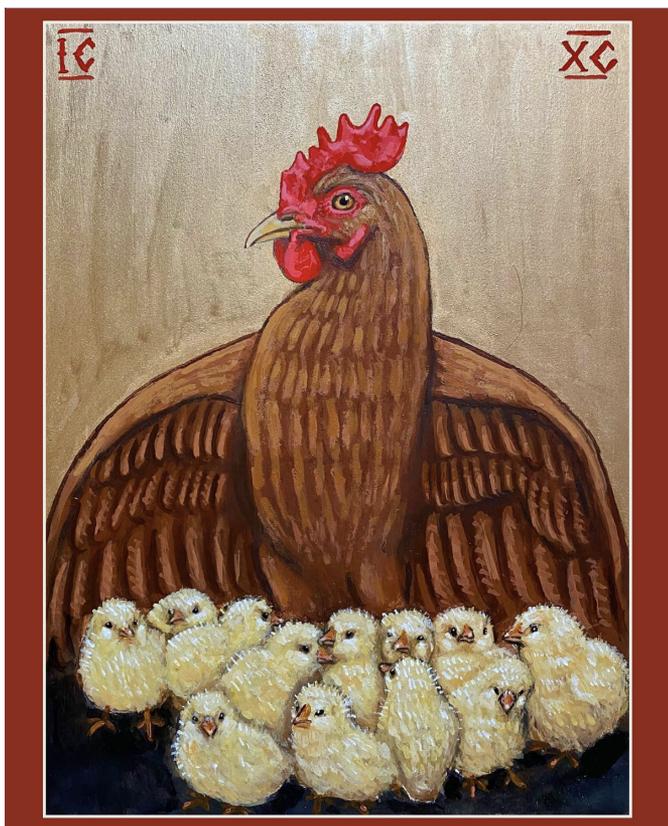


Easter Six

May 14, 2023 + 4pm



Icon: Christ the Mother Hen by Kelly Latimore



*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

Though the presence of God is always near,
**it is rarely loud,
often subtle,
and always prefers an invitation.**

Permeating all of life,
always and everywhere available,
the Holy asks us
**to listen,
to be still,
to pay attention,
and to practice the Wisdom we receive.**

The Holy Mystery of Love,
the Sacred Calling of Courage,
The Lure of Truth and Beauty,
they are always moving us toward the restoration of life.

**Praise be to God
who is revealed in our longings,
felt in connection,
and encountered in the flesh of creation.**

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Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ and make yourself our guest: amid the cares of our daily lives, draw us to your presence and make us attentive to your voice, so that we may long for your life above all else. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son. **Amen.**

A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) alt.

Opening Song: In Christ There is No East or West

In Christ, there is no East or West - no North or South
Only one great love - inside and out
True hearts everywhere - of all abilities and kinds
Singin' one melody - lost souls cannot find

Join hands and have faith - whatever your race may be
Who serves our Maker and the Son
Is surely kin to me.... join hands...

In Christ now meet both East and West
There is no black or white - Only one great love
Hatred cannot divide

Join hands (join hands) and have faith (have faith)
Forgive your enemy
Surely, we're all a part - of one big family (one big family)

repeat first section: In Christ there is...

Join hands (join hands) and have faith (have faith)
Whatever your race may be
Who serves our Maker and the Son - Is surely kin to me
Join hands (join hands), have faith (have faith)
Forgive your enemy
Surely, we're all a part Of one big family (one big family)

Songwriters: Mavis Staples - Jeffrey Scot Tweedy/Traditional African and Celtic origins.

Poem: selected by poet-in-residence

Rebecca Yeo

We Proclaim

The Story of the Beloved Community

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (17:16-18, 22-31))

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this pretentious babbler want to say?...Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the

objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said: 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now God commands all people everywhere to repent, because God has fixed a day on which God will have the world judged in righteousness by one whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed, but others said, "We will hear you again about this." At that point Paul left them. But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

...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: 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 14: 15-21, 25-27

[Jesus said] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”...“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.” ...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

Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

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

Chivonne Graff

The Peace

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you!

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: God of Many Faces *Tune: Slane (Be Thou My Vision)*

God of many faces, we offer our praise,
singing your glory through all of our days.
Hear ever growing voices, once fragile, now strong,
carrying melodies in expansive new songs.

God of many genders, our world reflects you,
sunrise and sunset uniting our hues,
Woven into a city with jewels of all shades,
houses of ruby and walls rowed with jade.

God of many names, we invite you to show
us the new names that reflect our true souls.
Breathe with your holy spirit to give us the word
that will in-dwell dry bones, granting new life once heard.

God of many bodies, abide within ours,
shifting more each day through time and through scars.
Come sanctify our bodies, all fashioned by you,
holier every day still becoming more true.

From Songs for the Holy Other / God of Many Faces ©2019 Amy Cernigli

We Celebrate

Invitation To the Table / Prayer Over The Gifts

Expansive God who hungers for us. Fill our hungers for you at this, Your table of mercy and grace. May we call others to join us in this holy feast, which is a foretaste of the great feast to come where those of all nations will gather in unity and love around your table. In the name of the resurrected Christ our sibling and Lord we pray. **Amen.**

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: Embrace the Mystery

Behold what you are.
Become what you receive.
Take up this bread and wine.
Embrace the mystery.

Gord Johnson ©2008 Signpost Music / CCLI

Communion Song: Your Peace Will Make Us One

Mine eyes have seen the glory
Of the coming of the Lord
You are speaking truth to power
You are laying down our swords
Replanting every vineyard
Til a brand new wine is poured
Your peace will make us one.

I've seen you in our home fires
Burning with a quiet light
You are mothering and feeding
In the wee hours of the night
Your gentle love is patient
You will never fade or tire.
Your peace will make us one.

In the beauty of the lilies
You were born across the sea
With a glory in your bosom
That is still transfiguring
Dismantling our empires
Till each one of us is free
Your peace will make us one.

Glory, glory, hallelujah.
Glory, glory, hallelujah.
Glory, glory, hallelujah.
Your peace will make us one.

Audrey Assad based on Julia Ward Howe ©2019 Fortunate Fall Music / CCLI

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

Loving God who mothers us - we give you thanks for holding us under the shelter of your wings. For the peace we have received at this table, we give you thanks. May this food feed us to feed the world that you love - in the name of the Risen Christ.

Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Song: Tell Out My Soul (The Magnificat)

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of the word;
In God my saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's name!
Make known God's might, who wondrous deeds has done
God's mercy sure, from age to age the same;
God's holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight;
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of God's word!
Firm is the promise, and God's mercy sure.
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forevermore!

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The Sending

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Closing Loop

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



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