

Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025 + 4pm



Entrance to Jerusalem - Byzantine Icon - Wikimedia Commons



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 practice 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.

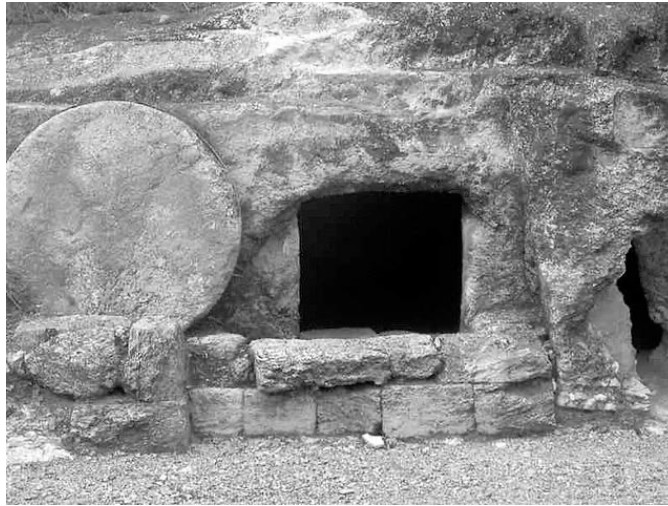
We invite diversity in our community and our leadership; old, young, rich, poor, conservative, liberal, radical, single, married, LGBTQ2IA+, straight, evangelical, progressive, overeducated, undereducated, overhoused, underhoused, certain, doubting, hurting, thriving (to name a few).

As a witness to unity in diversity, the AbbeyChurch is an affirming (full inclusion and leadership of 2SLGBTQIA+ folk) 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 whose members make commitments to 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.

The AbbeyChurch acknowledges that we worship and pray on the stolen territory of the Lək'wəḡən peoples', the Songhees and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) Nations. We strive to journey toward reparation, right relationship and reconciliation with justice. We confess the complicity of our religious traditions and institutions in the loss of life, lands, languages, spiritualities and cultures of the First Peoples' of these lands. We are grateful for the ongoing wisdom, stewardship and tending of these lands and apprentice ourselves to this good work of caring for creation and seeking to live in right-relationship with each other.



Lent: Living towards Liberation

Lent is a time for honesty. Sometimes it feels like the world is split between those who have it all together and those who are struggling to make sense of it all.

To you who are struggling - welcome. This is a time for you.

To those who have it together - welcome. May you know ever deeper solidarity with those who are struggling, (and give yourself grace when you discover you don't have it quite so together).

This Lent we are drawn to the story of Jesus and Lazarus.

Lazarus is dead and buried, yet his friend Jesus comes and speaks a life-giving word, has the stone rolled away, calls him out, and invites his community to unbind him from his graveclothes.

Lent is a time for us of introspection, a time of preparation and reflection, a time of shining a light into the tombs of our lives and waiting for God's voice to speak.

Lent is where we get honest about all the tombs we find ourselves inside. All the ways cannot make sense of our lives, of our calling, of the mystery of God.

Lent is a time of fasting from all the things that we compulsively fill ourselves with, distract ourselves with, or use to drown out the depths of our souls' deep longing.

What might it mean for you to hear the stone rolling away and the voice of God bidding you to new life?

What grave clothes might we collectively strip away for one another? What sort of practices orient us back to the central work of liberation and living the risen life?

What creative ways might God invite us to share in this work together?

As we gather each week, we hear the words of the song "Loosen" by Aly Halpert - we invite you to hear this song as an invocation, sung to you and over you from your Divine loving parent +

**Loosen, loosen, baby
You don't have to carry
The weight of the world in your muscles and bones
Let go, let go, let go...
Holy breath, and holy name
Will you ease, will you ease this pain...**

(and check out their music here: <https://www.alyhalpert.com/>)

We Gather

Tolling of the Bells

We begin in quiet and gentleness as we encounter the God of mercy who calls us to return.

