

Rogation / Easter 6

May 5, 2024 + 4pm



Image: Ikon of the Mustard Seed Parable - source unknown.



Welcome to the AbbeyChurch

Christ Is Risen! Christ 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.

Rogation Sunday

adapted from <https://theclewerinitiative.org/blog/what-is-rogation-sunday>

Rogation is an ancient church festival to seek blessing for a community and its sustenance. The word rogation comes from the Latin verb *rogare*, meaning "to ask", and Rogation is especially devoted to asking for God's blessing on agriculture and good work.

Since mediaeval times there has been a tradition of "beating the bounds" of the parish, praying for God's blessing upon the crops while drumming and making loud noises to let evil know that we're here!

The Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the following week are known as the "Rogation Days," days for fasting and prayer. The Thursday of that week is the feast of the Ascension, which comes on a Thursday, the 40th day after Easter (when Easter Sunday is counted as the 1st day).

Rogation invites people to ask for blessing – for a particular place; for all its inhabitants; for every endeavour to promote the common good. It is totally inclusive – joining everyone in seeking sustenance and a commitment to play their part in its provision.

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

God of the Universe,
God of heavens and earth,
We celebrate your Creation, a Divine Mystery,
a Gift from Your Most Blessed Hand.

The world itself is your miracle.

Bread from the earth is the bread of heaven.

Received into our hands, and so we give thanks!

Upon this garden-planet we call home,
May your stars rain down their blessed dust.
**May rain and sunshine fall upon us and our lands
that with humility we may touch the humus,
That we might become more human.**

Mend our rift with Creation, O God of mercy
That we might then know the sacredness of life
and know ourselves fed by the hand of God.
**For you planted humanity in a garden,
and began our resurrection in a garden.
Our blessed memory and hope lie in a garden.**

Thanks be to God,
Who made the world teeming with variety,
**All things on the earth, above, the earth, and under the earth.
Thanks be to God,**

As we gather to worship you, God of all,
hold us in your mercy, generosity and mystery.
Thanks be to God.

Common Prayer, Alt.

Let us Pray: Almighty God, whose will it is that the earth and sea should bear fruit in due season, bless the labours of all those who work on land and sea. Grant a good harvest and the grace always to rejoice in your abiding care. Our Creator, you have ordered our life that we are dependent on one another. Prosper all those engaged in cultivating the gifts of Creation. Direct always our minds and our hands in the service of you and all with whom we live and work. In your abundance, grant that whatever gifts we have, they may be offered freely for the enrichment of our lives together and your kingdom. We pray in the name of Jesus, the good shepherd. **Amen.**

Church of England, 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: This Is God's Wondrous World

This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world: the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Maltbie D. Babcock (Maltbie D. Babcock (1901), alt. / Public Domain

Poem: selected by Rebecca Yeo - poet-in-residence - *the apple tree :: wendell berry*

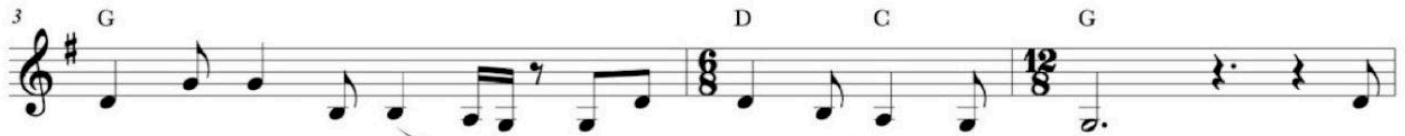
In the essential prose
of things, the apple tree
stands up, emphatic
among the accidents
of the afternoon, solvent,
not to be denied.
The grass has been cut
down, carefully
to leave the orange
poppies still in bloom;
the tree stands up
in the odor of the grass
drying. The forked
trunk and branches are
also a kind of necessary
prose—shingled with leaves,
pigment and song
imposed on the blunt
ligaments of fact, a foliage
of small birds among them.
The tree lifts itself up
in the garden, the
clutter of its green
leaves halving the light,
stating the unalterable
congruity and form
of its casual growth;
the crimson finches appear
and disappear, singing
among the design.

We Proclaim

The Psalm: Psalm 104 (Sung: All of Your Works Are Good)



1. The moon it marks the sea - sons The sun knows when to go down The
2. They make the cloud Their cha - riot The wrap Them-self — in light They



o - cean holds its crea - tures the ri - ver knows its bounds The
stre - tch out the hea - vens like a tent a - cross the sky They



birds, the trees, the cat - tle — and all things great and small We
know: our ev - ery bur - den When dark - ness veils our eyes They
la - bor un - til eve - ning There's a mes - sage on the wind be



find our place in cre - a - tion Your hand sus - tains us all. *Fine*
comes with spring — re - turn - ing Bring - ing death to life
still and know — your ma - ker Be sa - tis - fied in Them.

Chorus



All Your works are — good, All your works are — good



From e ver las ting — to e ver last — ing All your works are good. **3rd x to D.S. al Fine*

2. They
3. As we

The Hebrew Scripture

A reading from the prophet Hosea (10:12):

Sow for yourselves right-living and justice;

reap steadfast love;

break up your fallow ground,

for it is time to seek the LORD

that the Lord may come and rain righteousness upon you.

