

# The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025 + 4pm



The New Jerusalem and the River of Life (Apocalypse XII), Beatus de Facundus, 1047



# Welcome to the 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.

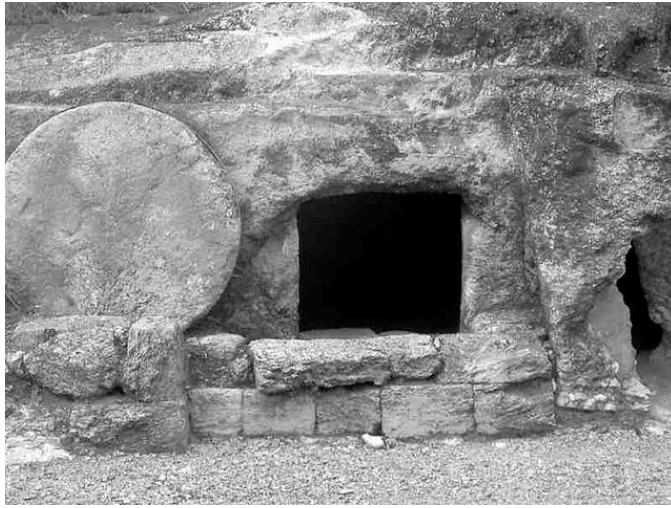
We invite diversity in our community and our leadership; old, young, rich, poor, conservative, liberal, radical, single, married, LGBTQ2IA+, straight, evangelical, progressive, overeducated, undereducated, overhoused, underhoused, certain, doubting, hurting, thriving (to name a few).

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**

### **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**

We are grateful today for our guest preacher the Rev. Greg Powell from James Bay United and our guest musical leader, Anna Bigland-Prichard!

*Bell x 3*

### **Gathering Words**

We gather to tell a different story

**A Story of a God who is making all things new**

We gather to live into the love we receive

**And reflect it back to all creation**

We gather to sing praises with all creation

**To sing praises of the Creator of all things.**

Siblings - grace and peace in Christ Jesus our Sibling and our Lord.

**Thanks be to God!** rjs

*Please rise in body or in spirit as we sing:*

### **Opening 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 on earth You make Your place,

'til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley / Public Domain, alt. (tune: Hyfrydol)

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

### **The First Reading:** A reading from the book of Revelation

...I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for their husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be God's peoples, and God will be with them; God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Psalm: Psalm 148**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

**Praise God, all you angels; Praise God, all you heavenly host!**

Praise God, sun and moon; Praise God, all you shining stars!

**Praise God, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!**

Let all Creation praise the name of the Lord, for by God's word they were created.

**God established them forever and ever; and fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

**fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind all answer to God's command!**

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

**Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

Rulers of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

**Young folk of all genders, all people, old and young together!**

Let us praise the name of the Lord, God's name alone be exalted;

God's glory is over all earth and heaven.

**God has raised up a horn for God's people, praise for all God's faithful!**

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.**

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

### **Gospel Acclamation**



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 John (13:31-35) When Jesus had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

...Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops.

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



## Sermon

**Greg Powell**

*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

### Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Holy God, Maker of all

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor

**Have mercy on us.**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life

**Have mercy on us**

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

*Silence*

We say together: **Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:  
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.**

### Absolution or Assurance of Grace

### The Peace

Beloved in Christ, 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 on the last page of this leaflet. All donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.*

## **The Offertory Song: Song: Come My Way, My Truth My Life**

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath,  
such a truth as ends all strife, such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast,  
such a feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move,  
such a love as none can part, such a heart as joys in love.

George Herbert / R.V. Williams / OneLicense.

## **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 wish to come forward to receive a blessing rather than bread and wine, place your hands across your chest.*

### **Prayer Over The Gifts**

Let us pray: O God who promises the renewal of all creation. In these simple gifts of bread and wine may we have a foretaste of glory divine, of Your love supreme, of new creation, of all things made new, in You - through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, our judge and hope, our sibling and Lord. **Amen.** rjs

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

The Lord be with you! **And with your spirit!**

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 of 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 and praise 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*

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ our Lord. With thanksgiving, we remember Jesus' words: I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you.

And so this afternoon, we remember how he took a loaf of bread,  
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

And after supper, he took the cup saying, This cup that is poured out for you  
is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, remember me

Remembering your acts of mercy, we celebrate this sacrifice and feast of the risen Lord,  
offering our lives in thanksgiving and praise as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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



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 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 sign, symbol and servant of Your eternal Reign - 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** (pre-recorded): **Lamb of God** by Tom Wuest Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission

### Song: See, I Am Near

"See, I am near," says the Lord.

"See, I make all things new."

Oh, oh.

