

Second Sunday after The Epiphany
Birthday of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
January 15, 2023 + 4pm



Image: [Scott Erickson / Scott the Painter](#)



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

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,
radicals, 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.

We Gather

Opening Loop / Tolling of the Bells

Announcements & Land Acknowledgement & Land Welcome in ləkʷəŋən from elder Butch Dick

Opening Words

Those who have known the strains of human life, the heavy burdens of injustice, or the perils of uncertainty, come and tell again the story of God. Let your hearts be made alive with memories of restoration. Let your mouths be filled with testimonies of hope. Our spirits are renewed through Sacred witness.

We remember the prophets - their truth offers freedom. We remember the life of Jesus - his love transforms. We remember the saints who persisted - their courage compels. With the joy of this ancient story that delivers and uplifts, we welcome the presence of God in our midst. (@enfleshed)

Opening Prayer / Collect

Almighty God, by the hands of Miriam and Moses your servants you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your church, following the example of your prophet the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may strive to secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** *(Collect by The Rev. Wil Gafney)*

Opening Song: God of Wonders

Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.

Lord of all creation - of water, earth and sky

The heavens are your Tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high

Refrain: God of wonders beyond our galaxy. You are holy, holy

The universe declares Your majesty. You are holy, holy

Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light

As I stumble in the shadows - I will call your name by night.

Refrain

...Hallelujah! To the Lord of heaven and earth x 3 *refrain.*

Hindalong/Byrd 2000 New Spring Publishing / CCLI

We Proclaim

The Psalm: Psalm 40 (Paraphrase, sung)

I waited patiently for the Lord - You inclined and heard my cry
You lift me up out of the pit - Out of the miry clay

Refrain: I will sing, sing a new song
I will sing, sing a new song
How long - to sing this song? How long - to sing this song?
How long, how long, how long how long - to sing this song?

You set my feet upon a rock and made my footsteps firm
Many will see - many will see and hear *refrain*.

U2 (Bono/Edge/Clayton/Mullen Jr.). 1983 Island Records / Blue Mountain Music.

The Hebrew Scripture

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah [49: 1-6, Wil Gafney trans.]

Listen you coastlands to me;

And pay heed, you peoples from afar!

The CREATOR OF ALL called me before I was born;

From my mother's belly God made my name known.

God made my mouth like a sharpened sword;

in the shadow of God's own hand, hid me;

God made me a polished arrow;

In God's own quiver, hid me.

And God said to me, "You are my servant,

Israel, in you I am glorified."

But I, I said, "in vain have I laboured;

I have spent my strength for nothingness and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the FAITHFUL ONE

and my wages with my God."

And now says the AUTHOR OF LIFE,

who formed me in the womb to be God's servant,

to return Jacob back to the Lord,

and that Israel might be gathered to God

I am honoured in the sight of the HOLY ONE OF OLD

and my God is my strength—

God says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob in the line of Rebekkah

and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you you as light to the nations,
 For it will be that my salvation
 may reach to the ends of the earth."
 ...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we prepare our
 hearts to hear the Gospel.*

Gospel Acclamation:

fiddle

[A] Lord, to whom shall we go? [C] Lord, to whom shall we go?

[A] You are gra-cious and merc - i - ful. [C] Lord, to whom shall we go?

[A] Slow to an - ger and a-bound-ing in love. [C] Lord, to whom shall we go?

[A] Lord, to whom shall we go? [C] Let us trust in your word.

The Gospel

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

A reading from the gospel according to John (NRSV 1: 29b-42)

...John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and

they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

Gospel Acclamation:



The Sermon

Meagan Crosby-Shearer, EC

Silence for meditation. Bell / Silence / Bell

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we proclaim the ancient story of our faith.

Credo

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. A---men.
Ryan Flanigan/ Liturgical folk, alt./ CCLI

Our Prayers

Jesse Robertson

Confession and Assurance

Lord Jesus, illuminate the bleakness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, open our heart's eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** Church of England, alt.

Bell. Silent Prayer of confession. Bell.

Absolution / Assurance of Grace

The Peace

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is new creation.
The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.
Beloved in Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

We exchange the peace with a gesture.