Welcome and land acknowledgement

Procession of the 'Palms'

At this time you are invited to come forward and lay your greenery/ signs at the cross

Song: Glory Glory, Since I've Laid my Burdens Down

Glory Glory Ho-sanna* since I laid my burdens down
Glory Glory Ho-sanna since I laid my burdens down x 2

Well Im feeling so much better since I laid my burdens down
Yes, I'm feeling so much better since I laid my burdens down

No more sickness, no more sorrow, since I laid my burden now
No more sickness, no more sorrow, since I laid my burden now

Well I'm feeling just like singing since I laid my burdens down
Yes I'm feeling just like singing since I laid my burdens down

Glory Glory Ho-sanna since I laid my burdens down
Glory Glory Ho-sanna since I laid my burdens down x2

African-American Spiritual, Public Domain.

**Hallelujah*

Song: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Hosanna, loud hosanna, The happy children sang;
Through pillared court and temple, The joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, Close folded to His breast;
The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed, 'Mid an exultant crowd;
The victory palm branch waving, And singing clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven, Rode on in lowly state;
Content that little children, Should on His bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing;
For Christ is our Redeemer, Earth, let your anthems ring.
O may we ever praise Him With heart and life and voice;
And in His humble presence Eternally rejoice!

Public Domain. Jennette Threlfall (1873) VU123

The Poem - Selected and Read by Rebecca Yeo, Poet-in-Residence

We Proclaim

The Psalm: Psalm 118 *Confitemini Domino*

Give thanks to the Lord who is good; * the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.
Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.
"This is the gate of the Lord; * those who are righteous may enter."
I will give thanks to the Lord who answered me * and has become my salvation.
The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing, * and it is marvellous in our eyes.
On this day the Lord has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.
Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! * Lord, send us now success.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the Lord.
God is the Lord and has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
"You are my God, and I will thank you; * you are my God, and I will exalt you."
Give thanks to the Lord who is good; * the mercy of the Lord endures for ever. (1,19-29)

Glory to You, Source of all being*, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be*, world without end, Amen.

Please rise in body or in spirit as we prepare our hearts to hear the gospel:

Gospel Acclamation: Restore Us Again

Restore us again God of our salvation
Revive us again in your unfailing love (2X)

Paul Zach (feat. Liz Vice), God Is the Friend of Silence, 2018. CCLI

The Gospel

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops. **With our words and with our lives!**
A reading from the Gospel according to Luke: After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"
Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." (19:29-40 nrsvue)
Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops. **With our words and with our lives!**

Sermon

Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee

Bell. Silence for reflection. Bell.

Please rise in body or in spirit as we affirm our faith and remember our ancient Story of trust.

Credo

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,
our bodies shall be raised
Everlasting life the promise
may God's holy name be praised.

**or, universal*

Mindy Deckard; arr. Bruce Benedict /

Rob S verses © 2006 Cardiphonia Music / CCLI

Our Prayers

Michelle Slater

Confession *(we sing)*

Have Mercy on Me, Have Mercy on Me. O Lord, have mercy. O Lord, have mercy.

God of compassion,

We know the times we have clung to sackcloth not of our making, when we have lived clothed in weariness, cloaked with anger, and enshrouded by sorrow.

We grieve the occasions when we have lived with alienation rather than association, when we have sought isolation rather than consolation, when our wounds within have shut others out. We confess our fear of the dark and our uncertainty of the light.

Have Mercy on Me, Have Mercy on Me . O Lord, have mercy. O Lord, have mercy.

Yet you have placed within us, O God, a longing for survival, a hunger for your wholeness, a yearning for your comfort, and a hope for our collective healing.

Bless our mouths to name our wounds, that we may not fear them; our bodies, that we might cherish them; our hearts, that we may delight in their longings, and our souls, that we may trust the wisdom of the stories they hold. Grant us the courage to be touched by You, that when our days of weeping are done, we may wear your garments of gladness, and stand together in the power of your resurrection. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Selections of Prayer © Jan L. Richardson, from In Wisdom's Path: Discovering the Sacred in Every Season, alt.

Have Mercy on Me, Have Mercy on Me. O Lord, have mercy. O Lord, have mercy.

