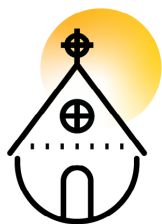


The AbbeyChurch + October 8, 2023
Harvest Gratitude



Image: St. Hildegard of Bingen



THE
ABBHEY
CHURCH

We Gather

Opening Loop

Tolling of the Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Bell x 3

Opening Words and Land Acknowledgement

We gather today, hearts open in gratitude to the Triune God - the great Creator of all things.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

We gather aware of the mystery of God's great abundance; And that, should we choose to share, there is enough for all!

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

We gather with gratitude for the first peoples' of this land. For the Lək̓ʷəŋən people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations - for their language and culture, for their care and ways of being in creation.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

We *raise our hands* in gratitude for our forebears and ancestors, for all, past and present, who have provided sustenance for body, for heart, and for our spirits.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

We turn the blessings we have experienced into praise this day, as we gather in the name of God:

the Source of all Being, the Eternal Word, and the Holy Spirit.

Thank you. All praise be to God! Amen! Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

*Please rise in body or in spirit as we sing
& the AbbeyKids bring up gifts of food to the altar...*

Opening Song: Let All Things Now Living

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving

To God the creator triumphantly raise.

Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,

Who still guides us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,

A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.

Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished

As forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"
Katherine Davis / Ash Grove / OneLicense

Poem: Accidents of Birth by William Merideth

selected and recorded by poet-in-residence **Rebecca Yeo**

We Proclaim

A reading from the letter to the Corinthians (8:13-15; 9:6-10)
For I do not mean that there should be relief for others and
hardship for you, but it is a question of equality between your
present abundance and their need, so that their abundance
may also supply your need, in order that there may be equality.
As it is written,

"The one who had much did not have too much,
and the one who had little did not have too little."

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap
sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap
bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your
mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every
blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of
everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it
is written,

"God scatters abroad; God gives to the poor;
God's righteousness endures forever."

God, who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will
supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the
harvest of your righteousness.

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

Psalm 65

To You, silence is praise, O God in Zion,
and to You vows are paid.

O You who hear prayer, before You all flesh comes.

Reports of wrongdoing are overwhelming me;
our transgressions – You are the one who atones for them.

**Fortunate are those whom You choose
and draw near to dwell in Your courts.**

May we be satisfied with the goodness
of Your house, the holiness of Your temple.

With awesome works, in righteousness,
**You respond to us, O God of our salvation,
the Confidence of all the ends of the earth,
and the far reaches of the sea.**

God sets firm mountains in God's strength;
And is girded with might.

**God stills the roar of the seas, the roar of their waves,
and the din of nations.**

Those dwelling at earth's ends
feel reverent-fear at your signs;

**the horizons of morning and evening
You make ring with joy.**

You visit the earth and water it; abundantly You enrich it –
God's stream, full of water.

You set their grain – just so You set it.

Drenching its furrows, settling its hillocks,

You soften it with showers; its growth You bless.

You crown the year with Your goodness,
and Your wagon-tracks drip richness.

**Wilderness pastures are dripping,
and hills are girdled with rejoicing.**

Meadows are clothed with the flocks,
and valleys robed in grain.

They shout out; they even sing.

Translation by Ellen Davis, 2019, alt.

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

Gospel Acclamation:

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus, let your *kingdom come! X2

May the works of my hands bring you joy. X2 *Chorus*

2017 Porter's Gate(BMI, SESAC, ASCAC. CCLI. * or 'kin-dom')

The Gospel

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the sex workers are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the sex workers believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him." ...Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

Gospel Acclamation:

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus, let your *kingdom come! X2

May the words from my mouth speak your peace! X2 *Chorus*

2017 Porter's Gate - BMI, SESAC, ASCAC. CCLI. * or 'kin-dom'

The Sermon

Matt Humphrey, EC

Bell / Silence for meditation / Bell

The Creed (Sung)

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. Amen.
Ryan Flanigan, alt., © 2017, Common Hymnal, CCLI * = "universal"

Our Prayers

Joy Hunter

The Confession

[together we say] **Almighty God: you love us,
but we've not always loved you.
You bless us, but we've not always thanked You.
You call, but we've not always listened.
We turn away from neighbors in need,
wrapped in our own concerns.
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.
We celebrate 'thanksgiving'
Without acknowledging the harms
of colonialism and white supremacy.
So many of our relationships are broken.
God of grace, help us to admit our sin,
so that as you come to us in mercy,
we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness
for our sins, especially those we now acknowledge
in the quiet of our own hearts:** *Richard Herman, alt.*
Silent Confession.

Assurance of God's Grace

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
with a gesture of peace.*

*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: Praise My Soul the God of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven

glad of heart your carols raise.

ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven

who, like me, should sing God's praise?

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the maker all our days!

Praise God for grace & favour shown to all who are oppressed.

God shows steadfast love forever

slow to chide, and swift to bless:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious is God's faithfulness!

Frail as summer's flower we flourish blows the wind & it is gone
but, while mortals rise

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the high eternal one.

