



Easter VI
May 9, 2021 + 4pm

*We Together: Street Art for Safe Migration and Solidarity during the
COVID-19 Pandemic: Ghana Graffiti Collective*

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

Sing to our God a new song.

God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

Let us pray: Faithful God, make our hearts bold with love for one another. Pour out your Spirit upon all people, so that we may live your justice and sing in praise the song of your marvellous resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
RCL Prayers (2002) alt.

Opening Song: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, life and love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Your works with joy surround You
earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You, Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain sound their praise eternally!

You are giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Source of Grace and fount of blessing, let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus, which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us, joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.
Text: Henry van Dyke; Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven. Public Domain.

Poem: *In my mother's house, there are many rooms*

Written and read by Benjamin Hertwig

In my mother's house, there are many
rooms, and most of them are filled
with joy. Every one of the rooms is
a world unto itself. There is the blooming
room, where the bees dance and
clover sweetens the air and the room
like a large table where the food is
love and everyone is welcome.
For what mother, when they hear
a hungry child, would offer a stone?
There is the room where the wind
is fresh, blown straight from the ocean
and the room like a pasture with still
waters, where the weary rest and sleep.
There is a room where mothering looks
like many different things.
There is also the room of stones.
The stones in this room do not look like joy.
The stones are heavy and smooth.
We know what it would be like
to swallow these stones because we have
thrown so many ourselves.
This is the room where the mothers
gather and mourn, weeping for children,
for those who wish to be mothers.
There is the room for the ways our mother's
disappointed us, or we them.
A room for the mothers we did not know.
In my mother's house, there is a room
for memories like these,
but even these rooms will be filled
with feasting and joy, in the fullness,
the freshness of time.
In my mother's house, there are many rooms,
and most of them are filled with joy.

The Readings

The Epistle:

Sue Patterson, EC

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN (5:1-6)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

Lynn Mills

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN (15:9-17)

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends,

because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."
...The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

We repeat the gospel acclamation.

Sermon

Rob Crosby-Shearer, EC

Featuring "This Joy" by the resistance revival chorus

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

Vanessa Caruso

The Peace

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

Offertory Song: O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ear, 'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honours of your name.

Text: Charles Wesley; Tune: AZMON, Carl G. Gläzer. Public Domain.

Prayer Over The Gifts

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, so that we might be for the world signs of your loving presence. In Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt*

Eucharistic Prayer

Rev. Katherine Brittain

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.

You have entered this place, O God, and in your holy shadow, heaven tangles with earth in the bread and wine, and the promise of flesh is realized. **Come now, God.**

As you once came to us in a stable in Bethlehem
come now and be with us in the bread, in this world that
hungers and waits for truth. **Come now, God.**

As once your Spirit poured forth life upon the earth
come now and pour the wine for this creation, waiting for
renewal. **Come now, God.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love. We bless you for all your gifts. You bring creation to birth and send prophets to awaken us to your presence in the spaces between us, in our homes, in your world, in the gathering of your faithful in person, in hearts, and on screens.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, in whom you gather the hopes and fears of all the years. We bless your Holy Name, joining with all your people of ever time and place, 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.**

God has given us these gifts of bread and wine. For it is God's people who knelt on the earth, planted the seeds, prayed for the rain, sang for the grain, made the harvest, cracked the wheat, pounded the corn, kneaded the dough, kindled the fire and filled the air with the smell of fresh bread. And there was bread, and it was good. Ordinary bread made by ordinary people, made holy when we take time to eat and remember.

And God's people hilled up the earth, tended the vines, prayed for the sun, danced for the fruit, gathered the harvest, crushed the grape, fashioned the cask, aged the brew and filled the air with the pungent aroma of wine. And there was wine, and it was good. Ordinary grapes taken by ordinary people, made into ordinary wine, is holy when we hold it to our lips and drink and remember.

**Today we say: thank God for bread; thank God for wine;
thank God for power and courage; thank God for this
time together, for each other and for ourselves. Thank
God for these holy gifts. Thank God for these holy
moments.**

We remember how Jesus gathered with his friends. He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and shared it. This bread...remember the life given for us. Jesus Christ the power of love. From ordinary to holy. Remember.

Then, after the meal was over, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks for it, and shared it. This cup, remember the life poured out for us. Jesus Christ, the cup of blessing. From ordinary to holy. Remember.

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.**

God, send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts. Strengthen us, restore us, be present with us. **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: There Can Be No Greater Love

There can be no greater love

than to lie down our life for those we love.

Verses: Every day I will bless you, Lord,
and praise your name forever.
(Bless the Lord, our God, whose goodness abounds!)
Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.
God's love is beyond compare.
(Bless the Lord, our God, whose goodness abounds!)

The Lord is merciful and good,
The Lord is patient and abounding in love.
(Bless the Lord, our God, whose goodness abounds!)
How good you are, Lord, to all,
your compassion is for all you have made.
(Bless the Lord, our God, whose goodness abounds!)

Text: Psalm 145; Taize Community; Music; Jacques Berthier. Ateliers et Presses de Taize / OneLicense

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, you invite us to abide in your love. Nourish us with your Spirit 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.**

Commissioning of Patrick

Beloved, we pray that you will be filled with the knowledge of God's will and that your life will continue to bear fruit in every good work as you prepare to enter into this new role. As you go, take heed that you fulfill the ministry that God has given you; live in the light, care for the sick, minister to the dying, do not forsake the breaking of bread, practice resurrection and seek the peace and welfare of the city to which you are called.

Patrick, we bless you, we give thanks for you, we hold you and Barry in our prayers and we commission you.

Go forth dear friend, with our blessings and our prayers, go forth in the power of the risen Christ. Go forth as a herald of the coming kingdom, go forth and bear witness in all that you do, to the love of God, the redemption of Christ and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen, thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

Closing Song: The Trees of the Field (Isaiah 55)

You shall go out with joy and be let forth with peace
And the mountains and the hills
Will break forth before you there'll be shouts of joy
And all the trees of the fields
Will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the fields will clap their hands
And all the trees of the fields will clap their hands
The trees of the fields will clap their hands
While you go out with joy

Text: Isaiah 55:12| Isaiah 55; Music: Stuart Daeuermann / OneLicense / Hope Publishing

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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