Sandra McCracken & Thad Cockrell © 2015 DRINK YOUR TEA MUSIC (ASCAP). CCLI

Absolution or Assurance of Grace

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

You are invited to share a sign of peace to those near you.

Offering: Contributions to our common life can be made at the back of the space (now or later) in the boxes or using debit or credit card. You can e-transfer donations to treasurer@emmauscommunity.ca (that's our preferred method) or donate to AbbeyChurch / Emmaus via CanadaHelps by using the QR Code to the right. All donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.)



The Offertory Song: Your Peace Will Make Us One

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord
You are speaking truth to power, you are laying down our swords
Replanting every vineyard til a brand new wine is poured
Your peace will make us one

I've seen you in our home fires burning with a quiet light
You are mothering and feeding in the wee hours of the night
Your gentle love is patient, you will never fade or tire
Your peace will make us one

In the beauty of the lilies you were born across the sea
With a glory in your bosom that is still transfiguring
Dismantling our empires til each one of us is free
Your peace will make us one

Glory! Glory! Ho-o-sanna*! (x3)
Your peace will make us one. X2

*Audrey Assad. © 2019./ CCLI *Hallelujah*

We Celebrate

As we prepare for this holy feast we are reminded that all are welcome at Jesus's wherever they find themselves in their spiritual journey. If you do not wish to receive, place your hands across your chest to receive a prayer of blessing.

Prayer Over The Gifts

Blessed are you O God and blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Like the palms laid down on a road long ago, we lay down our gifts, gifts that ready our world for your coming, gifts that open our eyes to your presence. Take these gifts and the gifts of our lives that we may be nourished for your reign of justice and peace. **Amen**

(CommonWord alt.)

The Great Thanksgiving / Communion

God 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!...
...justice that would never fail.

Glory to you forever and ever.

...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 (2x)

...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:

Our *Father (*or Parent, or Abba, or Amma, 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 is kept

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 (none compelled!) 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 / nut option (rice cracker). The juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the larger common cup.

Please refrain from dipping the bread.

Song (prerecorded): **O God Will You Restore Us?** - Bifrost Arts, *Lamentations*, 2016. CCLI.

Song: Breath of God

O breath of God, you stir our hearts

We're weary with longing for you

Come raise our dead, mend every breach

We're weary with longing for you

Refrain: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the lord

Who comes in the name of the lord (2x)

Yeshua bring tidings of joy -We're waiting with longing for you

Stand with your poor, the trodden down - we're waiting with longing for you

Restore all things, remove the veil - We're watching with longing for you

We take this bread, we drink this cup

We're watching with longing for you. *Refrain.*

Who comes in the name of the lord. (4x)

2017 Brass Trumpet Publishing Tom Wuest. Used with Permission

Song: For What it's Worth

There's something happening here
But what it is ain't exactly clear
There's a man with a gun over there
Telling me I got to beware

Refrain: I think it's time we stop
Children, what's that sound?
Everybody look, what's going down?

There's battle lines being drawn
Nobody's right if everybody's wrong
Young people speaking their minds
Getting so much resistance from behind (R)

What a field day for the heat
A thousand people in the street
Singing songs and they carrying signs
Mostly say, "Hooray for our side" (R)

Paranoia strikes deep
Into your life it will creep
It starts when you're always afraid
Step out of line, the men come
and take you away (R)

Stephen Stills, Atco Records, 1966, alt.

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us as our Lenten pilgrimage comes to an end;
may our fasting be a hunger for justice;
our offerings, a making of peace;
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.*

We Are Sent

The Blessing

Closing Song: Into Jerusalem Jesus Rode

Into Jerusalem Jesus rode triumphant King acclaimed
Palm branches spread to honour his way
Garments laid down as tokens of praise
Shouts of hosanna surged through the throng
Into Jerusalem

Within Jerusalem Jesus stood - masquerade King reviled
Thorns made a crown (Grim satire of truth)
Robe like a wound - thrown over his back
Echoes of crucifix filled the air - within Jerusalem

Outside Jerusalem Jesus hung - crucified king despised
Wood formed a cross - suspending his life
Soldiers cast lots - to deal out his clothes
His lonely cries - My God it is done - outside Jerusalem

Carl Daw / Hope Publishing Company / OneLicense.

