

# Easter Four

April 30, 2023 + 4pm



*Image: 'Dinner Party' by Paula Maggs*



THE  
**ABBHEY**  
CHURCH

*Beloved companions on the Way  
Come as you are offering our lives  
in the beautiful struggle of resurrection hope...*

## **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 our Christian creeds.

We share a willingness to honestly wrestle with God - with our questions and doubts, our disillusionment with our institutions and our concern for our world.

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

We believe that Christ's love binds our differences together and renews our hope as we gather each week at Jesus' table of radical welcome.

# We Gather

**Opening Loop / Tolling of the Bells**  
**Announcements**  
**Land Acknowledgment**

Chivonne Graff

## **Gathering Words**

Siblings, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts!

**For many signs and wonders are being done among us!**

Let us break bread together and share our lives in common!

**Let us give what we can to meet the needs of all Creation!**

Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel!

**For in this way God will add to our numbers every day!**

*Feasting on the Word, Alt.*

Let us pray. God our good shepherd, you draw near to the suffering. You uphold the weary and comfort the isolated. You draw us together to live as community, sharing what we have so that all might experience life abundant. Make us friends of justice and unwavering in faithfulness to love wherever and however You call us. **Amen.** *Enfleshed, Alt.*

## **Song: All Are Welcome**

May God build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how  
hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

May God build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;

here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

May God build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

May God build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

May God build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.  
Text: Marty Haugen, alt © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc. OneLicense

**Poem: Draw Near** by Scott Cairns

Read/selected by poet-in-residence **Rebecca Yeo**

## **We Proclaim**

### **The Story of the Beloved Community**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:42-47, First Nations Version)  
This newly formed family continued daily to learn from the twelve message bearers. They lived together in harmony, ate ceremonial meals, and prayed with one another. Great respect and awe came down upon all, and the message bearers performed many powerful signs. As these new followers lived together in peace, their harmony grew stronger, and they shared all things. Many of them had a giveaway to provide for all who were in need. Each day they gathered at the sacred lodge. With good and pure hearts they feasted together in their

homes and shared the ceremonial meal of frybread and wine given to them by Creator Sets Free (Jesus). They gave honour and thanks to the Great Spirit and were respected by the people. Each day Creator sent more people who were being set free to join with them. ...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Song: The Lord's My Shepherd**

The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want. You make me down to lie in pastures green; you leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul you doth restore again and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness e'en for your own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me, and in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

Psalm 23, Scottish Psalter, Kenneth T. Kosche, Jessie Seymour Irvine

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

### **Gospel Acclamation: You're Alive**

All creation sings your praise - all creation rejoices  
We join into creation's song! We join in with our voices!

With the cedars we sway - Our God lives  
With the waves we crash - You rose again!  
With the sheep we dance - You conquered death!  
And with the lion we roar - You're alive!

Alleluia - allelu! Alleluia ' "You're alive!"

Charlie Buhler / Grandview Church Vancouver

## **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 (10:1-10)  
“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

...Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**Alleluia, Christ is risen from the dead!**

**Gospel Acclamation: You're Alive**

Alleluia - allelu!

Alleluia, “You're alive!”

Charlie Buhler, alt. / Grandview Church Vancouver

**Sermon**

**Matthew Cook**

*Silence for meditation.*

*Bell / Silence / Bell*

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we affirm 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 cath'lic church,  
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting!  
A-----men.

Ryan Flanigan/ Liturgical folk/ CCLI

## **Our Prayers**

### **The Peace**

Beloved community, by the mercies of God and the  
mystery of Easter, we have brought back into the safety of  
God's fold, let us share our peace with one another.

### **And also with you!**

*We acknowledge the peace of Christ in each other.*

*During this next 'offertory' song, the table is set. Contributions to our  
common life can be placed in the record player in the back of the space.  
Cheques made out to 'The Emmaus Community'. Charitable receipts will  
be issued if you provide your address.*

### **Offertory: Slow Me Down**

O good shepherd, would you teach me how to rest  
I'm rushing on, will you make me to lie down  
Will you build a fold by the waters that refresh  
Will you call my name and lead me safely out?

From my anxious drive to labor on and on  
From the restless grind that has put my mind to sleep  
Will you call me back and gently slow me down  
Will you show me now what to lose and what to keep

*Refrain*

O Good Shepherd, O Good friend slow me down, slow me down.  
O Good Shepherd, O Good friend slow me down, slow me down.

