

Blessing

Closing Song: Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator,
there is no shadow of turning with thee.

Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. *Refrain*

Thomas O. Chisholm / Tune: RUNYAN, William Marion Runyan / Public domain

Sending

Go in the liberating love of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Bell x 3



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Office hours: Wednesday and Friday 9am-noon