

Pentecost +4

June 16, 2024 + 4pm



Image: *The Sower*, Caitlin Ambery - <https://caitlinambery.com/>



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 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 is inspired by monasticism and 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 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

Announcements

On father's day by m jade kaiser

To all the fathers and fatherly,
who break cycles of toxic masculinity,
and disrupt destructive generational patterns,
who model love that is soft and strong,
who are patient while teaching
and humble while learning...
To all the fathers and fatherly
who love without condition
and share equally in the work,
who support all the queer and trans littles,
who stay,
who play,
who apologize,
who take their place in labouring beside others
in the collective labours of liberation –
within, at home, and throughout society,
Thank you. enfleshed

Land Acknowledgement

Bell x 3

Gathering Words

The ineffable, unending grace of Jesus Christ,
the love supreme of God the Source
and the mystic sweet communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

And also with you!

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!

Song: Behold I Make All Things New

Behold I make all things new.
Behold I make all things new.
Behold I make all things new.
Let there be light. Let there be light.

God unseen is taking form.
God unseen is taking form.
God unseen is taking form.
Let there be light. Let there be light.

The First and Last is surging forth.
The First and Last is surging forth.
The First and Last is surging forth.
Becoming Light. Becoming Light.

Behold I make all things new.
Behold I make all things new.
Behold I make all things new.
Let there be light. Let there be light.

Alana Levandoski / CCLI

The Poem *selected and read by poet-in-residence Rebecca Yeo*

We Proclaim

Feel free to join as we chant the psalm together

The Psalm - Psalm 20 *Exaudiat te Dominus*

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, *

the name of the God of Jacob and Sarah defend you;

send you help from the holy place of the Lord *

and strengthen you out of Zion;

remember all your offerings *

and accept your burnt sacrifice;

grant you your heart's desire *

and prosper all your plans.

We will shout for joy at your victory and triumph in the name of our God; *

may the Lord grant all your requests.

Now I know that you, O Lord, give victory to your anointed, *

whom you will answer out of the heavenly realms

with the victorious strength of your mighty hand.

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, *

but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God.

They collapse and fall down, *

but we will arise and stand upright.

O Lord, give victory to your anointed *

and answer us when we call

Glory to you, Source of all Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit*

As it was in the beginning, in now and ever shall be

World without end.*

Amen.

The Christian Scripture

A reading from the second letter to the Corinthians (5: 6-20, 14-20)

So we are always confident, even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord – for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So, whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive due recompense for actions done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for the one who for their sake died and was raised. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. So, if anyone is in Christ, there is new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or in spirit as we prepare to hear the Gospel

Sung Gospel Acclamation: Spirit of the Loving God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Daniel Iverson (1936) / Birdwing Music / CCLI / VU

The Gospel (Mark 4:26-34)

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

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, they do 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 he goes in with his 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; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

Acclamation: Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Daniel Iverson (1936) / Birdwing Music / CCLI / VU

Sermon

Lynn Mills, ec

Bell + short silence

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

The Apostles Creed

We believe in God Almighty, Maker of all heav'n and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, our Saviour: God's own Son of matchless worth;
By the Spirit was conceived of the virgin Mary born,
God in whom we have believed: God Almighty Three-in-One.

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, on the cross, he bled and died;
Placed within the grave so silent, where for three days he did lie;
Then the stone-sealed tomb was empty; we believe he did arise;
Triumphed o'er the grave forever, over death he is the Christ.

Into heaven he ascended - seated at God's own right hand
'Til he comes again in glory, gracious judge o'er every land;
We confess the Holy Spirit who was sent through Christ the Son
Who is Lord and giver of life - God, the Spirit, Three-in-One.

We believe the Church of Jesus, catholic, it ere remains;
We are one through all the ages, the communion of the saints.
We believe sins are forgiven, that our bodies shall be raised
Everlasting life the promise - may God's holy name be praised.

Decker / Cardiphonia Music, 2006. / CCLI

The Confession

During this song, we invite you to sing along, and bring your confession to God

O this night is dark indeed - while we're waiting for the light.
For the nations to be judged - and the powers to be put to shame.

Refrain: O Lord, spare your poor, save our souls
From our violence, oppression, fear and anxiety.
Although I am weeping - Lord help me keep sowing
Seeds for the day when your peace - will arise with the dawn
When the bombs we are dropping - and the guns that keep firing
Melt in the face of the just, when Your kingdom comes.

Now I sow in tears, that one day I might reap with joy
When the mountains drip with wine - and we beat, beat, beat our swords - Into ploughshares.
Refrain. Tom Wuest, 2008. / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used with Permission

The Assurance/Absolution

Be assured that God hears us and God's love for us never ends.
Hear Christ's words of promise to us: 'Your sins are forgiven'. **Thanks be to God**

The Peace

...The peace of 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.*

The Offertory Song: Sow The Seed Beside All Waters

Sow the seed beside all waters,
North and south and east and west
That our toiling sons and daughters
In the harvest may be blessed.
Tell the tidings of salvation
'Mid the storms of Labrador;
Speak the word of consolation
By the lone Pacific shore.

