

# Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025 + 4pm



Resurrection 2007 - Source Unknown



**BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER**



**CEASE  
FIRE  
NOW**

# 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.

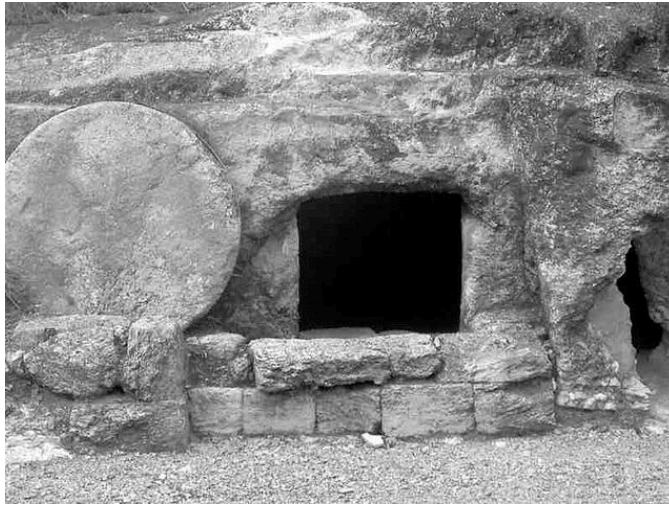
We invite diversity in our community and our leadership; old, young, rich, poor, conservative, liberal, radical, single, married, LGBTQ2IA+, straight, evangelical, progressive, overeducated, undereducated, overhoused, underhoused, certain, doubting, hurting, thriving (to name a few).

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.



## **We Gather**

**Reader:** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here!... Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

*The paschal candle is lit. Ring your bells!  
Flowers are brought forward to decorate the empty cross during the next two songs.*

### **Song: Jesus Christ is Risen Today**

Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah! our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!  
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah! suffer to redeem our loss, hallelujah!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, hallelujah! unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!  
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah! sinners to redeem and save, hallelujah!

But the pains which he endured, hallelujah! our salvation have procured, hallelujah!  
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah! where the angels ever sing, hallelujah!

Sing we to our God above, hallelujah! praise eternal as God's love, hallelujah!  
praise the Source, ye heavenly host, hallelujah! praise the Son and Holy Ghost, hallelujah!  
Ancient Words / Lyra Davidica 1708 at al.

### **The Psalm: Joy Will Come** (based on Psalm 30)

The shadow has no power over us for we will trust in the Lord  
And through the night we have a song to sing A hope that we can cling to

*Refrain:* Joy will come in the morning Joy will come in the morning  
God is our rock and our salvation - Joy will come.

Sister, fix your eyes upon the hills For surely help will come  
Brother, we will take our refuge in The God who knows our suffering *Refrain*

We will rise up - We will rise up in the morning  
Paul Zach / © 2021 Paul Zach / Used with permission

## Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

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

### We Proclaim

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

#### Gospel Acclamation Refrain:



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

#### 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.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but they said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, wondering to himself what had happened. (Luke 24: 1-12, NRSVUE and NIV)

Let us proclaim the Resurrection from the rooftops.

**With our words and with our lives!**

*The sung gospel acclamation s repeated.*



#### Sermon

**Rob Shearer**

Because You live - I can face tomorrow.  
Because You live - all fear is gone.  
Because I know You hold the future!  
And life is worth the living - just because You live. Gaither, alt. CCLI

*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**

I believe in God, the Maker Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
He 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. A-----men.