The Sending

Go in peace to walk the way of the cross.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Holy Week 2025

Wednesday April 16th – 7:00pm Tenebrae, service of Holy Darkness
in the way of Taize (with Fairfield United) in the Sanctuary

Thursday April 17th – 6:00pm Maundy Thursday Supper Church/Potluck
With Holy Eucharist and optional foot/hand washing in the Sanctuary

Friday, April 18th – 10:00 am Good Friday worship
(with Fairfield United and the Place Community Church) in the Sanctuary

Friday, April 18th - Aprox 11:15 am (after the service)
Movie: Jesus of Montreal (Mature themes) - Emmaus/AbbeyChurch office

Sunday, April 20th – 5:45 am Easter Sunday Sunrise
(meet at Willows Beach for worship and a breakfast potluck)

Sunday, April 20th – 4:00 pm Easter Sunday Worship & Celebration!

Monday, April 21st - 5 pm Easter Dinner in Sooke! RSVP to
admin@emmauscommunity.ca for the address.
(Carpooling may be available if needed).

Other Upcoming Dates

Thursday, April 24th - Martyn Joseph Live
Welsh Singer-Songwriter back (again!) for an unforgettable evening
7:30 - 9:30 pm - 932 Balmoral (AbbeyChurch)
Tickets online at Eventbrite or in-person at The Local General Store
TICKETS Available from Rob after worship

Weekday Prayer

(There will be no am prayer on Easter Monday)

Mondays at 9 am - Morning Prayer with Centering Prayer @ Emmaus/AbbeyChurch office
(off the Balmoral parking lot, metal stairs up) - approx 45 mins - in-person only.

Tuesdays at 9 am - Morning Prayer @ Emmaus/AbbeyChurch office
- in-person and online on Zoom - approx 25-30 mins.

Thursdays at 8:15 am - morning prayer - Emmaus/AbbeyChurch office and online on zoom.

Fridays at 8:15 am - morning prayer - *on-line zoom only*
Contact us for information on accessible entrance or zoom/liturgies link

Donations to our Common Life and Ministry

We are so grateful for your presence with us! A huge thank you to everyone who supported our ministry in 2024 and made it possible to continue to thrive in the place God has called us to. If you are interested in donating to our common life, you can now send offerings by **e-transfer to treasurer@emmauscommunity.ca** or talk to Lynn, our treasurer to sign up for monthly giving (PAR)! There's also a point of sale machine at the back table for debit or credit donations. Or give through Canadahelps by clicking the QR code here: All donations are eligible for a charitable receipt for income tax purposes.



Our Partnership with QomQem : Done for Now!

As we have a break in our funding cycle, we're putting the outreach, Up to 150 people were served each night on hold. We are grateful for this partnership and to all the volunteers from AbbeyChurch and elsewhere who helped out in various ways and will be doing a volunteer celebration feast soon. We are currently looking to work with Qom Qem to keep this going. More soon!

PS> They're still doing outreach other times, so any food that's in the treasure chest will be used.

Martyn Joseph



"Britain's best kept secret...
a challenging songwriter
& compelling & courageous
live performer"
MOJO

"One of the most charismatic
and electrifying performers
in Britain today"
Tom Robinson, BBC 6 Music

www.martynjoseph.com

Martyn Joseph - Live in Concert

Thursday April 24, 2025 • Doors 7pm Show 7:30pm
United Commons/AbbeyChurch (Former First Met United Space)
932 Balmoral at Quadra • Tickets: \$28

plus service charge for online sales, only available in advance / pick-up, no door sales.

Tickets from Eventbrite or at the Local General Store - 1440 Haultain

Presented by The AbbeyChurch

With support from the Local General Store and the United Commons / UCC
<https://www.abbeychurch.ca/martyn>



the
& EMMAUS
COMMUNITY

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778.557.4166 We would love to connect.

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