

Pentecost + 24

November 12, 2023 + 4PM



image: Darcy Lee Saxton - [Pilgrimage](#)



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

Welcome and Announcements

Bell x 3

Land Acknowledgement

[together, we say]

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

Silence is kept.

Opening Words

If we will but listen,

God will speak to us in parables,

God will tell us stories lived out by our forebears.

If we will but remember,

we will discover all we have heard and known,

all the wonders God has in store for us.

If we will but share,

we can proclaim hope to our children and grandchildren -

even those not yet born - a hope found in the glorious

Story of God. Lectionary Liturgies / Shulman, alt.

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Please rise in body or in spirit as we sing
& AbbeyKids and Teens and Leaders set the table...*

Opening Song: People Get Ready

People get ready, there's a train a-coming;

you don't need no baggage, you just get on board

All you need is faith to hear the diesels humming;

don't need no ticket, you just thank the Lord

People get ready for the train to Jordan;
it's picking up passengers from coast to coast
Faith is the key, open the doors and board 'em;
there's hope for all among those loved the most.

There is still room for the hopeless sinner!
who has hurt humankind with their push and shove.
Have mercy on those who think their chances grow dimmer,
for there's no hiding place from our Jesus' love

So, people get ready, there's a train a coming;
you don't need no baggage, you just get on board
All you need is faith to hear the diesels humming;
don't need no ticket, you just thank the Lord
You don't need no ticket, you just thank the Lord
Curtis Mayfield / Universal Music 1965

Poem: The Second Coming by WB Yeats
Selected and read by poet-in-residence **Rebecca Yeo**

We Proclaim

The Christian Scripture

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians. (4:13-18)
But we do not want you to be uninformed, siblings, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

...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

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

May the works of my hands bring you joy. X2

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

2017 Porter's Gate, alt. BMI, SESAC, ASCAC. CCLI.

The Gospel Reading

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

A reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew: (25:1-13)

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those young women[[c](#)]got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women[[d](#)] came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

...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

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus, let your kingdom come! X4

2017 Porter's Gate, alt. - BMI, SESAC, ASCAC. CCLI.

Bell / Silence for meditation / Bell

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we affirm our faith:

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

Josh Ruberg

Confession

How quickly we forget - our faith, our calling, our hope. All

because we try to do everything our way, rather than God's.

But God is quicker to forgive, and to restore us to new life.

Let us, in silence, confess to our God.

Silence is kept for confession of personal or collective sin.

[together we say] **Have mercy, Eternal One, and forgive us.**

Speak to us, so we might listen, and in hearing be

transformed into your people. Fill us with holiness, so

we might give ourselves wholly to others. Enable us to

serve you faithfully and completely, even as did our Lord

and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Absolution or Assurance

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 the '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: It Is Well With My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,

Refrain: It is well, it is well, with my soul.
It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

Public Domain / Nov. 1873 (150 years ago this month) Spafford/Bliss.

We Celebrate

Prayer Over The Gifts

We can stand at the edge and watch while you seek to bring hope, healing, peace, and joy to everyone in the world. Or we can take that step, of committing our lives as well as our gifts, in working with you in this ministry of grace. Bless our gifts, bless our lives, bless our service, we pray. **Amen.**

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 Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

How good and right it is to praise you, God who gathers us around this Table! You opened your mouth, and creation's glory sprang forth; you appointed the stars to glitter in the night; you established the waters to nourish the earth. You shaped us in your image, calling us to be your children to live with you in harmony and joy.

But we chose to serve sin, crossing the river back into chaos, hugging our false gods to our hearts. But you would not give up on your hope for us, sending us the prophets so we might pay attention to the words of your heart. When we would not forsake our reliance on idols, you sent Jesus to us, who died and was raised for our sake.

Therefore, we join with those who await us there in heaven, as well as those who witness to us here, singing forever of your glory:

**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**

You alone are holy, God of all time, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord, Saviour and Sibling. When we had walked away from your gracious love, you turned to us in Christ to save us. When we no longer were willing to listen, your Word of hope came among us to live your love in our midst. When we foolishly clung to sin's deadly ways, Jesus reached out to pull us from the grasp of death, and showed us his glorious Reign.

While Jesus was eating with his disciples, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take, this is my body. Do this in remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the wine and after blessing it, poured it, gave it to them and said, take, this is my blood, do this in remembrance of me.

As we remember his death and resurrection for us, we tell those who come after us of that mystery we call faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. (x2)

As we come to this Table of healing and gentleness, send your Spirit upon the gifts of the bread and of the cup.

As we reach out our hands for the bread which has been broken for us, we seek to encourage others to discover your love; as we drink of the presence of Christ, may we with burning hearts, go forth to serve all your children.

Then, when the bridegroom comes to gather us at the wedding banquet in your reign, we will praise you, source of All, Jesus of the poor, and healing Spirit - God in community, Holy-in-One. **Amen.** Lectionary Liturgies, Shulman alt.

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 may contain almond flour and/or 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 refrain from dipping the bread.

Communion Song: Lamb of God (pre-recorded)

Poor Clare / Lacey Brown © 2018, Poor Clare Music.

Communion Song: Wait On The Lord

Wait on the lord, waiting on the lord
We will walk the way of peace
Wait on the lord, waiting on the lord
We will find our way

Tom Wuest Brass Trumpet publishing / Used With Permission

Communion Song: Take My Life And Let It Be

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

Frances Havergal / Public Domain

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

Living God, in the eucharist you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love, which we have known in word
and sacrament, continue your saving work among us, and
bring us to the joy you promise. We ask this in the name
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing 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 / CCLI - based on "Battle Hymn" by Julia Ward Howe, pacifist, suffragette.

The Sending

Go in peace to love God and serve God's people.
Thanks be to God. Amen!

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

***There's a potluck today after church! - please do stay
whether you have a contribution or not
- there is always enough.***



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We would love to connect!