

Good Shepherd Sunday

Earth Day Sunday

April 21, 2024 + 4pm



Image: The Good Shepherd by Brother Robert Lentz, OFM (Franciscan)



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.

This leaflet is printed on tree-free paper. Please recycle or reuse.

We Gather

The AbbeyChurch 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 for Earth Sunday

We praise you O God: Brooding Hen, Nurturing Mother, Suffering Servant, Good Shepherd.

We delight in this world we call home, its many mysteries and ever-evolving goodness.

You have created us in your own image, and fashioned us from the sweet soil of the earth.

You continue to make us, even when we don't know what to make of ourselves.

God of the Easter morning, we see glimpses of your Risen life in all that you have made.

Sharpen our vision and open our clenched hands, that Creation may be made whole.

O Divine Word, whose creating never ceases, bless us that we may simply belong,

O God of Earth, our Eden, our Hope, may our worship bring us into harmony with all.

Steve Garnass-Holmes, Alt.

Let us Pray: Holy One, Heart of Creation, you know us and call us each by name.

We come together to celebrate your creation, the beautiful streams that surround us

and provide us with food and water, the beauty of spring blooms, the wonder of the

hummingbirds' wings and the growing light of lengthening days. Open our hearts to

the cries of the whole family of Creation, that we may be empowered to act in love for

all. For you are our good shepherd, who leads us toward green pastures. **Amen.**

United Church of Canada, Alt.

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

Gathering Song: All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall,

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown him, crown him,

And crown him lord of all!

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget

The wormwood and the gall,

Go, spread your trophies at his feet,

And crown him, crown him,

And crown him lord of all!

Words and music: Public domain

Let every kindred, every tribe,

On this terrestrial ball,

To him all majesty ascribe,

And crown him, crown him,

And crown him lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng

We at his feet may fall,

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown him, crown him,

And crown him lord of all!

Poem: For the Shepherd Who Is Also the Path the Sun Makes in Daytime by Komal Matthew selected by Rebecca Yeo, AbbeyChurch poet-in-residence

We Proclaim

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

The Psalm: Psalm 23 (Sung: Stillwater)

The lord is my shepherd
Leads me beside still water
The lord is my shepherd
Leads me beside still water

Even though I walk
through the dark night
I will not fear death
You know my troubled voice
And you will lead me
you will lead me home

© Tom Wuest Brass Trumpet Publishing 2008 / Used With Permission

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia Mass of Restoration



Music © 2012, 2016, Joshua Blakesley and Leland G. "Grae" McCullough, IV. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

The Gospel

Hear the good news of Jesus Christ!

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the +Gospel of John
(10:11-18)

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down their life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as my Abba

knows me, and I know Abba. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason, Abba loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Abba."

...The Gospel of Christ

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Acclamation



Music © 2012, 2016, Joshua Blakesley and Leland G. "Grae" McCullough, IV. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Sermon

Rob Crosby-Shearer

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

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 Beautiful Shepherd 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: The *King Of Love My Shepherd Is *Or 'kin'

The king of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul you leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love You sought me,
and on your shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

We Celebrate

The Prayer Over the Gifts

O God of peace,
That great shepherd of the sheep our mother hen!
Enshroud us in your Divine care and love
Feed us at this, the table of beauty
Until the day comes and you gather us into your arms of mercy .
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.**

...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...
...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: God Our Mother

God our father
Giver of daily bread
Blessing our hands
and covering our heads

God our mother
Leading us into peace
Drawing and comforting
all those in need
Hallowed, hallowed be thy name
Hallowed, hallowed be thy name

The Liturgists / Gungor / The Brilliance 2016 /
CCLI

Hallowed, hallowed be thy name
in all the earth.

Jesus, brother, guiding our every step
Deliver us and grant places of rest
Jesus, saviour,
grabbing us from the grave
Cheating the fall
and bringing the light of day.

Hallowed, hallowed be thy name...

