



Reign of Christ / Christ the (un)King

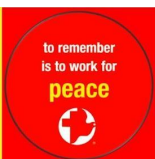
November 23rd, 2025 - 4pm



Image:aleksander kazantsev - Christ Tsar - public domain



**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 in Jesus' name.***

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, uncertain, 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.

Land Acknowledgement

The AbbeyChurch acknowledges that we worship and pray on the stolen territory of the Ləkʷəŋən 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 pause in silence to remember and to recall the land under our feet, the hidden rivers, the trees and flowers and shifting seasons. 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

Opening Loop and Tolling of the Bells + Welcome + Land Acknowledgement

Gathering our hearts to worship God. Bell x 3

+The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all! **And also with you.**

Mighty and tender God, voice of the voiceless, power of the powerless: we praise you for your vision of a community of wholeness, a realm of peace, in which all who hunger and thirst are nourished, in which the stranger is welcomed, the hurting are healed, and the captive set free. Guide us by your truth and love, until we and all your people manifest your reign of justice and compassion. We pray in the name of your anointed one, our servant-king, to whom with you and the Spirit, one Holy God, be honour, glory and blessing this day and forever. **Amen.** Voices United 214 - Collect for Reign of Christ Sunday

Please rise in body or in spirit as we sing, and our community altar is set.

Opening Song: Crown Him With Many Crowns / Jesus Christ

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne:
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity. 1851 Bridges, Thring / VU211 / Public Domain

Jesus Christ was a man who traveled through the land - a hard-working man, and brave
He said to the rich, "Give your money to the poor" - so they laid Jesus Christ in His grave

Refrain: Jesus was a man, a carpenter by hand - His followers were true and brave.
But the cops & legislators called them dang'rus agitators so they laid Jesus Christ in His grave

He went to the preacher, He went to the law - He told them all the same
He said: "Sell all of your jewelry and give it to the poor,"
And they laid Jesus Christ in His grave. *Refrain.*

When Jesus come to town, all the working folks around believed what he did say
But the bankers and the preachers, they nailed Him on the cross,
and they laid Jesus Christ in his grave. *Refrain.*

This song was written in New York City. Of rich folk, of preachers, and of slaves
If Jesus was to preach what He preached in Galilee, they would lay Jesus Christ in His grave.

Alle! Alleluia! Alle! Alleluia! Alle! Alleluia - We would lay Jesus Christ in His grave.
© Copyright 1961 (renewed) and 1963 (renewed) by Woody Guthrie Publications, Inc. & TRO-Ludlow Music, Inc. (BMI)

The Poem- For the Shepherd Who Is Also the Path the Sun Makes in Daytime
by Komal Matthew **chosen by Molly LeBlanc - Poet-in-Residence**

We Proclaim

The Reading: A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah (23: 1-6)

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness, our justice." ...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle (Letter): A reading from the letter to the community at Colossae (1: 11-20)

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from God's glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. Who has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of God's beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. God's Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

The Gospel Acclamation Jesus, Let Your Kingdom Come

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus, let your kingdom come! x2

May the works of my hands bring You joy. x2

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus let your kingdom come! X4

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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 (20:27-38)

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save

yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

...Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops. **With our words and with our lives!**

Gospel Acclamation (Repeated)

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus, let your kingdom come! x2

May the words from my mouth speak Your Peace! X2

Hallelu, Hallelujah! Jesus let your kingdom come! X4 Porter's Gate / CCLI

Sermon

Matt Humphrey

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 (*you are invited to stand, sit or kneel as is your custom for our time of prayer*)

The Confession

Let us turn to the God of mercy and love, Christ the good Shepherd-kin.

Silence is kept.

[together we say] **Holy God we pray for the courage to admit our fault, the strength to amend our actions, And the hope that your grace awaits us. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.** Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

The Absolution / Assurance of Grace

The Peace

The peace of Christ, Sovereign of the Universe, 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 on the last page of this leaflet.
All donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.*

The Offertory Song: Praise to The Lord the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of crea-tion!
O my soul, praise God, at all times our health and salvation!
Come all who hear, siblings come gather, draw near; joining in glad adoration;

Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,
Keeping us under Her wings and so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen, how all you needed has been - met by God's gracious ordaining;

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us;
Surely God's goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, Who out of love will befriend us;

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Them!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Them.
Let the Amen sound from God's people again, Gladly with praise we adore Them.

Author: Joachim Neander (1680); Translator: Catherine Winkworth, alt. (1863) Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN / Public Domain.

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

Not by might nor by riches will the Kin-dom of God be built. It takes community. And
persistence. And laughter. And the labour of those who hunger for justice.* Receive all we
offer you this day, O God, take these gifts and our lives and fold them like yeast into the
bread of your kingdom. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.** ©enfleshed

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 our thanks and praise.**

You gathered up the scattered fragments of chaos, God of wonder, shaping them into the
wonders we call the gifts and beauty of creation: thunderstorms moving over meadows,
snow swirling softly in the evenings, deer standing in the silence of forests. All these things
and so much more you offered to those created in your image, but the eyes of our hearts
looked at the seductions of sin and death, finding them more desirable than you. Prophets
came as seekers of the lost, hoping to bring us out of our foolishness, yet we continued to
ignore them as we did those we could have served with your gifts of healing and hope.
That is when you chose to become one of us, your heart beating with ours, your love
seeking to save us. So with those who have reached out to the needy, and those who
somehow never notice them, we offer our songs of praise to you:

(sung) **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.**

Your holiness is revealed in your steadfast love, Searching God, and your heart in Jesus, our Lord, our brother, our Sovereign. When we would heap temptation's empty calories on our plates, he feeds us on hope; when we would drink from the fountains of grudges, he pours us a cup of grace; when we find every door slammed shut in our face, he invites us into your heart; when we are struggling with the burdens and bills of illness, he touches us with healing care; when we are faced with eternity in the dank cells of death, he took the doors off the hinges, so we could walk into your resurrection love. As we remember his stories of your realm, as we seek to care for him in our siblings, we seek to live that mystery we call faith: (sung) **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

You have searched for us, Steadfast Love, and gathered us in this sacred space. +Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of the bread and cup, and on your children gathered from every place where we strayed.