Angels, teach us adoration - you who see God face-to-face;

sun and moon and all creation, all who dwell in time and space.

Alleluia! Alleluia!! Praise with us the God of grace!

Lyte / Ecumenical Womens' Centre / OneLicense

We Celebrate

Prayer Over the Gifts

**We give You thanks for You sustain us with real food and
real drink. You nourish us with friends as real as food, with
joy as clear as the cool river, with love as good as this meal
and the meal we will now share. This is enough. We do not
ask for more. This is more than enough - reason to bless
Your name forever: Make us mindful of those who do not
have enough food and friendship - water, love and joy. Give
them enough and send us as agents of your enough-ness
that all may be thankful. Amen.** mary jo leddy, alt.

The Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you! **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed good and right to give you thanks and praise,

O God of many names:

Our Father, Our Mother, Our Creator,

Our Shepherd, Our Friend, Our Healer,

Our Wisdom, Our Salvation, Our Strength.

Especially on this day of Thanksgiving,

O God, we give you glory!

Glory be to you for dappled things,

And the way the morning light breaks forth to come out
and play with land and sea.

Glory be to you for fields of camas,

and aspen trees shaking the sweetest music out of their leaves;

Glory be to you for billowing clouds

though they are tons of water floating in the sky.

Glory be to you for the gift of our lives

amidst the wonder of it all.

Glory be to you for your inexhaustible love,

your relentless longing,

that even when we turn in on ourselves,

you do not leave us alone.

It is your way to meet us where we are

and to draw us into the wide horizon of your grace.

You send us prophets and poets, and speak to us in dreams.

You give us visions, and raise up leaders.

You kindle courage, and inspire fresh possibilities

so we are able to begin again.

And you have come to us in Jesus,

the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new

each one of us, and all creation, in your love.

He wakened hopes and dreams that lay dormant.

He asked questions that burned like a refiner's fire.

He opened his heart to unlikely people in unlikely places

and joined himself to them in friendship.

Neither birth nor death diminished him.
Neither power nor plenty distracted him.
In all things he shares our vulnerability.
In every circumstance he reveals your companionship with us.
And though we turned from him and the kin-dom he
proclaimed and embodied, and put him to death on a cross,
you did not abandon him, or us, raising him to new life.
We praise you that your power for life can never be defeated.

And so, with all that is seen and unseen,
with all the faithful of every time and place,
we join our voices to sing your praise:

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

We remember that on the night before he died,
Jesus ate with his friends.
He took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it,
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, and eat. This is my body, given for you.
Each time you do this, remember me.”

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks,
passed it to his friends, saying:
“Drink. This cup poured out for you
is the promise of God, poured out in my life.
Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace,
remembering Christ’s life and death,
proclaiming the resurrection,
waiting in hope for Christ’s coming again.
Grant that, in praise and thanksgiving,
we may so offer ourselves to you
that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
that all who share in this loaf and cup
may be the body of Christ:
light, life, and love in the world.
In this hope and as your people, we praise you.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever. **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. The juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the
common cup. Please do not dip bread.*

Communion Song: Lamb of God - Poor Clare / Lacey Brown
(recorded) 2018 Poor Clare Music.

Communion Song: In The Lord

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful - In the Lord, I will rejoice
Look to God do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Ateliers et Presses de Taize / Taize Community, France / OneLicense

Communion Song: The Bounty Is Come

Refrain: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah - The bounty is come
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah - The bounty has come

When the autumn leave have fallen
And the harvest is safe in the barn
We'll again give thanks and remember
It is all, the Creator's design

Refrain: Creation rejoices and lifts up her voice
For what Jehovah has done
The fruit of our labour, the fruit of the earth
Hallelujah, the bounty is come

In the coldest days of the winter
When a blanket of snow hides the fields
Summer's bounty will sustain us
As we wait for what spring shall reveal *Refrain*
Kenny Meeks / A Rocha Arts / CCLI

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion (*spoken together*)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. May we go into the world, in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Song: Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name - in the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow- blessed be Your name
And blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness - blessed be Your name

Refrain: Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
And when the shadow closes in, Lord Still I will say:
Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name - when the sun's shining down on me
When the world's "all as it should be" - Blessed be Your name

And blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering. Blessed be Your name.
refrain.

Coda: You give and take away. You give and take away
My heart will choose to say. Lord, blessed be Your name

The Sending

Go with gratitude to share God's love in abundance.
Thanks be to God. Amen!

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

COMING UP

Weekday Prayer:

- + **NO Centering Prayer tomorrow. Back next Monday.**
- + **Tuesday morning prayer at 8:15am @ Marilyns**
- + **Thursday morning prayer @ 8:15am chapel.**
- + **Friday morning prayer @ 8:15am zoom only**
email for exact locations or zoom link.

Conversation / Book Group:

Starting This Wed. October 11: Discussion group on *Serving God,*
Serving Money - Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the chapel
(followed by short evening prayer)

admin@abbeychurch.ca + www.abbeychurch.ca

778 557 4166 Community Cell.

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



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