*Ryan Flanigan/ Liturgical folk/ CCLI \* = Universal*

## **Our Prayers**

### **The Peace**

Standing forgiven in the light of the resurrection, The peace of the risen Christ be with you all!  
**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](mailto: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: Ain't No Grave**

Shame is a prison - as cruel as a grave  
Shame is a robber and he's come to take my name  
Oh, love is my redeemer, lifting me up from the ground  
And love is the power when my freedom song is found

Refrain: There ain't no grave - Gonna hold my body down  
There ain't no grave - Gonna hold my body down  
When I hear that trumpet sound - I'm gonna rise up outta the ground  
There ain't no grave - Gonna hold my body down

Oh, fear is a liar with a smooth and velvet tongue  
Fear is a tyrant, he's always telling me to run  
Oh, love is a resurrection and love is a trumpet sound  
Love is my weapon, I'm gonna take my giants down. *Refrain*

Oh, there was a battle, a war between death and life  
And there on a tree, the lamb of God was crucified.  
And he went on down to hell, he took back every key  
And he rose up as a lion and he set all captives free. *Refrain*

*Traditional. Brother Claude Ely (Virginia / American folk song) - this version Molly Skaggs / Bethel Music / CCLI*



## **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**

Life-giving God, by your steadfast love, you make all things new. Give us power to receive and rejoice in all your gifts, that we may live in the abundance of your resurrection life. In the name of the risen One, we pray; **amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving / Communion**

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 risen Lord.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise**

Thanks and praise fill our hearts, for you are the God of creation and new creation, of covenant and new covenant. You brought your people out of Slavery into Freedom and you brought your son from the depth of death into the glory of Resurrection Life. And so we gladly thank you, with all the company of Heaven and all your creation, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

*[singing]* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth of your glory are full**

**Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. repeat.**

Steve Bell, alt. / © 1991 Signpost Music / CCLI

Joy and gladness are our song, redeeming God, for Christ is risen and the tomb is empty! And as we rejoice in the paschal mystery, we remember Jesus, who gathered with his disciples and took bread, gave thanks, blessed and broke it and gave it to disciples saying take and eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

And after supper he took the cup. He gave thanks and gave it to his companions, saying, "Drink this all of you; this is my blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and many for the Forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

And so we proclaim the great mystery of faith:

**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Joy and gladness are our song, merciful God, for in a garden of life, you have rolled away the stone of fear and despair, the stone of oppression, the stone of sin, the stone of lament, the stone of death.

As you did in creation so too in the wonder of your resurrection - send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the body and blood of the risen Christ. Come among us once more and breathe into us your peace, breathe into us your life, that all who labour, all who weep, all who hunger, all who rejoice, may meet you here - in the breaking of the bread.

Shape your church to be your risen body, a diverse and beautiful demonstration of our Kingdom until you come again and we are made one in your love. **Amen.**

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

**Song: Christ's Light Shines** A Beth Miller Original - sung by Beth

### **Song: Who Will Roll Away the Stone?**

Early in the morning, the sun already risen  
Three women came bearing spices, the Lord's body to anoint  
Standing outside the tomb, they asked each other saying:  
"Who will roll away the stone?" (x4)

Looking up they realized, the stone had been removed  
And to their amazement, a young man sat before them  
"Do not be amazed," he said, "for Jesus the Nazarene  
He who has been crucified, here you will not find  
He has risen from the dead" (X4)

Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission

### **Song: I Know That My Redeemer Lives**

I know that my Redeemer lives; what comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
Christ lives, Christ lives, who once was dead; Christ lives, my everlasting Head.

Christ lives triumphant from the grave, Christ lives eternally to save,  
Christ lives all-glorious in the sky, Christ lives exalted there on high.

Christ lives to bless me with this love, Christ lives to plead for me above,  
Christ lives my hungry soul to feed, Christ lives to help in time of need.

Christ lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly Friend, Christ lives and loves me to the end;  
Christ lives, and while Christ lives, I'll sing; Christ lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

Christ lives, all glory to God's name! Christ lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives, "I know that my Redeemer lives!"