Where our siblings, sowing, reaping,
Delving for the hidden ore,
Now with joy and now with weeping
Labour to increase their store;
Where the stranger wanders lonely
In the homeless wilderness,
Live as Jesus, Jesus only,
Who alone can save and bless.

Where the forests old are falling,
Yielding place to lawn and lea;
Where the fisher plies their calling
'Mid the perils of the sea;
Where the tide of commerce rushes
Through the city's crowded street,
And unpitying Mammon crushes
Poor and weak beneath it's feet.

Tell how tenderly Christ careth
For the weary and oppressed,
How their burdens all Christ beareth,
As Christ leads them to sweet rest;
Tell that Christ, the Lord from heaven,
Died for all and lives again,
All through Christ may be forgiven,
All with Christ in glory reign.

Tell God's love beyond all telling,
 Seeking, following those who flee,
 Love rebellious hearts compelling
 To God's service glad and free.
 Thus a precious harvest gather,

North and south and east and west,
 To the glory of the Source and
 Son, and Spirit ever blest.
 Rev. Robert Murray, alt.
 Minister - The Presbyterian Church in Canada
 1832-1909. Public Domain.

We Celebrate

The Prayer Over the Gifts

Wondrous God of the universe who whispers your love to us: we come to your table with gratitude. May the gifts we offer to you this morning proclaim your love loudly to a world that often feels forgotten. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

Disciple Ministries, United Methodist Church, Alt.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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 for 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 raised up Jesus your Son, the living bread, in whom ancient 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:

♩ = 100 Em C G D G Am Dsus⁴

O- Holy - Holy Holy Lord - O God of power and Might. All

C Am⁷ G D G C Em

Heaven and earth of-your glory are full Ho - sanna in the high - est. O

Bm Em D G G Dsus⁴

Blessed is the one who comes in the name-of-the Lord! Ho-

C Am G D G C Em

-sanna in the high - est. Ho - sanna in the high - est.

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:

♩ = 100 Em C G D G Am Dsus⁴

Sing Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain! Sing
Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain!

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 church, scattered to the ends of the earth, be gathered and made one in your love.

♩ = 100 Em C G D G Am Dsus⁴

A - men, a - men, O Ho - ly One! Ho - san-na and A - men! A -
men, a - men, O Ho - ly One, Ho - san - na and A - men!

The Prayer of Jesus

As beloved children of a loving parent, we pray as Jesus taught:

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 cracker). The juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the larger common cup.
Please refrain from dipping the bread.*

Communion Song: The Beatitudes *an original song by Beth Miller*

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 / Rain for Roots / CCLI

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together: **Gardener God, with a generous hand you have sown among us here in this Eucharist the seed of all that is good and true, your Son Jesus Christ. However insignificant and disappointing our faith and love may seem now, give us the hope and the courage that Jesus will unite us in a community where justice, truth and freedom will prevail until the crop is ready for reaping. Grant us this through Christ our Lord. Amen.** Tony Kayala, alt.

We Are Sent

Blessing

The Lord Bless you and keep you The Lord make Their face shine upon you - and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up Their countenance upon you and give you peace. And the blessing...

Closing Song: Love Divine All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down:
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,

serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be:
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
'til in heav'n we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1747). One License.

Dismissal:

Go forth to with burning hearts to love the world, Alleluia!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Closing Announcement Loop

***We will be here next Sunday at 4pm for worship.
For July / August - we'll worship every other week! - see below!***

Summer Worship Schedule

June 30	-	worship at 4pm Abbey Church - Pentecost +6
July 7	-	off week - Join us at the Pride Parade
July 14	-	worship at 4pm Abbey Church - Pentecost +8
July 21	-	off week
July 28	-	worship at 4pm Abbey Church - Pentecost +10
August 4	-	off week
August 11	-	worship at 4pm Abbey Church - Pentecost +12
August 18	-	off week
August 25	-	worship at 4pm Abbey Church - Pentecost +14
September 1	-	worship at 4pm Willows Beach - Season of Creation
September 8	-	worship at 4pm Abbey Church, return to weekly

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.

MONDAY Our Place Eucharist MONTHLY on a Monday for the summer. June 24 and July 15 Folks can meet in the parking lot at 10:45 to walk over together.

Tuesdays at 8:15am - morning prayer - Lynn and Phil's - and online on Zoom

Thursdays at 8:15am - morning prayer -
AbbeyChurch office (see above) and online on 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. Liturgies can be found on our website.*

CAMP SPIRIT Greater Victoria *at AbbeyChurch - July 8-12!*

A great United Church day camp. Spread the word.

Subsidies - including full subsidies available.

We could also use helpers, home billets for leaders and supplies. Talk to Rob.



Register now! Camps available July - August
21 locations across BC and the Yukon

CAMP DETAILS	REGISTRATION INFO
Camp Fee: \$175 Inclusive of Lunch and Snacks, Camp Spirit T-shirt, Program and Supply costs <i>We offer financial assistance! Request a bursary during the online-registration process for an immediate fee discount.</i>	campspirit.ca campspirit@united-church.ca 800-934-0434 or 604-431-0434 ext. 6403