...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: 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 Mark
(4: 26-33)

Jesus also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once they go in with their sickle because the harvest has come."

Jesus also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it;

...The Gospel of Christ

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Acclamation (repeated)



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Sermon

The Rev. Anne Privett

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

Procession Song

Come gather round my friends.
Welcome Everyone. This is God's Creation.
Come you who hunger. Hunger for Freedom.
Welcome Everyone. To the Wilderness.
Come you who thirst. Thirst for Compassion.
Welcome Everyone. To the Wilderness.
Come with your longing. Longing for Justice.
Welcome Everyone. To the Wilderness.
We are not alone. We are God's children.
Welcome Everyone. To the Wilderness.

Wilderness Way Community, Portland, OR

Our Prayers

God bless this place through which your glory shines,
May we see in its beauty the wonder of your love.
God bless this old Chestnut tree, and all who enjoy its shade
May we see in its abundance, the resilience of your Creation.
God bless this grass - this place of play and delight
May we see children laughing and adults resting in your delight.
God bless the soil rich and teeming with life,
May we see in its fertility the promise of new creation.
God bless our toil as we dig deep to sow seeds and turn the soil,
May we see in all our labour your call to be good stewards.
God bless each seed that takes root and grows,
May we see in their flourishing the hope of transformation.
God bless the rains that water our efforts to bring forth life,
May we see in their constancy God's faithful care.
God bless the harvest abundant and bountiful in season,
May we see in God's generosity our need to share.
God bless the emerging vision of this place - a place of respite and safety, a place of
abundance and hospitality, a place your glory shines through for all to see.

A time to add your own blessings, to which we respond

God of blessing, **hear our prayer.**

God bless this place and all who journey here as you bless all creation with your love in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

May we see your beauty and bounty in Creation and in one another. Amen!

The Confession

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

bell. silence. bell.

The Assurance/Absolution

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: Night Has Passed / Morning Has Broken

1. Night has passed, and the day lies o - pen.
 2. Morn-ing comes with the light of Your pre - sence.

Night has passed, and the day lies o - pen be-
 Morn-ing comes with the light of Your pre - sence up-

fore us. Let us pray with one heart and mind.
 on us.

Let us pray with one heart and mind. As we re-

joyce, as we re-joyce

in the gift of this day, in the gift of this

day. day. In the gift of this day,

in the gift of this day. Morn-ing has bro-ken like the first

morn - ing; black-bird has spo - ken like the first word.

Praise for the sing-ing, praise for the morn - ing, praise for the

spring-ing fresh from the word. In the gift of this day,

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We Celebrate

The Prayer Over the Gifts

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened, and by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise. **Blessed be God forever.**

Harnham Parish Church, Alt.

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 may contain almond flour egg and dairy. Please ask the server if you would like a non-dairy / almond option (rice). The juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the larger common cup.
Please refrain from dipping the bread.*

Song: (pre-recorded) Agnus Dei by the Soul Sanctuary Choir. C2018 Soul Sanctuary Choir (UK)

Communion Song: Mustard Seed

If you held a mustard seed in your hand
You'd see that it was tiny, like a grain of sand
But Jesus says that even when our faith is small
Nothing is impossible for God at all
Nothing is impossible for God at all

'Cause our God is faithful
And can move mountains
And God asks us to believe
Our God is faith-ful
And can move mountains

Even when our faith is like a mustard seed
Even when our faith is like a mustard seed

Ellie Holcombe © 2014 Full Heart Music (ASCAP), CCLI

Communion Song: The Kingdom of God

The musical score for 'The Kingdom of God' is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line starts with a double bar line and a repeat sign, followed by the lyrics 'The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line starts with a double bar line and a repeat sign, followed by the lyrics 'Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom. The'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords. Above the second system's vocal line, the following chords are written: Am/C, D, G, C, Em, Am, G, D, Bm, Em, D, G.

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Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together: **Creator of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. May we who share in Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we on whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, that all Creation may be made whole and live to the praise of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Harnham Parish Church, Alt.

We Are Sent

Blessing

Closing Song: Brother Sun (Giving Glory)

1. Bro - ther sun, _____ sis - ter moon, _____ your light shines _____ from the hea -
2. Gen - tle wind, _____ wel - come home, _____ you've been trav' - lin' with your song,

4 G D A G Gm
- vens, gi - ving glo - ry, _____ gi - ving glo - ry, _____ to the Ma - ker. _____
sing - ing glo - ry, _____ all the glo - ry, _____ to the Ma - ker. _____

8 1. D 2. D Chorus 1 Bm A D G. A Bm
2. Gen - tle wind, Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Sing - in'

12 G D A Bm A D G A Bm
Glory _____ Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Sing - in'

16 G D A D
glo - ry _____ to the Ma - ker, hal - le - lu - jah! _____ 3. Sweet - est rain,

Verse 3
20
se - re - nade, _____ pour - ing down _____ from the hea -

Neda/Wardell/Zach/Vice - Porter's Gate Music / CCLI

Sending

Go, sowing the seeds of love - following Christ, renewing creation!

Amen! Thanks to be God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Closing Announcement Loop

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

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 - next week ZOOM ONLY

Tuesday Eucharist at 11am *at and with Our Place* at Pandora site.

Thursdays at 8:15am - morning prayer - next week ZOOM ONLY

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.

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