

# Creationtide III

September 18, 2022 + 4pm



THE  
**ABBAY**  
CHURCH



The Burning Bush  
Ex 3:12

Listen to the  
Voice of creation  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

## The Season of Creation 2022

*Come as you are,  
Beloved companions in the Spirit -  
offering our lives  
in the beautiful struggle of faith...*

## **Opening Loop**

### **The Children/Youth Toll the Bells**

### **Welcome, Announcements and Lank Acknowledgement**

*with ləkʷəŋən from elder Butch Dick*

## **WE GATHER**

We come before the burning bush of this world, asking us to love all its holy, hurting ground. So come with whatever seed of faith you can muster, and listen: Listen for the voice of God thundering softly in your depths.

Listen with your hunger. Your hurt. Your heart and all its wisdom cultivated over time in the company of others.  
*(enfleshed)*

Listen... for God calls us to this place, to worship, to dream to participate in the renewal of all creation. Listen...

*Bell x3 / Silence is kept*

### **Invocation Lord, Have Mercy**

*Refrain:* Lord, have mercy (x4)

Holy Spirit rest upon us - lead us in the way of your justice  
Holy Spirit rest upon us  
Teach us how to serve in your weakness *Refrain*

Holy Spirit rest upon us - teach us how to tend to creation  
Holy Spirit rest upon us - guide us from our path of destruction

Paul Zach, Kate Bluett, Latifah Alatass / Copyright © 2022 / CCLI

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and the Sustainer of the Earth and all it's creatures!

### **Praise be to the Holy Trinity!**

### **Table Setting Song: Come Light Our Hearts**

*Refrain:* For You, O Lord our souls in stillness wait  
For You, O Lord our souls in stillness wait  
Truly our hope is in You - Truly our hope is in You

O Lord of life, our only hope - Your radiance shines  
On all who look to You in the dark  
Emmanuel come, come light our hearts *Refrain*

On Joy above, all other loves- in You we find, more than enough  
We come as we are, O heal and restore,  
Come light our hearts *Refrain*

Sandra McCracken / ©2014 Drink Your Tea (ASCAP) / CCLI

*AbbeyKids depart for their time of spiritual / faith formation & fun.*

*Children are welcome to go and always welcome to stay in the larger space as well.*

## Poem

### WE PROCLAIM

#### **The Hebrew Scripture**

A reading from Exodus 3 (selected verses). Moses..led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to Moses out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And God said, 'Here I am.' Then God said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' God said further, 'I am the God of your [parents], the God of Abraham [and Sarah and Hagar], the God of Isaac [and Rebekah], and the God of Jacob [and Rachel and Leah].' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them...The Word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit*

#### **Gospel Acclamation: Creation Sings**

Hallelujah! Let all creation rise in song:

Hallelujah! Fill the earth with songs of worship,

Tell the wonders of the Sovereign one!

K & K Getty & S. Townend / © 2008 Thankyou Music / CCLI / Alt. Rob Crosby-Shearer

#### **The Gospel**

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops!

#### **With our words and with our lives!**

A reading from the Gospel of Luke (24: selected verses)

*(Translation by the Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney)*

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them and said "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! [Later that day, two of the other disciples] were going to a village that was seven miles from Jerusalem; its name was Emmaus. And they talked with each other about all the things that had happened. While they were talking and questioning, Jesus himself came near and accompanied them. Yet their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And Jesus said to them, "What is this conversation you are having with each other while you journey?" They stood in place, sorrowful. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, replied to him saying, "Are you the only foreigner in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there these days?" Jesus asked them, "What kind of things?" They replied, "About Jesus the Nazarene, who was a man, a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people. Also how our chief priests and leaders surrendered him to be sentenced to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to soon redeem Israel. Now besides all this, instead, it is now the third day since these things have taken place. Then again, certain women of our community astounded us. They were at the tomb this morning. And when they did not find the body, they came back and told us they had seen a vision of angels who said Jesus was alive. Then some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then Jesus said to them, "Oh, foolish souls, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not [inevitable] that the Messiah should suffer these things to enter into his glory?" And starting from Moses and from all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. When they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus walked ahead as if he were going on. So they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is nearly over." Then he went in to stay with them. When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from before them. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the way, while he was

opening up the scriptures to us?." Now that same hour they rose up and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and others with them gathered together. They were saying, "Really! The Savior has risen, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

**With our words and with our lives!**

*We repeat the sung acclamation.*

## **Sermon**

Meagan Crosby-Shearer, EC

*Bell. Silence. Bell*

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

## **Affirmation of Faith**

*We say together:* **We believe in God, who creates all things, who celebrates all good things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation. We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptises this planet with living water. We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it. And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today. We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

Gurukul Theological college, India, alt. adapted by Keld

B. Hansen 2009

## **The Emmaus Community:**

### **Recommitment and Receiving Companions**

We are gathered in this time and place to celebrate, to act as witnesses, and to rejoice in our common life together.

