



Easter V
“I am the vine”
May 2, 2021 + 4pm

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 summarized in ancient Christian creeds.

We share a willingness to honestly wrestle with God, and with our questions and doubts.

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

We believe that Christ's love binds our differences together in unity as we gather each week at Jesus' table of welcome.

The AbbeyChurch worships, prays, plays and gathers on the traditional and unceded lands of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

*Come as you are, a joyful resurrection people...
basking in hope!*

Tolling of the Bells

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment

Bell x 3

Opening Responses

Wondrous Vinegrower, you make all things new in water and Word, feeding your people with love, joy, and peace.

Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings.

Teach us to love what you have commanded and to prune what does not nourish your creation.(feasting on the word)

O Christ, Holy Vine,
we live in you.

Your blood flows through us.

Your fruit ripens in us.

**All your beloved the world over
are one with us in you.**

**We belong to them,
for we belong to you,
and your infinite life.**

May we never sever ourselves
but by the sap of your love in us
flourish and blossom and bear fruit. **Amen.** - Steve Garnaa-Holmes

Opening Song: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling
joy of Heaven 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 every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver
Let us all Thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more 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 in Heaven we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before Thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Text: Charles Wesley; tune: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Prichard. Public domain.

Poem: In the garden

written by Benjamin Hertwig

the bees and onions,
the blueberries and goji
the hummingbird hovering
in the hose's spray
the winter snow
under streetlight
the rat nesting in straw
the wasp sleeping
beneath the leaf
the strawberries,
the vine with purple grape
the sunflowers.
the cutting back
and growing again.
the leaving
and returning.

your friend started
those sunflowers
in a small bathroom.
she sat on the floor
and scrubbed
smoke from the window blinds
praising God that the yellow
of cigarettes is not the yellow
of sunflowers
or the sun.

you found the wooden sign
in a thrift store—

the hand-painted,
so-named serenity prayer.
you hung the sign
in the garden, by the raspberries
and currents, by the fence
where the old lady tended
tomatoes. you stood in the sun
and felt in your skin
that a sun-warmed
tomato is one of the
tastiest prayers
that God ever spoke.

the sun and rain bleached
courage and wisdom from the wood
of the sign,
until God was the word, the only
one left.
and the vine still grows,
though we have left that garden.
the sunflowers are still warmed
by the sun.

The Readings

The Epistle

Kirsten McMenamie

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been

perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. (1 JOHN 4:7-21)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Let us prepare our hearts to hear the gospel.

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

Colima Seguin

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN (5:1-8)

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples
...The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

We repeat the gospel acclamation.

Sermon

Vanessa Caruso

Bell / Silence / Bell

The Creed

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 cath'lic,
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. A-----men.
Ryan Flanigan/ Liturgical folk/ CCLI

Our Prayers

Chivonne Graff

The Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be with you all!
And also with you!

Offertory Song: We Abide, We Abide In You

We are the vineyard You have planted
Tend our leaves and wild branches
We abide, we abide in You (2x)

Fruit growing from our strength and labor
Rain on us with grace and favor
We abide, we abide in You (2x)

Refrain: Where can my soul find living water?
Apart from You, we bear no fruit
O plant my feet down by the river – we abide, we abide in You

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Prayer Over The Gifts

God of deep soil and luxurious growth, you call us to find our depth in you: Receive all we offer you this day that may we abide in you, the true vine. **Amen.** *Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.*

Eucharistic Prayer

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 God thanks and praise.

Abiding God, you planted the Vineyard of creation and called your people to be your vine, rooted and grounded in you. In Jesus you gave us the true vine turning earth into grapes and the water of life into the wine of eternal life. Through your son you abide in us and in the power of your Holy Spirit you shape the branches of the vine to make fruit that will last.

Glory to you forever and ever

In this meal of creation, of resurrection and everlasting life, you pour out the cup of your abundance to give us eternal joy in you. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels, and the whole company of earth and heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Transforming God your son came in the ordinary substance of human flesh and bone and on his last night with his companions he took the ordinary materials of bread and wine and broke the 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.

Abiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon us wherever we may
be and upon this bread and wine that it may be for us the body
and blood of Christ and the spiritual nourishment we need to
be your people this week. Come among us and make the
ordinariness of our lives glow with the wonder of your eternal
life. Unite your whole church living in departed as branches on
your one vine and through being rooted and grounded in you,
make us fruitful in body, mind and spirit until we stand before
you with your whole creation and you are all in all. **Amen**

(Joining the Angels Song alt)

As beloved children of a loving parent, let us pray... *(this may be
said in a language or paraphrase of your choice, or as below):*

Our Father, (or Parent/ Source, if you prefer)

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, the power and the glory. Amen.

Silence.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God given for the life
of the world. Feed on the risen Christ in your hearts through
faith with thanksgiving! Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

Communion Song: Abide In Me

Abide in me. Fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens. Lord in me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless O abide in me.
Traditional / Lyrics adapted Alana Levandoski / CCLI

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, you invite us to abide in you. Nourish our life in your resurrection, so that we bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy; Remember us, separated by pandemic, but united by faith in the body of the risen Christ. Sustain us in our isolation by the power of your Spirit, that we may practice resurrection in your new creation. **Amen.**

Closing Song: Down by the Riverside

I'm gonna lay down sword and shield
Down by the riverside - down by the riverside
I'm gonna lay down sword and shield
Down by the riverside - I ain't gonna study war no more!

Refrain: I ain't gonna study war no more (6x)

I'm gonna put on my long white robe... *Refrain*

I'm gonna walk with the Prince of Peace... *Refrain*
African-American traditional / Public Domain

The Sending

You have risen O Christ. Let all creation greet the good news with a jubilant shout!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go from here renewed and strong, Weep with those who weep. Rejoice with those who celebrate. Abide in love! Tell the story of hope, that Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

Bell x 3



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