

**The AbbeyChurch / September 17, 2023**  
**The Season of Creation III**



*Miriam Dancing in the Red Sea by Sarah Hornsby based on Jubilation - Fr. Sieger Koder*



# We Gather

## Opening Loop

## Tolling of the Bells & Announcements

## Land Acknowledgment

As we gather,

**we acknowledge with gratitude and respect the ɫəkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional land we worship and the Songhees, Esquimalt peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day. As a community, we commit to an ongoing journey of decolonization, deep listening and humility as we seek to walk in right-relationship.**

*Bell x 3*

We gather in the name of God: Source of All Being, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the earth and of all creatures!  
**Amen!**

## Opening Words with Refrain (*sing x2*)

Unison  
♩ = 104

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It begins with a tempo marking of ♩ = 104. The first system of music is in 3/4 time and contains the lyrics: "I praise you, O God, with all of my heart. With all the earth I will". Above the staff, the chords are Dm, G/D, Dm7, G/D, and Bb. The second system of music contains the lyrics: "sing your prais-es. I prais-es.". Above the staff, the chords are C, Bb, C, Bb, C, and Dm. The first two measures of the second system are marked "Repeats" and the last two measures are marked "Last time". The score ends with a fermata over the final chord, Dm.

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart. With all the earth I will

Repeats Last time

sing your prais-es. I prais-es.

More Voices / David Robertson / High River United Church

*Sung Refrain... "I praise you O God..."*

We have forgotten who we are. We have alienated ourselves from the movements of the earth. We have turned our backs on the cycles of life. **Forgive us, O God.** *Sung Refrain*

We have forgotten who we are. We have sought only our own security. We have exploited earth for our own ends. We have distorted our knowledge and abused our power.  
**Forgive us, O God.** *Sung Refrain*

We have forgotten who we are. Now the land is barren. And the waters are poisoned. And the air is polluted. Now the forests are dying. And the creatures are disappearing. & humans are despairing. **Forgive us, O God.** *Sung Refrain*

We have forgotten who we are. **We ask forgiveness. We seek the gift of remembering. Help us to remember who we are.**  
Season of Creation for Episcopalian Parishes, Alt.

## **Absolution**

*Please rise in body or in spirit as we sing  
& the AbbeyKids set the altar with a mighty river*

## **Opening Song: Declare A Jubilee**

The meek will inherit the earth. 2X  
The first will be last and the last will be first  
The meek will inherit the earth

The wicked will lose what they stole 2X  
And all that they thought they could own and control  
The wicked will lose what they stole

*Refrain:* Jubilee - now is the year of Your favour  
Jubilee - rest for the weary creation.  
Now - bring in the year of Jubilee!

Turn now from evil to good. 2X  
Then we will dwell in the land as we should  
Turn now from evil to good  
Now bring in the year of Jubilee *Refrain*

The earth will sigh with relief. 2X  
There's more than enough for the hungry to feed  
The earth will sigh with relief. *Refrain*

Taylor Leonhardt · Jessica Fox 2022 The Porter's Gate, Integrated Music / CCLI

## **We Proclaim**

### **A Reading from the Exodus** (15:selected verses, NRSVUE/Gafney)

Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

“I will sing to the GOD-WHO-SAVES for God has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider God has thrown into the sea.

The MIGHTY GOD is my strength and my might,

God has become my salvation;

this is my God, whom I will praise;

my forebears God, whom I will exalt.

The DREAD GOD is a warrior;

Too holy to be pronounced is God’s holy name.

Pharaoh’s chariots and his army God cast into the sea;

Pharaoh’s elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

The floods covered them;

they went down into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—

your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.

In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;

you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.

At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;

the floods stood up in a heap;

the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, ‘I will pursue; I will overtake;

I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.

I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.’

You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;

they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,

awesome in splendour, doing wonders?

You stretched out your right hand;

the earth swallowed them.