Communion Song: Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord,
lead me home

When my way grows drear
precious Lord linger near
When my light is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord,
lead me home

When the darkness appears and the night
draws near
And the day is past and gone
At the river I stand
Guide my feet, hold my hand
Take my hand precious Lord,
lead me home

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord,
lead me home

Rev. Thomas A. Dorsey / Public Domain

Prayer after Communion

God of steadfast love, watch over your beloved community
May we who share in these holy mysteries
Find comfort and challenge in your reign,
where there is one flock and one shepherd...
One fierce mama hen, keeping us under Her wings...
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen One. **Amen.**

We Are Sent

The Commissioning and Sending of Catherine Pate Blessing

Closing Song: The Day Soon Will Come

The day soon will come
when I'll stand by your side,
and I'll show you my face and my favour;
your cries I will answer,
your tears I'll wipe away;
I will guard and protect you forever'

*Refrain: Let music fill heaven
and gladness fill earth
Let the tall mountains sing with deep fervour
For God will respond to the cry of the poor
and will banish oppression forever*

To you and to yours and to those far away
this promise I'll make for my people:
the fields which were barren shall flourish
once again,

and the land once abandoned will settle.
Refrain

Those hidden in shadow I'll call into light,
and prisoners I'll lead into freedom;
and none shall fear hunger and none shall
suffer thirst;
for their God, who is loving, will lead them.'

Refrain

A highway across tall mountains
I'll make, a road I'll prepare for my people;
from east and from west,
from all corners of the earth
I will gather the lost and the broken. *Refrain.*

John Bell / Iona Community / Wild Goose Music /
OneLicense tune: traditional (Bonnie Brae)

Sending

Go to practice resurrection, tend the garden, love the beautiful Shepherd and Mother Hen
and serve people and God's creation. **Amen! Thanks to be God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Closing Announcement Loop

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

Goodbye From Catherine



Sunday, April 21 is my last Sunday serving as music coordinator for AbbeyChurch--a role I assumed in October 2022. Please know that I'm not severing ties with the people of AbbeyChurch or Emmaus, but you likely won't see me around worship nearly as much. Rob asked me to write about as much or as little of the story of my parting as I am comfortable sharing with you.

I've served the church, in paid and volunteer capacities, more or less ever since I was a teenager (I am now approaching my mid-50s). Since I was 25, until quite recently, I have understood myself to be a church leader - someone called to exercise their baptismal covenant at least as much inside the institutional church as outside. I have been a youth pastor, a musician, a church planter, a preacher, a program director, a board member, and even a magazine editor. But the truth is, this ministry has come at a high price.

I have, more than once, been seriously let down and hurt by the church I have loved my whole life. Sometimes the injury has been inflicted by its dealings with me, and sometimes it has been in observing its dealings with others; some of whom I call dear friends. All of them, like me, I have no doubt tried to be faithful but have been left feeling betrayed and deeply wounded.

For many years now, it's been a challenge to reconcile the calling from within with the reluctance I have to serve an institution that has caused me such pain; an institution I believe is destined to die, so it can once again live. Please read this clearly - I am not speaking of Emmaus or AbbeyChurch specifically. I have found a safe and generous home here for almost eight years. I have made good and I hope (and pray) lifelong friends here.

But, I'm stretched in too many directions, I'm tired, and quite frankly, I'm still hurt. This has meant I no longer feel I have the wherewithal to offer a preacher or song leader's voice and corporate worship is filled with a burden of ambivalence God has yet to lift for me.

So, for now, I need to stop trying. I need to rest. I need to create enough distance from the institutional church to remember what God is calling me to do and to be and where God can use me best.

In the meantime, I am still here, to be part of the church in the world. So come meet me there, and I will try to do the same.

Blessings as you continue to nurture all that is good about this beautiful little community of sinners and saints.
- Catherine

Prayer and Communion gatherings other than Sunday Afternoons

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 THIS TUESDAY 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.



Jesus the Mother Hen and the Shepherdess by Kelly Latimore. Support the artist.

admin@abbeychurch.ca + www.abbeychurch.ca
778.557.4166 We would love to connect.

This leaflet is printed on tree-free paper. Please recycle or reuse.