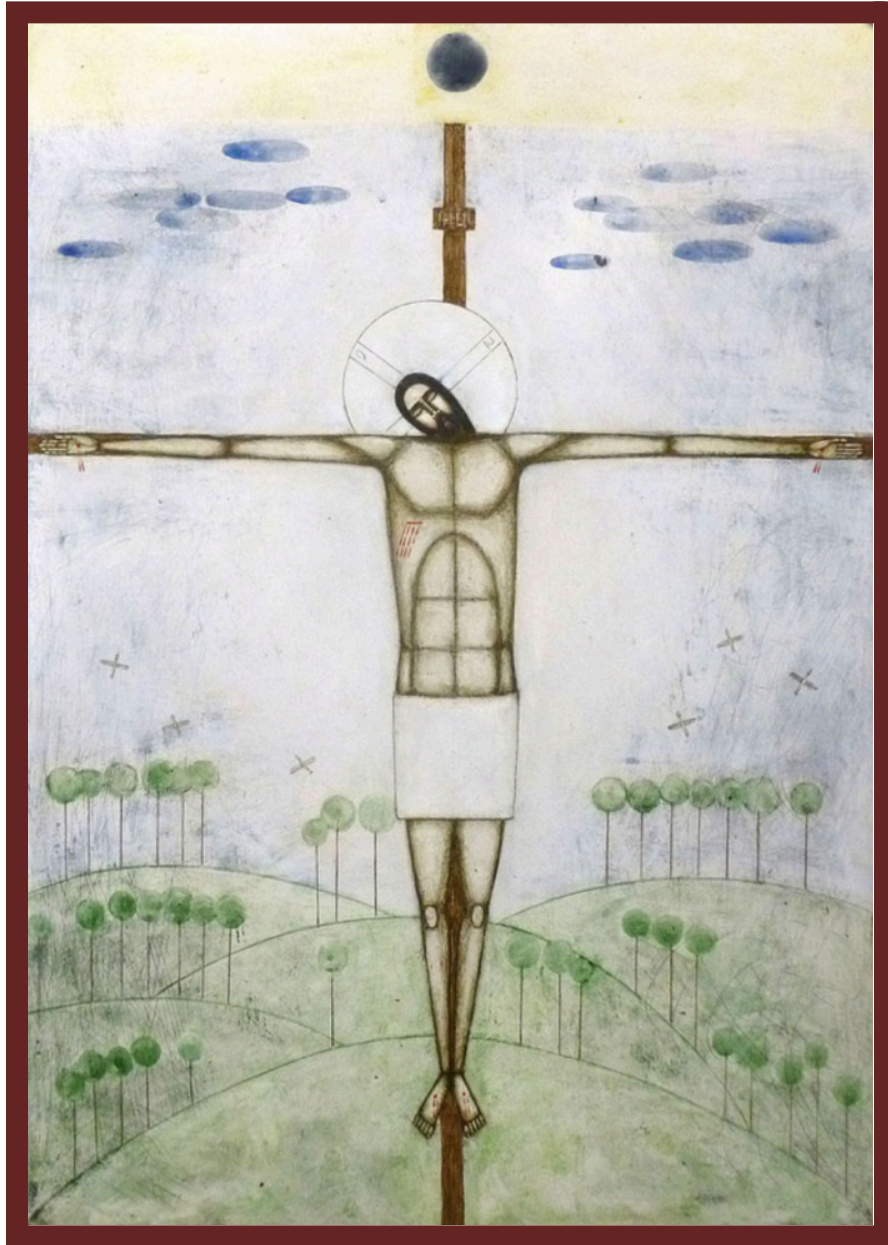


Good Friday

April 18, 2025 + 10am + United Commons Sanctuary



Fairfield
United



The Place
Community
Church



Good Friday 2025

Prelude Music

If It Be Your Will by Leonard Cohen - played by AbbeyChurch musicians

Meditation Video: Weeping Time

by Jon Buller – Recording featuring Catherine Pate, former music leader at AbbeyChurch

Bell x 3

Opening Words:

The grace of Jesus Christ

The love of God

And the communion of the Holy Spirit

Be with you all

And Also with you

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge our meeting place sits on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees nations. The Lekwungen speaking people were the first on the Island to experience the intentional settlement of Europeans.

Prayer Bowl

...On this Good Friday, we come, we cry, we watch, we Wait....