In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;

you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on

dry ground. Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the GOD-WHO-SAVES, for God has triumphed gloriously;

horse and rider God has thrown into the sea!"

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

### **Lament "Psalm": In Labour All Creation Groans**

In labour all creation groans till fear and hatred cease,  
Till human hearts come to believe: In Christ alone is peace.

In labour all creation groans till war and violence cease,  
Till swords are beaten into plows and Christ will be our peace.

*Chorus: Be our Peace (X3) Christ our Peace.*

In labour all creation groans till prejudice shall cease,  
Till every race and tribe and tongue in Christ will live in peace.

In labour all creation groans till rape and murder cease,  
Till elders walk by night unharmed and Christ is this world's peace. *Chorus*

In labour all creation groans till false divisions cease,  
Till enemies are reconciled in Christ who is our peace. *Chorus*  
*from Lamentations by Bifrost Arts Music, 2016.*

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

### **Gospel Acclamation: All Creatures of our God and King**

All creatures of our God and King

Lift up your voice and with us sing. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O burning sun with golden beam.

And silver moon with softer gleam.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Based on words by St. Francis of Assisi / Public Domain

### **The Gospel**

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

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

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but,

I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." [Matt. 18: 21-35]

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

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

Swift flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Fire so intense and fiercely bright,  
who gives to us both warmth and light,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Based on words by St. Francis of Assisi / Public Domain

### **The Sermon**

**Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC**

*Bell / Silence for meditation / Bell*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God, who creates all things,  
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,  
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.  
We believe in God as the source of all life,  
who baptizes 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 Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, South India,  
adapted by Keld B. Hansen, 2009.

## **Our Prayers**

**Rev. Michelle Slater**

### **The Peace**

Beloved Community, the peace of Christ be with you all.

**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 Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found was blind, but now I see  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

*Refrain: My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood God's mercy reigns  
Unending love, amazing grace!*

The Lord has promised good to me. God's word my hope secures  
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. *refrain.*

The earth shall be made new, I know.. The sun shall ever shine.  
And God who calls me here below, shall be forever mine. *refrain.*

2006 Worshiptogethersongs Tomlin/Newton/Giglio, alt. ccli 3134948

# We Celebrate

## **Prayer Over the Gifts**

Holy God, accept all we offer you this day.

May we who are forgiven and reconciled at this table bring wholeness to your broken world.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our sibling - and the Lord of all creation. **Amen.**

Anglican Church of Canada, alt.

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the God of all of Creation.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

You spoke the Word and all things came to be - things in heaven and things on earth. Your Spirit hovered over the primal elements, and you brought forth abundant life in innumerable forms, including this fragile earth, our home, and we amongst its many inhabitants.

As our past is in you, so our hope for the future rests with you. As we have turned from your way, so we turn again to the warmth of your self-giving love. You are the one who gives life and through you all things are brought to new life. And now we give you thanks for the glories of your creation entrusted into our care, and for the opportunities we have to share that richness with all your people. And so we join our voice to all your creatures, in heavens and on earth, forever singing the song of your praise:

*Singing:* **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**

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, the work of human hands, the gift of our earth, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread and spoke to us of the breaking of his body upon the cross. He gave it to his friends and said: Take and



eat, for this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper he took the wine, the work of human hands, the gift of our earth, and gave thanks to God. He poured out the wine and spoke to us of the pouring out of his blood. He gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink this, do this in remembrance of me.