Ateliers et Presses de Taizé/OneLicense

### Song: Behold I Make All Things New

Behold I make all things new. (x3) Let there be light. Let there be light.  
God unseen is taking form. (x3) Let there be light. Let there be light.  
The First and Last is surging forth. (x3) Becoming Light. Becoming Light.

Alana Levandoski / CCLI

### Prayer after Communion

Let us pray, together, saying: **Filled with the goodness of Christ, let us go forth to love one another as Jesus loves us. Let us take the joy of this feast to all creation and reflect this love to all! In the name of the one who calls us to love, Jesus the Christ. Amen.** rjs.

# We Are Sent

## Doxology

Glory to God, **whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Blessing

### Closing Song: We Go Walking in the Light Gord Johnson / Signpost Records / CCLI

3 No more walk-ing in the dark ness; \_\_\_\_\_ We've been smit-ten by the Light;  
No more hid-ing in the shad ows; \_\_\_\_\_ We are child-ren of the Light;

5 Em D C G D Em  
We go walk-ing in the Light of the liv-ing God. \_\_\_\_\_ Beat our swords in-to  
We go walk-ing in the Light of the liv-ing God. \_\_\_\_\_ We are watch-ing and a

10 G Em G Em  
plough share; \_\_\_\_\_ Stud-y \_\_\_\_\_ war no more; \_\_\_\_\_ We go walk-ing in the  
wait-ing; \_\_\_\_\_ For \_\_\_\_\_ the com-ing of the King; \_\_\_\_\_ We go walk-ing in the

14 D C G C G D G D G G<sup>7</sup>  
Light of the liv-ing God. \_\_\_\_\_ Sing-ing Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu-ia,  
Light of the liv-ing God. \_\_\_\_\_

20 C G D D/C D/B D/A  
Al-le-lu, \_\_\_\_\_ We go walk-ing in the Light of the liv-ing God. Sing-ing

25 G D G G<sup>7</sup> C  
Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu, \_\_\_\_\_

29 Em D C G C G D  
We go walk-ing in the Light of the liv-ing God.

## The Sending

Go in peace to follow the risen Christ on the way! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**We will be back next week at 4 pm! WITH POTLUCK!**



**WANNA CHAT?** Reach out to us at [admin@emmauscommunity.ca](mailto:admin@emmauscommunity.ca)

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER** - have you subscribed to our weekly e-newsletter? We have recently learned that some shaw.ca emails are not receiving the newsletters - if you are missing them, please re-subscribe with a new email here:

<https://www.abbeychurch.ca/subscribers>

### **Weekday Prayer**

**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.

**NOTE: NO WEEKDAY PRAYER TOMORROW - holiday monday**

**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 the 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.



# Blessed are the Undone



**Western Canada** Tour 2025

with co-author  
**Angela Reitsma Bick**

**June 6-7. 2025**  
**Victoria, BC**



## COMING UP:

**NO morning prayer** tomorrow for holiday Monday. Regular schedule resumes Tuesday.

**Next Sunday - Potluck following worship** - Bring something to contribute if you can or there's always lots to go around. If you can help with clean-up that'd be a bonus!

**June 6-7 - Blessed Are the Undone Conference** - see our website for details - we're co-hosting

### **Sunday June 8 - A BIG Pentecost New Beginning Day!**

**1:15pm - 100 years of the United Church : A Celebration.** Worship here in the sanctuary with band and organ and parts of the 1925 liturgy (hymns, sermon, communion) followed by cake! Joint worship with Fairfield UC and AbbeyChurch.

**4pm - The Ordination of the Rev. Reba Yeo (!!!)** to the priesthood at the Anglican Cathedral!

Note: No 4pm AbbeyChurch on June 8.

**Thursday June 12 at 4pm - Seafood Thank You Feast** for any and all who volunteered or donated to QomQem outreach. 4-7pm in the hall.

Celebrating 100 Years Of  
**The United Church of Canada**  
In June of 1925 the Methodist, Congregationalist and many Presbyterian Churches formed The United Church of Canada.  
*Join us as we celebrate 100 years of witness!  
All are welcome for worship and cake!*

**Sunday June 8, 2025 - 1:15pm**  
The United Commons - Balmoral And Quadra - Victoria BC  
We'll gather in the historic 1914 Sanctuary - formerly First Presbyterian, First United & First Met United & now home to AbbeyChurch (United/Anglican), Fairfield United Church (United) & The United Commons: A Centre for Community, Faith and the Arts.  
For more information see [www.abbeychurch.ca](http://www.abbeychurch.ca) or [www.fairfieldunited.ca](http://www.fairfieldunited.ca)

1:15pm - Classic hymns, liturgy and original sermon from the 1925 inaugural service with organ and band  
2:30pm - Cake and livestream of the national celebration live from Newfoundland

Logos: ABBEY CHURCH, Fairfield United, COMONS, and a rainbow flag.

INAUGURAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
TORONTO ONE THOUSAND NINETEEN