Samuel Medley 1775 / Public Domain, alt.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray together, saying: **We give thanks for the mystery of this resurrection feast and how it fills our blessed bodies with the love of God and love of neighbour to reflect this love and grace and resurrection hope to all of God's beloved creation. In the name of the Resurrected Jesus, we pray. Amen!** rjs

# **We Are Sent**

## **The Blessing**

### **Closing Medley: Canticle of the Turning / We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection**

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You Fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

*Refrain:* My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

Though I am small, my God, my all, You work great things in me,  
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Your very Name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,  
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from their throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,  
For the world is about to turn. *Refrain.*

Though the nations rage from age to age, We remember Who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that out forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *Refrain.*  
Rory Cooney / Star of the County Down Tune / 1990 GIA / Onelicense.

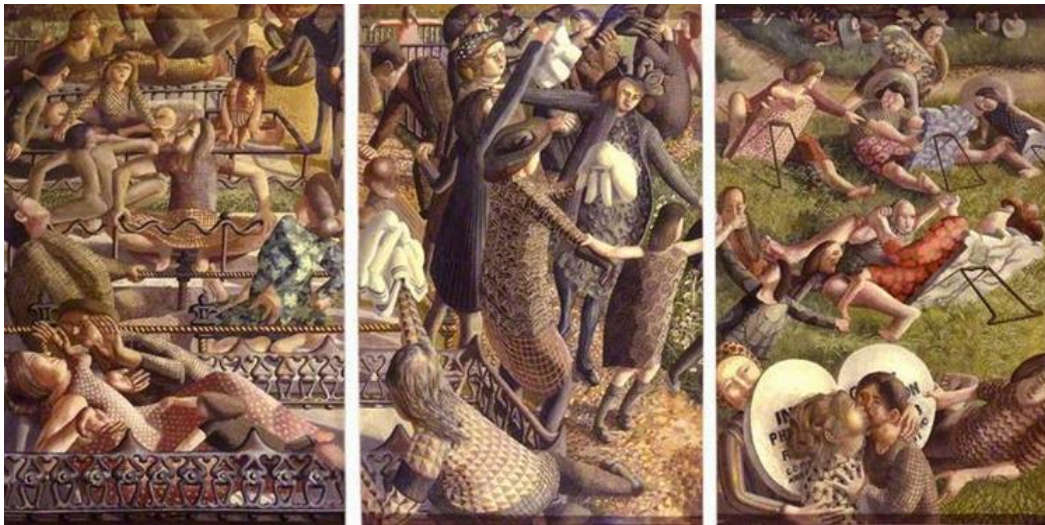
We shall go out with hope of resurrection,  
We shall go out, from strength to strength go on,  
We shall go out and tell our stories boldly,  
Tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted,  
We'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed,  
We'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
Within the Resurrected Christ who sets us free.  
June Boyce-Tillman / © Copyright 1993 Stainer & Bell Ltd / OneLicense / Tune: LONDONDERRY AIR / Traditional Irish melody

## **The Sending**

Go out rejoicing to practice resurrection! Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Thanks be to the risen Christ! Alleluia, Alleluia!**





*Resurrection, Re Union  
Stanley Spencer 1945 Fair Use*

## **Upcoming Dates**

**Tomorrow - Monday, April 21st - 5 pm Easter Dinner in Sooke at Rob's - all welcome! RSVP to [admin@emmauscommunity.ca](mailto:admin@emmauscommunity.ca) for the address.**  
(Carpooling may be available if needed - talk to Matt or Rob).

### **This 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 also Available from Rob after worship today

## **Weekday Prayer**

*(There will be no am prayer tomorrow - on Easter Monday. We resume Tuesday)*

**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](mailto: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.



**THIS THURSDAY!** tickets available now from Rob:



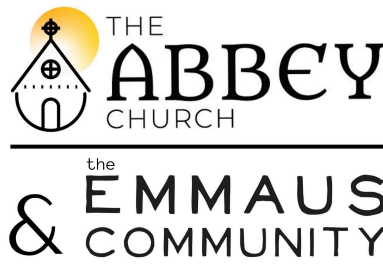
# Martyn Joseph

"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](http://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>



**admin@emmauscommunity.ca + [www.abbeychurch.ca](http://www.abbeychurch.ca)**  
**778.557.4166 We would love to connect.**

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