We pray with thanksgiving for all those who are stepping into new roles in our community in the year ahead and for the leadership of those who have served in the past year. Fill each one with your humility and strength. We pray for:

- The Abbey Church vision team – Nancy, Chivonne, Jesse, Kirsten, Vanessa, Catherine & Margot.
- Sue as she continues as Community Intercessor
- Rob as Cellarer (treasurer)
- Matt as Prior
- Rev. Gail Miller as United Church Visitor
- Meagan as interim formation director
- Sr. Brenda, SSJD as Community Mentor

May they serve with wisdom and grace,  
guided always by your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **Receiving our Companions**

*We invite the Companions to stand*

Meagan: I affirm that Catherine & Vanessa have completed the Discernment year and that Chapter has heard and affirmed their call to become Companions of the Emmaus Community. We also celebrate that Elaine, Brenda, Mary, Lynne, Phill, Jesse and Dianne desire to reaffirm their Companion promises.

(Note: we will be receiving David, Mark and Kevin at a later time in the coming weeks)

Matt (Prior) to Companions: What is that you seek?

Companions: *I seek the mercy of God and companionship in the Emmaus Community.*

Prior: Will you join the Emmaus Community in their commitment to follow a Rule of life as a way of living out your baptismal vows?

Companion: *I will.*

Prior: Will you joyfully strive to live a life of prayer, simplicity and presence in the context that God has placed you?

Companion: *I will.*

Prior: Members of the Emmaus Community, will you receive and reaffirm Catherine, Jesse, Vanessa, Elaine, Mary, Lynn, Phil, Brenda and Dianne as Companions of the community? Will you pray for them and walk with them as they encounter Christ on the road?

Chapter: *We will, thanks be to God*

Prior: \_\_\_\_ you will receive these habits as a symbol of God's faithful and eternal love for you, and as a pledge of your devotion to the One who is made known in the breaking of the bread and along all the roads of your life. May your heart burn within you as you walk with Christ on the road.

Let us celebrate and welcome our Companions!

*We invite those renewing vows to stand.*

### **Covenanted Member Renewal of Vows**

Prior: As those called to live together as community, Will you continue to live a life of prayer? Committed to a rhythm of both personal and communal prayer, Sabbath-keeping and worship? Will you seek and know Christ in the breaking of bread, in the Word spoken and lived and in lives open to transformation?

*With God's help, we will!*

Will you continue to live a life of Presence? Will you be accountable to one another, growing together, listening to each other and the neighbourhood God has placed you? Will you put down roots in this place, practice hospitality and extend Christ's gracious invitation to relationship, meaning and life to each other and to all whom you meet along the road?

*With God's help, we will!*

Will you continue to live a life of simplicity? Trusting in God's abundance, caring for creation, striving for balance between rest, work and play and keeping your hearts awake to the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Will you continue to walk together as disciples, seeking reconciliation and offering compassion, joy and companionship? *With God's help, we will!*

Will you joyfully continue to journey together with God and each other, meeting together as a community; in prayer and worship, in celebration and grief, in uncertainty and in hope, being signs of God's in-breaking reign of justice and peace in this place? *With God's help, we will!*

Prior: May God strengthen us and fill us with the Holy Spirit as we journey together. And may God, who has begun this good work in us all, bring it to fulfillment.

*Thanks be to God! Amen!*

Let us celebrate those who have reaffirmed their vows!

## **The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **The Offertory: Your Labor Is Not In Vain**

Your labor is not in vain

though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained

Your planting and reaping are never the same

But your labor is not in vain.

Your labor is not unknown

though the rocks - they cry out and the sea it may groan.

The place of your toil may not seem like a home

but your labor is not unknown.

*Refrain:* For I am with you, I am with you.

I am with you, I am with you

For I have called you, called you by name

Your labor is not in vain.

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit

the fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth,

for all that is old will at last be made new:

the vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

The houses you labored to build

will finally with laughter and joy be filled.

The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed

and all that is broken be healed. *Refrain*

Kimbrough, Zach, Wardell, Keyes / © Porter's Gate Publishing / CCLI

## **WE CELEBRATE**

### **Thanksgiving for the Earth** (Prayer over the Gifts)

Remember the fruits of the earth, for sowing and for harvest.