So we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Sung:*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore O God, through these gifts of bread and wine, reconcile us to you and to our world. Send upon us, and upon all your creation, the life-giving Spirit who first moved upon the waters of the deep. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Unite us with you through the body and blood of your Son, your Word made flesh. By whom, and with whom and in whom, in the unity of your Creative Spirit, with all that has been, is, and will be in your universe, we stand before you and worship you, God of all creation. **Amen.**

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!**

*All are welcome to receive at Jesus' table! The bread is gluten-free but contains almond flour and dairy. Please ask the server if you would like a non-dairy/almond option. Juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the common cup.*

*Please do not dip bread.*

## Communion Song: Lamb of God - Tom Wuest (recorded)

Brass Trumpet Publishing

## Communion Song: God Is Forgiveness

God is for-give-ness. Dare to for-give and God will be with you.  
*Bóg jest mi - łoś - cią miej-cie od - wa - gę żyć dla mi-łoś - ci.*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics in English and Polish.

God is for-give-ness. Love, and do not fear.  
*Bóg jest mi - łoś - cią. Nie lę - kaj - cie się.*

The musical score continues with the same key signature and time signature. It includes a repeat sign at the end of the second line.

Ateliers et presses de Taize / OneLicense.

## Communion Song: Forgive Our Sins

'Forgive our sins as we forgive,' You taught us, Christ, to pray,  
But you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:  
What trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

Lord cleanse the depths within our souls & bid resentment cease  
Then bound to all in bonds of love our lives will spread your peace.

Rosamund Herklots, b.1905, Oxford University Press/OneLicense

## We Are Sent

### Prayer after Communion

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that the gifts  
of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth.  
May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your  
work is ours, through Jesus Christ, who is alive with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

Sister Catherine Brennan SSL and Sister Ann Concannon SSL, Alt.

## The Blessing

### Closing Song: O Mary Don't You Weep

Well if I could I surely would -  
stand on the rock where Moses stood  
Pharaoh's army got drowned - O Mary don't you weep

*refrain: O Mary don't you weep, don't mourn  
O Mary don't you weep, don't mourn  
Pharaoh's army got drowned - O Mary don't you weep*

Well, Mary wore three links of chain -  
On every link was Jesus' name  
Pharaoh's army got drowned - Oh, Mary, don't you weep  
*refrain.*

Well one of these nights around twelve o'clock -  
This old world is gonna rock - Pharaoh's army got drowned -  
Oh, Mary, don't you weep. *refrain*

Well Moses stood on the Red Sea shore -  
Smote the water with a two by four  
Pharaoh's army got drowned - Oh, Mary, don't you weep  
*refrain.*

Well Old Mister Satan he got mad  
Missed that soul that he thought he had  
Pharaoh's army got drowned. Oh, Mary don't you weep. *refrain.*

Brothers and sisters don't you cry  
There'll be better times by and by  
Didn't pharaoh's army get drowned?  
Oh, Mary, don't you weep. *refrain.*  
African-American Spiritual, circa U.S. Civil War – Public Domain

### Sending

Go in the wild animating fire of the Spirit to follow Christ  
and serve God's creation. **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

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*We'll be back here next Sunday at 4pm!*

**Upcoming:**

**Next Sunday September 24th**  
**a Wine and Cheese after worship**

whether you're a newcomer, or an 'old-timer' - if you have questions (bring 'em on!) - or just want to meet others a bit more - come and hang out after worship... We'll bring the wine and cheese (and non-alcohol options too).

**Sunday October 8th**  
**Gratitude Feast**

A potluck on Thanksgiving weekend (October) after AbbeyChurch Sunday worship. More details to come.

*note: no potluck September 29th*

**Weekday Prayer ::: All are welcome!!!**

**Monday Eve @ 8pm** - AbbeyChurch Chapel Quadra/Balmoral - evening prayer with centering prayer sit. Enter through the parking lot + zoom option.

**Tuesday mornings at 8:15am** - 3000 Dean (Marilyn's House) and zoom option available. Email for link.

**Thursday mornings at 8:15am** - AbbeyChurch Chapel Quadra/Balmoral - Enter through the parking lot. In-person only.



“Let justice roll on like a river, & righteousness like an ever-falling stream!”  
- Amos 5:24

**admin@abbeychurch.ca + www.abbeychurch.ca**

778 557 4166 Community Cell.

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