When my table's bent with only greed and gold  
And my grasping hands are afraid you won't provide  
Will you pour the wine that loosens up my hold  
Set your table here with what truly satisfies. *Refrain*

On the busy streets trying to make myself a name  
If the work is yours, there is nothing I can claim  
Will you lead home to the pastures of your peace  
The house is yours, I'm sitting at your feet *Refrain*

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Kate Bluett Music Little Way Creative Paper News Publishing Kimbrough, Wendell  
Remaining portion is unaffiliated

## **We Celebrate**

### **Invitation To the Table / Prayer Over The Gifts**

Spirit of Liberation, you pour forth your spirit and renew  
the face of the earth. Come and soften what has been  
frozen by fear or hardened by greed and pain, that we may  
share all in common. Bless now our offerings that they  
may become green pastures and still waters for all who  
need your comfort and restoration. **Amen.**

*Enfleshed, Alt.*

### **Communion / 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.**



Joy and gladness are our song, redeeming God, for you are the God of creation and new creation, covenant and new covenant. You brought your people out of slavery to freedom and your Son from death to resurrection life.

**Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again!**

Therefore with the company of heaven and all your creation we sing:

O- Holy - Holy Holy Lord - O God of power and Might. All  
 C Am7 G D G C Em  
 Heaven and earth of-your glory are full Ho - sanna in the high - est. O  
 Bm Em D G G Dsus4  
 Blessed is the one who comes in the name-of-the Lord! Ho-  
 C Am G D G C Em  
 -sanna in the high - est. Ho - sanna in the high - est.

Kingsfold Communion Set, adapted from William Kervin / More Voices, alt.

We give thanks for Jesus who has risen from the grave and made the whole creation new. He broke bread with sinners, fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed and poured out his life, in death, that we might live in love.

On the night before his arrest and death, Jesus gathered with companions and taking bread, he gave thanks to you and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, drink this all of you: This is my blood poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. ...Whenever you drink it: Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.**

Hope and joy are our breath, merciful God, for in a garden of life, you have rolled away the stone of fear and despair, the stone of oppression, the stone of sin, the stone of death. +Pour out now your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of the living God.

Come and stand among us and breathe on us your peace, breathe on us your power, breathe on us your life, that all who labour, all who weep, all who hunger, shall meet you in the breaking of the bread. Shape us to be your risen body, and set our hearts on fire until you come again and we feast together in your kingdom and are made one in your love. Christ is risen from the dead.

**Love is come again. Amen, Alleuia!**

*Feasting on the word worship & Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher's Eucharistic Prayers © 2016 William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company*

As beloved children of a loving parent we pray as Jesus taught:  
*said in a language, translation or paraphrase of your choice*

**Our \*Father (\*or Parent, or 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

*Silence.*

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

*All are welcome to receive at Jesus' table! The bread is gluten-free but contains almond flour and dairy. Juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the common cup. Please do not dip bread.*

## **Agnus Dei: Lamb of God** by Tom Wuest

*(pre-recorded, excerpt)* Brass Trumpet Publishing

### **Communion Song: Pass the Cup Around**

Pass the cup around

I can hardly speak a word, I am lost

Pass the bread around - I cannot sustain myself

The night is getting longer

Every time I come back to this table I think (x3)

I might believe (x3)

We might believe (x3)

We long to feast (x3)

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### **Communion Song: Let Us Break Bread Together**

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

#### *Refrain*

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Contributors: African-American Spiritual/arr. John Barr

## **We Are Sent**

### **Prayer after Communion**

God of steadfast love, watch over your sheep as we depart for other pastures. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to the waters of your kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, our brother. **Amen.**

*Anglican Church of Canada, Alt.*

## **The Blessing**

### **Closing Song: May Your \*Kingdom Come**

For the hungry  
We call out for your mercy  
For the hurting  
We call out for your mercy

*Refrain* Come Jesus come, come Jesus come  
Come Jesus come, come Jesus come

May your kingdom come on earth  
as it is in heaven (x3)

For the warring  
We call out for your mercy  
For the dying  
We call out for your mercy

©Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission \* or 'kin-dom'

## **The Sending**

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **Closing Loop**

***There will be no worship Sunday May 7.  
Instead, AbbeyChurch will join the closing worship of  
the Resurrect Learning Party at 11:15am on May 6.  
Please join us!***

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



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