On the night of your passion you took bread and wine and reminded us to do this in remembrance of you. And so it is that you feed us on the broken bread so, that strengthened we would go to care for the hungry and needy, to welcome the stranger and straggler, to bring healing to the hurting. You offer the cup of grace so, nourished with your love, we would go to offer the parched your living waters, to visit those held captive by fear, to offer a warm heart to the lonely. And when the moment at the end of time comes, as you gather the forgotten and the fragile, the strangers who in reality are family, we will join hands and hearts singing our praises, God in Community, Holy in One. **Amen.**
(c. Thom Shuman 2023, 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 gf, there are also rice crackers available.*

Song (pre-recorded): **Agnus Dei / Lamb of God** Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing

Communion Song: Alleluia (Wuest)

Stay close my child through this dark night
Rest in the shadows of these wings.
Hope in the Lord whose day will come,
The dawn of making all things new.
Alleluia (*repeat x8*)

All wars will cease, all suffering end.
Justice will roll, the kingdom come.
Love will arise, grace will uphold.
Mercy will heal where the lamb reigns.
Alleluia (*repeat x8*) Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used with permission

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, hallelujah. (3x) Your peace will make us one. *Audrey Assad. CCLI.*

We Are Sent

The Prayer After Communion

Gracious God

**may your gifts of love transform and enliven us that we may live lives of thanksgiving.
May your presence among us provoke such longing for your realm, that we will never be
satisfied until the whole earth knows your justice, your peace, and your love. In Christ's
name, we pray. Amen.** c. Celebrate God's Presence

The Blessing

Closing Song: Canticle of the Turning

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 (Irish rad / public domain) / 1990 GIA / Onelicense.

Sending:

Go in the justice, peace and joy God's Reign, in the name of Christ our Sovereign - to love God and our neighbours. **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

***Annual Community Meeting and Potluck to follow worship today.
All are welcome to stay and feast (even if you didn't bring a contribution) and
participate in the common life of our community.***

***We will gather altogether for all four weeks of Advent.
See you next Sunday for Advent 1.***

Weekday Prayer with the Emmaus Community

@ **Emmaus/AbbeyChurch Upper Room** (off the Balmoral parking lot, metal stairs up)
Mondays 9 am - Morning Prayer w/ Centering Prayer - approx 45 mins. In-person only.
Tuesdays 9 am- approx 25 mins - in-person and online.
Thursdays 8:15 am - morning prayer - The Upper Room and online on zoom.
Fridays 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, making it possible for us to continue thriving 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.



If you would like to donate your time or offer other gifts to our common life, be in touch! We are grateful for all of the various ways our community is cared for!

Youth Group - All youth are welcome for this social time! **Next date** Nov 25th - Langford Lanes. Contact youth@abbeychurch.ca for more information.

Library Work Days If you can help or have questions, please contact Lynn Mills at library@emmauscommunity.ca - we had one yesterday and our next one will be December 13!



QOMQEM is Back!!

Join AbbeyChurch in Supporting weekly Indigenous-Led Night Outreach

QomQem Coastal Connections has operated a weekly night outreach initiative for the past two years, bringing basic needs, hot and cold foods, harm reduction, and other supplies to the street family. This Indigenous-and-lived-experience-led outreach model follows Coast Salish teachings that everyone should have a home, food to eat, and a role in the community.

Last year, Qom Qem partnered with AbbeyChurch, North Park Neighborhood Association, Neighborhood Solidarity for the Unhoused, and family members connected to the street community. Together, we collected donations, prepared comforting foods, and delivered supplies to 150 individuals each Sunday night.

This weekly night outreach may seem modest compared to the clear need for nighttime support, but it is deeply valued by those we serve and by our dedicated volunteers. Each week, we are greeted with enthusiasm by community members who rely on these efforts. We know many people want to help ease the discomfort of being outside during harsh winter months.

We need your support to keep this initiative running through the coldest months (November to March). Here's how you can contribute:

Items Needed: Drop them off into the treasure chest at the back!

- **Non perishable foods used in the weekly menu:** Gatorade/Powerade, juice boxes, fruit cups, pudding cups, peanut butter and jam (large jars), noodle bowls, large bags of candy/baked treats
- **Supplies:** Gloves, hats, socks, hand warmers, high-quality umbrellas, raincoats, winter coats, tarps, winter weight sleeping bags, emergency blankets, batteries, flashlights, tents
- **Inexpensive phones** and pay as you go phone credits

Volunteer: starting today, QomQem will be in the kitchen each Sunday after worship (about 5:15pm) - and AbbeyChurch folk are welcome to come and volunteer.

Donate Money: You can designate funds to this important work through AbbeyChurch - go to canadahelps.org/en/charities/emmausabbeychurch/ and select QomQem Coastal Connections on the drop down menu.

WANNA CHAT? Reach out to us at 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>



admin@abbeychurch.ca + www.abbeychurch.ca

778.557.4166 We would love to connect.

This leaflet is printed on carbon neutral tree-free paper. Please recycle.