Song: We Come, We Cry

Our hearts are empty for without You;
Some - times we long for the morn - ing;

5 Dm G7(sus4) G7 C(add9)
Bar - ren and cold, but for the bold hope that
For a re - frain from etch - ings in pain, Yet our

10 C/Bb F/A Bb(add9) G
You, Your - self Plant - ed with - in.
lone - li - ness draws us to You.

In the might - y name of God, in the

21 sav - ing name of Je - sus, in the strong

26 name of the Spir - it We come, we cry, we

31 watch, we wait, we look, we long for You We

Jim Crogaert / CCLI

Lighting the Christ Candle

Once, there was a Light that the darkness could not overcome.
 Neither fear, hatred, nor greed could subdue this Light.
 Principalities, rulers, and violence could impede its spread.
 Jesus shared that this light belonged to all of us,
 including the least, the last, and the lost.
 When they asked him who he was. He said 'I am the light'.

Light the Christ light

We gather now, under the shadow of the cross.
 We gather trusting the light,
 with ancestors of faith who have traveled this way before.
 We bear holy dust, the same stardust
 found at the birthplace of creation.
 We are claimed, in life and in death, and life after death
 we belong to the One who calls us beloved. **AMEN.**

Song: My Song Is Love Unknown (VU143)

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - iour's love to me, love
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but
 3 Some - times they strew his way, and his sweet prais - es sing, re -
 4 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so div - ine, nev -

to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be.
 peo - ple scorned, and none the longed - for Christ would know.
 sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.
 er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like thine!

O who am I that for my sake
 But O my Friend, my Friend in - deed,
 Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath,
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise

my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 who at my need his life did spend!
 and for his death they thirst and cry.
 I all my days could glad - ly spend.

Words: Samuel Crossman 1664
 Music: John Ireland 1918
 Music copyright © The John Ireland Trust.

LOVE UNKNOWN
 6 6 12 4 4 8

Gathering Prayer

O Holy One, as we enter into the powerful story of your passion, be with us now. Stay with us. Give us the courage to offer our prayers of confession, to shed that which weighs us down and causes us to be less than who you created us to be.

Amen.

Sing Response to Prayer Litany: Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy

5 Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;
D(add9) G%

9 Lord, have mer - cy on us.
D(add9) G%

13 Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;
D(add9) G%

Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Prayer - © enfleshed, song source unknown.

Words of Grace

Take heart,
for Jesus the Christ,
the Son of God understands our experience
feels the depth of our pain
and sympathizes with our weakness.
God deals gently
with the ignorant and the wayward
and is the source of our salvation.



Song: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (VU149)

Descant

4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,
D A D G D

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast

1 Quand je me tour - ne vers la croix
2 Qui donc pour - rait cal - mer ce coeur

that were a pres - ent far too small:
D G A D A

on which the Prince of glo - ry died,
save in the death of Christ, my God:
où Christ ex - pi - re sur le bois
hor - mis la croix de mon Sau - veur?

love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,
A E A D E A

my rich - est gain I count but loss,
all the vain things that charm me most,
mon coeur bles - sé, rem - pli de deuil,
Tous mes plai - sirs, mes vains dé - sirs,

The Passion of Jesus According to St. Luke

Translation by the Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney

The Congregation is invited to join in the "all" lines which are bolded, below.

...Luke: Immediately, while he was speaking, the cock crowed. The Savior turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Messiah, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Song: Bitter Was The Night (VU132)

Introduction Unison Cm

1 Bit - ter was the
2 Saw you pass - ing
3 Told them all a
4 What did Ju - das
5 What did Ju - das

Cm Ddim7

night, thought the cock would crow for ev - er.
by, told them all I did - n't know you.
lie, and I told it three times o - ver.
do? Sold him for a bag of sil - ver.
do? Hanged him - self up - on an ald - er.

Cm Eb7 Fm Gm7 Cm

Bit - ter was the night be - fore the break of day.

6 Bitter was the night,
thought there'd never be a morning.
Bitter was the night
before the break of day.

7 Bitter was the night,
thought the cock would crow for ever.
Bitter was the night
before the break of day.

Luke: Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and asked him, “Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?” They yelled much other abuse at him. Then, when the day came, the elders of the people, chief priests and religious scholars, gathered together and brought him to their council. They said,

All: “If you are the Messiah, tell us.”

