

Easter

March 31, 2024 + 4pm



Image: Detail from Dancing Saints - St. Gregory of Nyssa Church ,San Francisco



Welcome to the AbbeyChurch

Christ Is Risen! Chrst is Risen Indeed!

***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 practise 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 summarised 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).

As a witness to unity in diversity, the AbbeyChurch is an affirming shared ministry of The United Church of Canada and The Anglican Church of Canada.

We draw on those spiritual traditions, as well as others across the Christian spectrum. We're also connected to Emmaus, an intentional community that makes commitments to one another for prayer, presence and simplicity.

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



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778.557.4166 We would love to connect.

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We Gather

The Abbey Church acknowledges that we worship and pray on the stolen territory of the, the Ləkʷəŋən peoples', the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and strive to journey toward reparation, right relationship and reconciliation with justice.

Opening Loop and Tolling of the Bells

During worship, there are art supplies available on carts around the space for those of all ages who would like to create during the worship.

Gathering Song and Proclamation of the Resurrection: Low in the Grave

Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my saviour,
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my lord!

Refrain Up from the grave he arose;
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
he arose a victor from the bleak domain,
and he lives forever,
with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch his bed,
Jesus my saviour,
vainly they seal the dead,
Jesus my Lord! *Refrain*

Death cannot keep its prey,
Jesus my saviour;
he tore the bars away,
Jesus my lord!

Refrain Robert Lowry 1874 / Public Domain

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid!

Alleluia Christ Is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Amen! Alleluia, alleluia!

The Easter bells toll.

During this next song, you are invited to take a flower and place it on the cross!

Procession Song: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation join to say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious king; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our world to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ was led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Charles Wesley, alt. Lyra Davidica (1708) / Public Domain

Poem: Selected and read by poet-in-residence, Rebecca Yeo

We Proclaim

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

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia Mass of Restoration



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The Gospel

Hear the good news of Jesus Christ!

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the +Gospel of John (11:1-11)
Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As

she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my god and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her...

...Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel Acclamation



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Bell + short silence

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we affirm the ancient story of faith.

Credo (sung)

I believe in God the Maker almighty Creator of heaven and earth;
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord.
 Who 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

Our Prayers

Josh Ruberg

The Peace

...The peace of the risen Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
All are invited to offer a gesture or sign of God’s peace to those around them.
During the ‘offertory’ song, the communion table is set.
Contributions to our common life can be made at the back of the space (now or later).

As we prepare for this holy feast we are reminded that all are welcome to receive wherever they find themselves in their spiritual journey. All are welcome to Jesus’ table - as you feel ready.

Offertory Song: Yesu Yu Hai Leo (Jesus Is Alive Today)

Author / Source Unknown / East African

We Celebrate

The Prayer Over the Gifts

Life-giving God, by your steadfast love, you make all things new. Give us power to receive and rejoice in all your gifts, that we may live in the abundance of resurrection life. In the name of the risen One, we pray; **amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

God 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.**

Holy God, How wonderful is the work of your hands!

All of creation echoes the music of your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, You made a covenant to renew the whole of creation.

You embraced a people as your own and filled them with longing

for a peace that would last and a justice that would never fail.

Glory to you forever and ever.

Through countless generations, your people hungered for the bread of freedom.

From them you came in Jesus, the living bread, in whom all our hungers are filled.

You have sent your Holy Spirit as a mighty stream to refresh and renew the face of the earth. Therefore with the company of heaven and all of your creation we sing:

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.

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.”

Glory to you forever and ever.

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.

Glory to you forever and ever.

Holy God we give you thanks for the mystery of faith given to us in Jesus your Child:

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

+Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine

that they may be to us the body and blood of your Christ.

Grant that with burning hearts, we may be a people of hope, justice and love.

As grain was scattered across this land then gathered and made one in this bread,

so may your people, scattered to the ends of the earth,

be gathered and made one in your love. **Amen.** St. Lydia's Table, alt.

The Prayer of Jesus

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, or Mother*) **who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory

Forever and ever. 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 larger common cup.

Please refrain from dipping the bread.

During communion there are folks who are available to pray with you in the side chapel to the left of the band (enter through the opening in the black curtain)

Song: Lamb of God (pre-recorded) by the Soul Sanctuary Gospel Choir c Soul Sanctuary Gospel Choir

Communion Song: O Sons and Daughters

Refrain: Alleluia Alleluia, Alleluia!

O sons and daughters, let us sing!
The King of heaven, the glorious king,
From death today rose triumphing.
Alleluia. *Refrain.*

That Easter morn, at break of day,
the faithful women went their way
to seek the tomb where Jesus lay.
Alleluia. *Refrain.*

Communion Song: Because You Live

God sent the son - they called him Jesus
He came to love, heal and forgive
He bled and died to offer pardon
An empty grave is there to prove
Our saviour lives

Refrain Because you live I can face tomorrow
Because you live all fear is gone
Because I know you hold the future
And life is worth the living,
just because you live

An angel clad in white they see,
who sat, and spake unto the three,
'Your Lord doth go to Galilee.'
Alleluia. *Refrain.*

On this most holy day of days,
to God your hearts and voices raise
in laud and jubilee and praise,
Alleluia. *Refrain.*

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy they give;
But greater still the calm assurance:
This child can face uncertain days because
you live! *Refrain*

And then one day I'll cross that river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then as death gives way to victory
I'll see the lights of glory and we'll know you
reign. *Refrain*

©1971 Gloria and Bill Gaither, alt. Hanna Street Music / CCLI

Communion Song: Halle, Halle, Halle

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Tune: Traditional Caribbean arranged by John Bell; © 1990, Iona Community, GIA ./ OneLicesne

Prayer after Communion

Thank you, God, for this feast of life; for feeding us with your love, and strengthening us with your presence, to live your way and share your joy. Help us to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, and love as we have been loved. **Amen.** Thom M Shuman

Announcements

Blessing

We Are Sent

Closing Song: Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning
when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain: "Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance," said he.
"I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the Dance," said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance
and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen,
for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on.
Refrain

I danced on the Sabbath
and I cured the lame,
The holy people, they said it was a shame;
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me high,
And they left me there on a cross to die. *Refrain*

I danced on a Friday
when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance
with the devil on your back;
They buried my body
and they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance and I still go on. *Refrain*

They cut me down and I leaped up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die,
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
"I am the Lord of the dance," said he. *Refrain*
Sydney Carter 1963 / Hope Publishing / OneLicense

Sending

Go out to follow the resurrected Christ and to practice resurrection! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Closing Announcement Loop

There will be an Easter Monday Potluck tomorrow at Matt's.

Come continue to feast at 1181 Clovelly Terrace - bring a contribution if you can.

Weekday Prayer and Our Place after Easter

We will take a week off of prayer this week or so and restart April 8.

Keep an eye on our website or here for the new rhythm.

We will be here next Sunday at 4pm for worship.

POSTPONED - **Solidarity fundraising Dinner for Gaza** - This will be rescheduled for the Fall.

Martyn Joseph Live - Saturday April 20, 2024. <https://www.abbeychurch.ca/events/martyn-joseph-live/2024-04-20>