*During this next 'offertory' song, the table is set.
You are welcomed (now, or later) to place any financial contributions to
our common life in the vintage record player in the back of the worship
space. Cheques can be made out to 'The Emmaus Community'.
Charitable receipts will be issued if you leave us your address.*

Offertory Song: Abide In Me (Abide With Me)

Abide in me, fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless, O abide in me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide in me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thy self my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide in me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide in me...

Francis Lyte, alt. / Public Domain

We Celebrate

Prayer Over The Gifts

May these gifts we offer, God of new ways, bring comfort to those who grieve; hope to those who live on the streets of despair; peace to all the broken places; and grace to all who long to draw closer to you. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Thom Shulman / Lectionary Liturgies

The Communion/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 for Lord our God!

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Worship and praise belong to you, God our Maker. For out of nothing, you called the world into being. Though we waver in our faithfulness, you, Lord, are always faithful. Like a mother hen, you care for us. You constantly call us home to you.

The prophets call us to another way. In Christ Jesus, you have revealed the Way. In Christ, you draw Creation to its fulfillment of justice, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

And so, with angels and archangels, and the whole Creation, we sing the hymn of your unending glory:

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

Heaven and earth of your glory are full

Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest.

+Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. X2

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

Heaven and earth of your glory are full

Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest. X2

Steve bell / Signpost Music / CCLI

Summoning God, you beckoned the first disciples to come and see your anointed son, and through him you anointed each new follower with purpose and power. Bless us as we come to be with you at this feast today.

On the night before Jesus died, a sacred meal was shared between friends. And at this table, Jesus took bread and +blessed it. As he broke the bread, he reminded them to eat in remembrance of him. “Do this in remembrance of me”.

Later, Jesus took the cup. He +blessed it and invited his friends to taste from the cup of grace. “Do this, as often as you drink of this,” he said, “for the remembrance of me.”

Responding to your invitation, we, too, enter this sacred meal. Recalling the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of your Christ, we long for your Reign to unfurl in our midst.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this wine, that they may be your body and blood.

Kindled with the fire of your Love, we anticipate and participate in your New Creation, the renewal of all things - where all Creation shall worship you, Triune God, forever and ever.

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 Song: Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

O Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world - Have mercy
O Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world - Have mercy
O Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world
Grant us peace Poor Clare (Lacey Brown) / Used With Permission

Communion Song: Be Our Light

The day has gone the hours have run
And you have taken count of all
Scanty triumphs Grace has won
The broken vow, the frequent fall
Through life's long day and death's dark night
Be our light. Be our light. Be our light.

In our midst the lonely sit
We're painfully aware of it
Let the joyful song be lifted high
So we can find some peace of mind
Through life's long day and death's dark night
Be our light. Be our light. Be our light.
Jenny Moore, from a hymn text by Frederick Faber / St Benedict's Table.

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

God of glory, you nourish us with bread from heaven.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us, your
luminescence may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Blessing

Closing Song: Send Us Out

Send us out to proclaim the reign of your kingdom.
Send us out to proclaim and to heal
Send us out with your power and your authority.
To reconcile and to heal the world

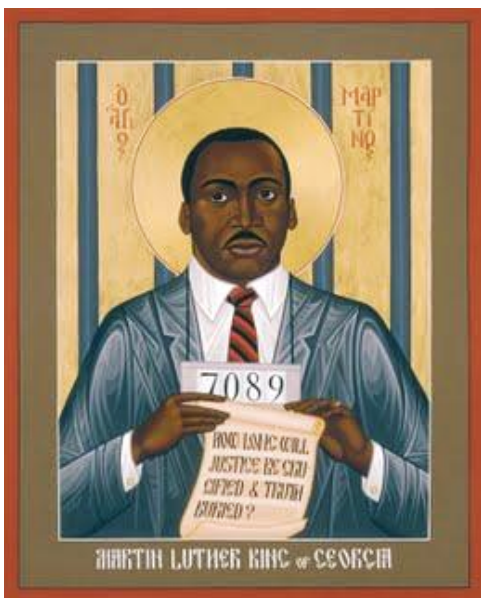
Taking nothing for your journey
For God will give you your bread
And for every house that you enter
Pray the peace of God descend (*repeat Refrain*)
John Michael Talbot, alt. Birdwing Music / CCLI

Sending

Go now as light into the world!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Closing Announcement Loop



admin@emmauscommunity.ca

www.abbeychurch.ca

778 557 4166 Community Cell.

We would love to connect! Call, Text, Email.