Jesus: “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask a question, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

All: “Are you, then, the Son of God?”

Jesus: “You say that I am.”

All: “What further testimony do we need; we have heard it ourselves from his own lips!”

Luke: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before

Pilate: They began to accuse him, saying,

All: “We found this man leading our nation astray, forbidding paying taxes to the emperor, and saying that he is a messiah, a king.”

Luke: Then Pilate questioned him saying,

Pilate: “Are you the king of the Judeans?”

Jesus: “You say so.”

Luke: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Pilate: “I find no cause for legal action against this person.”

All: “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee to this very place.”

Luke: Upon hearing this, Pilate asked if the person was a Galilean. Now, when he learned that he was under Herod’s authority, he sent him to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was extremely glad, for he had wanted to see him for a long time because he had heard about him and hoped to see him perform some sign. Herod questioned him to his satisfaction, but Jesus answered him with nothing. The chief priests and the religious scholars stood by, vehemently accusing him. Herod and his soldiers also treated him with contempt and mocked him, and he put a majestic robe on him and sent him back to Pilate. That very moment Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; previously, they had been each other’s enemy. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people and said to them,

Pilate: “You brought me this person to lead the people astray. Look now, I have examined him in your presence and have not found this person guilty of your charges against him. Nor has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look here; there is nothing deserving of death in his case. Therefore, whip and release him.” Then they shouted together, saying,

All: “Away with him! Release for us, Barabbas!” (Who for a rebellion that had taken place in the city, and for murder, had been put in prison.)

Luke: Again, Pilate addressed them, wanting to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, saying,

All: “Crucify, crucify him!”

We enter a 2-minute silence beginning and ending with a bell.

Luke: A third time he said to them,

Pilate: “What evil has he done? I have found nothing deserving death in him; I will have him whipped and release him.”

Luke: But they insisted with loud shouts that he should be crucified, and their voices prevailed. So, Pilate passed a sentence to grant their demand. He released the one in prison for rebellion and murder whom they asked for, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led Jesus away, they seized Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid on him the cross to carry behind Jesus. A great number of people followed him, and a group of women were beating their breasts and wailing. But Jesus turned to them and said,

Jesus: “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep only for yourselves and for your children. Look, the days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are barren women, and wombs that have never given birth, and breasts that have never nourished.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains; ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if when the wood is green, they do this when it is dry what will happen?”

Luke: Now, two criminals were also led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place called Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Song: Were You There When They Crucified My Lord (VU144)

*The cantor will sing verse one
and then the congregation is invited to sing verse 1, 3 and 4 together.*

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
4 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? Oh!
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The score is divided into five systems. The first system contains the first five verses of the song. The second system contains the first five verses followed by an 'Oh!' and a final line. The third system contains the line 'Some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.' The fourth system contains the first five verses. The fifth system contains the first five verses. The piano accompaniment includes various chords and melodic lines. Chords are labeled with letters and flats: Bb, Cm, Eb, Bb, Eb, Ab, Bb, Eb, Ab, Eb, G, Cm, Ab, Abm, Eb, Ab, Bb, Ab, Eb, Bb, Eb, (Ab), Eb.

Words: African-American spiritual
Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Melva Wilson Costen 1987
Arrangement copyright © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

WERE YOU THERE
Irregular

Jesus: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Luke: They divided his clothing by casting lots. And the people stood there, watching; but the leaders ridiculed him, saying,

All: "Others he saved; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, God's chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming and offering him vinegar wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Judeans, save yourself!"

Luke: There was also an inscription above him, "This is the King of the Judeans." One of the criminals who was hanging there derided him saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him,

All: "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same death sentence? And we indeed justly, for what we have done merits what we are receiving, but this one has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your realm."

Jesus: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Luke: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land about three in the afternoon. The sun's light ceased, and the temple curtain was torn in the middle. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

Jesus: "Father, into your hands, I commend my spirit."

Luke: Saying this then, he breathed out a final time.

The Congregation prays in silence.

Song: Gone Is The Light

5

In - to the dark ness we must go; gone, gone is the light;
Je - sus re - mem - ber me when you en - ter Your king - dom;
Fa - ther for - give__ them, they know not what they do;__

6
in-to the dark-ness we must go; gone, gone is the light.
Je - sus re - mem - ber me when Your king-dom comes.
Fa - ther for - give__ them, they know not what they do.