Remember the dew of the air. Remember the downcoming of the

rains and the waters and the rivers. Remember the plants and

the blooms of every year. Remember the safety of humans and

of animals and of me, your [blessed and broken] servant. For

the rain, the wind of the sky, seed, plants, the fruit of the trees

and also the vineyards, and for every tree in the entire world:

**We are grateful!**



For the Holy Trinity who brings us to perfection in safety and peace, forgives us our sins, brings us up according to their measure that we may grow and prosper through your grace, who makes the face of the earth to rejoice, waters her furrows, lets her grain be abundantly multiplied and makes ready her seed-time and harvest: **We give You thanks.**

adapted from the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Pre-Anaphora, and Anaphora of Basil

## **The Holy Eucharist**

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

**...Glory to you forever and ever ...**with all 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 in the highest.**

As Jesus was eating with his disciples...

**...Glory to you forever and ever**

As supper was ending Jesus took the wine...

**...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, will come again. X2**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts...**Amen**

## **The Prayer of Jesus**

As beloved children of a loving parent let us pray:

**Our Father (Mother/Source) in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*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 welcome to receive at Jesus' table! 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. Juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the common cup, please do not dip the bread into the cup.

## **Communion Songs**

### **Burning Ember**

Judge for yourself how great is the one  
Who lives in God – whose God is love  
Like an iron when left in embers bright  
Everything if fire – everything is light  
Oh Love, how beautiful You are  
Oh flame of joy within my heart

Burning ember, I remember Love's first light in me  
I was cold then, like a stone when I saw Your flickering  
Oh what beauty as You drew near me I could scarcely speak  
Somehow I knew I would be new in your glowing

Judge for yourself if a fire isn't safe  
When cities fall before her face  
Yet a flower can endure the course of a storm  
When bowing to the tempest's rage  
Oh Love, more fierce than all the rest  
Oh raging joy within my breast

Burning ember I remember Love's first light in me  
I was cold then, like a stone when I saw Your flickering  
Burn forever, let me never curse the pain You bring  
Somehow I know I will be whole in Your burning

Oh Love, more lovely than the rest  
Oh flame of joy within my breast

Burning ember, shine forever in the darkest tomb  
Warmth of heaven, hidden secret in a mother's womb  
Flame of beauty, blazing through me so that all might see  
Somehow we know we'll all be whole in Your burning  
In Your burning, in Your burning

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### **Fire of Love**

Fire of Love we wait on you  
to kindle our hearts, kindle our hearts  
Fire of Love we wait on you to kindle our hearts we pray

Holy Spirit fan the flame

Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / used with permission

## **Prayer after Communion**

Nourished at this table, O God, may we know Christ's radical love and live a new life in him. Help us who recognize Jesus in the breaking of bread to stir the embers, arise with burning hearts - and serve Jesus in all whose lives are broken. Give us, who have been fed at Jesus' table, the grace to share our bread with the hungry and with the hungry of heart. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in the final victory of love, and we shall feast in joy. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, Source of All Being, with the Holy Spirit in the beloved and mystical community, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **WE ARE SENT INTO CREATION**

### **Blessing / Benediction**

#### **Closing Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus**

I have decided to follow Jesus  
I have decided to follow Jesus  
I have decided to follow Jesus  
No turning back, no turning back

Though I may wonder, I still will follow...

Though none go with me, still I will follow...

Sing glory, glory, hallelujah...

Anonymous / Tune: Traditional Assamese

### **Sending**

May the God of the Emmaus Road walk with us as we tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of justice and love.

Go in the peace of Christ!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*Bell x 3*



# EMMAUS COMMUNITY

*The Emmaus Community is a Neo-Monastic community whose recognition of Christ in our midst leads us to walk the Way of love through prayer, simplicity and presence with each other and in our neighbourhood.*

*By 'new monastic' or 'neo-monastic' we mean that we draw on the ancient wisdom of the Christian monastic traditions - even as we live ordinary lives.*

*Covenanted Members take vows and Companions make promises to live in the spirit of our Rule of Life with commitments to prayer, presence and simplicity.*

*The AbbeyChurch is a ministry of the Emmaus Community. Some folks from AbbeyChurch are part of Emmaus - but many are not. One needn't be formally connected with Emmaus to be part of our Sunday worshipping community.*

*If you are interested in joining Emmaus Community as a Companion or a Covenanted Member, email as at [admin@emmauscommunity.ca](mailto:admin@emmauscommunity.ca)!*



**[admin@emmauscommunity.ca](mailto:admin@emmauscommunity.ca)**  
**[www.abbeychurch.ca](http://www.abbeychurch.ca)**

778 557 4166 (pastoral cell monitored regularly)

We would love to connect!

Call, text or email to set up a coffee or walk.