



On The Road ::: Gospel-based Discipleship

“The Gospel in the Centre of our Sacred Circle has become an important and dynamic part of the growing spiritual movement among Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island. Any event or meeting is organized and carried out with the Gospel in the centre...”

Gospel Based Discipleship is not a program. It is not Bible Study. It is an encounter with the Gospel, designed to engage people with the Gospel appointed for the day...”

At AbbeyChurch / Emmaus, our hope in engaging this encounter is to follow the lead of the self-determining indigenous Church (in this case, primarily in the Anglican tradition – but also informed by our United Church tradition) in placing the Gospel at the centre of our Sacred Circle.

We are doing this every other Sunday afternoon and every other Wednesday evening through the Summer of 2021 – as an extension of a similar approach to the Gospel in our Emmaus weekday prayer. You are welcome to attend one or both sessions. We will be using the Sunday reading (upcoming) for the Wednesday evening.

On the alternate Sundays we will continue to livestream our “at the Table” with music and sacrament. Hopefully, as the days go on, we will be able to meet in person for both of these.

Though we do have assigned ‘hosts’ to help with technology and group dynamics, we acknowledge that the Holy Spirit moves through each and every person, and we don’t presume any ‘experts’ in any group. In the Disciple’s Prayer Book from the indigenous Church, rotating leadership is recommended, and that is what we are encouraging.

As folks who are primarily settlers, we especially encourage ourselves into a posture of deep listening, being slow to speak - and into a deep heart-engagement with the Gospel. We suggest a posture of listening to whom the Gospel calls us to be – both as individuals and as a community.

A TYPICAL CIRCLE

We begin in the larger Group:

Welcome, announcements and land acknowledgment from the large group host.

The Gathering Prayer

A volunteer is chosen to read, or we read together:

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the centre of this Sacred Circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your Spirit, for you are God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Rule of Life is read by a volunteer or together.

Creator God, we acknowledge and give thanks that:

In Jesus we know we belong to a Sacred Circle with the Gospel and Baptismal Covenant in the centre.

In this Sacred Circle:

We are all related;

We live a compassionate and generous life;

We respect all life, traditions, and resources.

We commit ourselves to spiritual growth, discipleship, and consensus.

We break into smaller Groups (breakout rooms of 4-5 people).

Brief check-in anyone is welcomed to share what they bring into this sacred circle.

A Psalm may be read, if desired.

Reading the Gospel

1. A volunteer reads the Gospel of the day.

What word(s), idea(s), or phrase(s) stand out for you? (share)

2. Another volunteer reads the Gospel of the day

What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you? (share)

3. Another volunteer reads the Gospel of the day

What is Jesus (the Gospel) calling you to do? (share)

PRAYER

Individual and Group Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication (ACTS) may be offered by anyone in the group.

COLLECTING PRAYER (Collect)

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

WE CONCLUDE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER *read together:*

Our Father, 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, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Format adapted for online from Disciple's Prayer book: <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/A-Disciples-Prayer-Book.pdf>

Full Schedule for On The Road/At The Table: www.abbeychurch.ca (scroll down)

Gospel-based Discipleship: <https://www.anglican.ca/im/introgbd/>

Daily Readings for June: <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021-June-GBD.pdf>