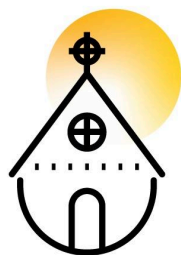


Easter 2

April 7, 2024 + 4pm



Image: Doubting Thomas - Michael Smithers, New Zealand - early 1970s (Mural)



THE
ABBAY
CHURCH

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.



admin@abbeychurch.ca + www.abbeychurch.ca
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 Lək'wəḡən peoples', the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and strive to journey toward reparation, right relationship and reconciliation with justice.

Opening Loop

Tolling of the Bells

Land Acknowledgement and Announcements

Bell x 3

Gathering Words

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed!

...But then, It was evening on the first day of the week

The doors were locked

We felt fear - not knowing what to do.

Peace be with you.

You said to us.

Peace be with you.

And somehow, we knew everything had changed...

Let us pray.

Resurrected Christ, bring us anew into a life-affirming encounter with you. Fill our hearts with a holy curiosity. Send us your Spirit - so that we too may offer your 'peace' to all - and be witnesses to your fleshy wounds of love and to your risen power. In Jesus the Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

During this gathering song, folks of all ages (including children and youth!) are welcome to set the table with icons and symbols of faith and hope!

Gathering Song: Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness,
o God, Creator;
there is no shadow of
turning with thee.
Thou changest not,
thy compassion they fail not,
as thou hast been
thou forever will be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness
Great is thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
new mercies I see
All I have needed
thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto thee

Summer and winter,
and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars
in their courses above,
join with all nature
in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness,
mercy, and love. *Refrain*

Pardon for sin
and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide,
strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow;
blessings all mine, with ten thousand
beside! *Refrain*

© 1923, ren. 1951, Hope Publishing Company. Contributors: William Runyan, Thomas O Chisholm / Public Domain

Poem: "A Doubting Thomas sort-of sonnet" by Jill Alexander Essbaum - selected, recorded and read by poet-in-residence, Rebecca Yeo

We Proclaim

The Psalm: Psalm 33 (sung)

- (4)
1. See how good it is,
 2. Sad di - vis - ions cease;
 3. See the earth re - newed

gath - er - ing with friends, wel - com - ing the strang - er in; see how good it is.
 we're or - dained as priests, spread - ing out God's joy - ful feast; see how good it is.
 by the morn - ing dew. All cre - a - tion sings the truth: "See how good it is!"

When God's child - ren live as one, by the Spir - it we be - come

the op - en arms of God to a world in need of love.

2019 Wendell Kimbrough Music - written by Sandra McCracken and wendell Kimbrough / CCLI

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

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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The Gospel

Hear the good news of Jesus Christ!

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the +Gospel of John
(20:19-31)

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of

the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has

sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach

out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

...Alleluia, Christ is Risen!
Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel Acclamation



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Sermon

Katherine Brittain

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

Lynn Mills

The Confession

Let us, together, face the empty cross and take a moment in silence before the God of unending mercy and love to confess both the wrongs which we have done - as well as the things we have left undone.

bell. silence. bell.

The Assurance/Absolution

The Peace

...The peace of the fleshy 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: Instrument of Peace

Refrain: Lord make me
An instrument of peace
An instrument of peace (2X)

Where is there hatred
let me sow love
Where there is darkness
let me sow light
For in the giving we shall receive
And in the dying we're given life

Refrain

Where there is sorrow
let me sow hope
Where there is doubt
let me sow faith
Where is injury your pardon give
Your consolation to those in pain

Refrain

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We Celebrate

The Prayer Over the Gifts

Oh Lord God - with a holy curiosity we come to this table, bringing our doubts, our wounds and our witness to you as the anointed One, the Beloved Child of the living God. Even in our fears, open our hearts to trust. This we pray through you, O risen Christ, our sibling and Lord. **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.**

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: (pre-recorded) Agnus Dei by the Soul Sanctuary Choir. ©2018 Soul Sanctuary Choir (UK)

Communion Song: Give Me Doubt

Give me doubt so I can see my
neighbour as myself
Give me doubt so I can lay all my
weapons on the ground
When the armour of God is too
heavy for peace
Give me doubt, give me doubt

Give me doubt so I can see my
neighbour as myself
Give me doubt so I can lay all my
weapons on the ground

The Brilliance / c the brilliance 2020 / CCLI

Communion Song: Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am 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.

John Newton, Public Domain.

Prayer after Communion

Jesus - we have seen you with our eyes and touched you - the bread of life - with our hands. Strengthen our faith and our curiosity that we may grow in love for you and for each other; through, you our risen sibling and Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

We Are Sent

Closing Song: My Lighthouse

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures you won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace
in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace
in my troubled sea
In the silence you won't let go
In the questions your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace
in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace

When the armour of God is too
heavy for peace
Give me doubt, give me doubt
Give me doubt

What be my courage now?
My shield from evil?
Love, be my courage now
I shall not fear

Through many dangers, toils and snares I
have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

in my troubled sea
My lighthouse my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness
I will follow you oh
My lighthouse my lighthouse
I will trust the promise, You will
carry me safe to shore
(Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore (Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace
in my troubled sea whoa oh

You are the peace
in my troubled sea
Fire before us
You're the brightest
You will lead us
Through the storms (3X)

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Sending

Go out to follow the resurrected Christ and to practise resurrection! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Closing Announcement Loop

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

Prayer and Communion Gatherings other than Sunday Afternoons

Re-starting tomorrow - April 8th.

Mondays at 9am - Morning Prayer with Centering Prayer @ AbbeyChurch office (off the Balmoral parking lot, metal stairs up) - in-person only.

Tuesdays at 8:15am - Morning Prayer *hybrid zoom/in-person at Lynn and Phil's Near Castle Hardware.*

Tuesdays Eucharist at 11am at and with Our Place - starting date April 17 at Pandora site.

Thursdays at 8:15am - morning prayer - office (see above) - hybrid zoom

Fridays at 8:15am - morning prayer - on-line zoom only

Sundays at 10am - Spanish Anglican Eucharist at Quadra/Balmoral Chapel. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe - Misas Todos Los domingos a las 10: 00 de la Mañana con Fr. Dimas Canjura

Our weekday common prayer is liturgical in nature and based on ancient monastic practices.

It's open to all who wish to join in-person or online.

Martyn Joseph Live - Saturday April 20, 2024.

<https://www.abbeychurch.ca/events/martyn-joseph-live/2024-04-20>



[The Resurrection](#) by Kelly Latimore. Support the artist.

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