10
Gone, gone is the light; gone, gone is the light;

14
gone, gone is the light; gone, gone is the light

Instructions for Candles at the Cross

Prayer of Confession

... and you have made a cross for your Saviour.

Sung Response: Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your King-dom.
Spanish: Je - sús, re - cuér - da - me cuan - do en - tres en tu Rei - no.
Polish: Je - zu, w kró - les - twie Twym wspom - nij na swo - je - go słu - gę.

Cm Fm Bb Eb

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your King-dom.
Je - sús, re - cuér - da - me, cuan - do en - tres en tu Rei - no.
Je - zu, w kró - les - twie Twym wspom - nij na swo - je - go słu - gę.

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The Lord's Prayer

Our *Father, 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. And 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

*Or "Parent"

Luke: Now, when the centurion saw what had happened, he praised God saying, "This man was indeed innocent." And all the crowds that had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened; beating their breasts, they turned back. All those who knew him stood far off; the women who had followed him from Galilee were watching these things.

Now, take note: there was a man named Joseph, a member of the council, a good man and a righteous one. He had not agreed with the council and their action. He was from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he was waiting for the reign of God. This man went to Pilate and requested the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb hewn from the rock where no one had yet lain. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was dawning. The women followed the ones who had come with him from Galilee, and they saw the tomb and how his body was placed. Then the women returned and prepared spices and balms. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Candles are lit by all - and the congregation can remain to pray, or depart in silence.

Gratitude

We who are settlers are honoured to be uninvited guests, hosted here on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples; the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsum Nation.

We thank these nations and peoples for their stewardship of this beautiful land even as we name the complicity of our spiritual / religious traditions and denominations in the colonial project.

Thank you | c' i?íłət sn' ʔə mək' w | HÍSWKE

.....

The leadership of today's worship was drawn from the three affirming Christian communities who share space here on Sundays in the **United Commons**, including the clergy, staff and musicians of

The AbbeyChurch

The United Church of Canada / Anglican Church

Fairfield United Church

The United Church of Canada

The Place Community Church

Non-Denominational

Thank you for joining us for this worship experience. We want to express a huge thank-you not only to you, those who came, and also for everyone who helped make this worship happen, including the pastoral and musical leadership, the tech crew, administration and volunteers behind the scenes. Without your time, talents and willingness, our ministries would not exist.





Continuing the Story

All are invited NOW to join in the Upper Room (AbbeyChurch office) for a showing of the movie **Jesus of Montreal** about 15 minutes after this service ends.

A vegan / GF soup will be served (*donations welcomed but not required*).

Note: Mature themes including brief nudity.

The AbbeyChurch – www.abbeychurch.ca

- **Easter Dawn!** Sunrise worship at Willows Beach – meet in the parking lot near the tea house at 5:45am with potluck breakfast on the beach!
- **Easter Communion** – 4pm here in the Sanctuary at United Commons with Rob preaching.
- **Easter Monday Potluck Feast** – 5pm at Rob's in Sooke. Talk to Matt or Rob for carpool or to RSVP.
- **Martyn Joseph live in Concert** – this Thursday April 24th here in the United Commons. Join us for the incredible Welsh singer-songwriter. Doors 7pm, Show at 7:30pm. See Rob for tickets (\$28).
- Note: There will be **no Emmaus Morning Prayer** on Easter Monday. Prayer will resume Tuesday (prayer will soon be every weekday morning – see website for times).

Fairfield United Church – www.fairfieldunitedchurch.ca

- **Easter Saturday Egg Hunt** (with North Park Neighbourhood Association) Easter Morning at 11am in the courtyard.
- **Easter Sunday Worship** at 9:30am here in the Sanctuary, followed by coffee and meaningful conversation in the Doreene McCloud room at 10:30AM
- **Easter Sunday Serving Communion** at 11:30 to serve the un-housed on the 900 block Pandora St. Join Rev Beth and Rev SuSan to serve our neighbours.

The Place Community Church – www.theplace.ca

- **Potluck brunch** at 9:30am
- **Easter Sunday Worship** at 11am here in the Sanctuary.

Front cover image: Natalya Rusetska (Lviv School, Ukraine)

Green Crucifixion - Tempera on gessoed wood

Other images: Fritz Eichenberg/ Catholic Worker