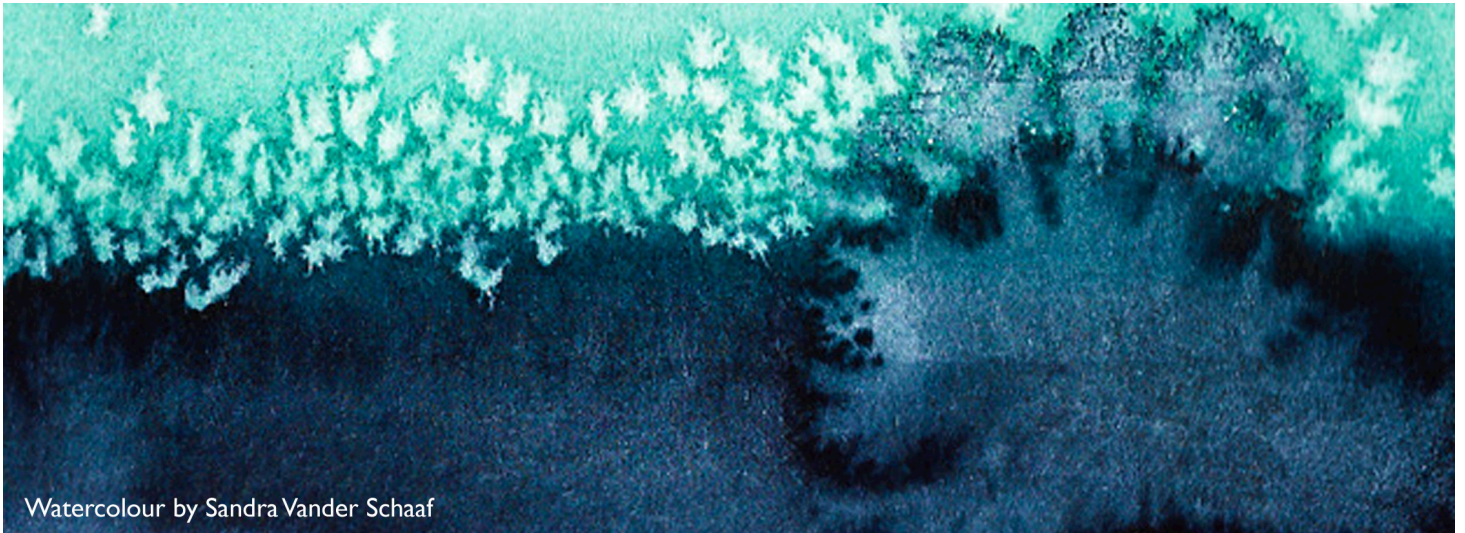


# Anointing Oils

Anointing oils were wildcrafted by  
Salal + Cedar Watershed Discipleship Community and St. Hildegard's Sanctuary Community.

Salal + Cedar Watershed Discipleship Community is an itinerant church with a vocation for environmental justice.

St. Hildegard's Sanctuary is an inclusive, arts-based, contemplative Christian community.



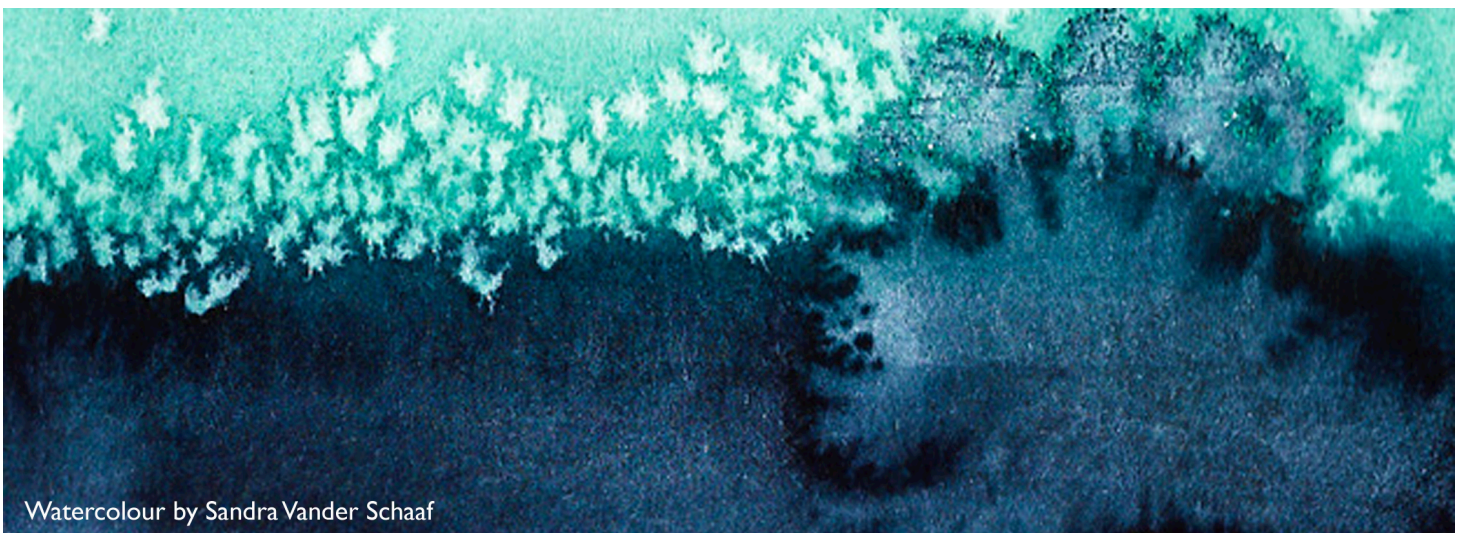
Watercolour by Sandra Vander Schaaf

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Watercolour by Sandra Vander Schaaf

## Oil of Chrism

*Is there no balm in Gilead?* Jeremiah 8:22

The identity of the biblical Balm or Balsam from the mountainous region of Jordan is uncertain. Balsam is a common name for several resinous, sweet smelling plants. The healing properties of Balsam were highly regarded by Jews, Muslims and Christians. Balsam of some kind has been used in Chrism since the sixth Century. The North American Balsam Poplar or *Populus Balsamifera*, is a fast growing wetland tree, which shades salmon streams. *Populus* means the people's tree and was so called because of its universal medicinal use by both Indigenous people and settler herbalists. Salicin in the leaves, buds and bark is a pain reliever and anti-inflammatory. Our Oil of Chrism is infused with balsam resin from poplar buds. The oil is also infused with wild rosehips, an anti-inflammatory, immune system booster and high in Vitamins A and C.

The oil is an opaque dark reddish green, with a resiny scent.

## Oil of Unction

*The righteous will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.* Psalm 92:12

The Western Red Cedar, which Coast Salish people call *Long Life Giver*, has many associations with the biblical Cedars of Lebanon: cleansing properties, massive size, resistance to decay, economic importance, shelter and nesting places for many creatures including eagles. Different Indigenous people use cedar as a spiritual medicine, smudging or brushing with it for cleansing. Cedar is a strong anti-bacterial and anti-fungal. Our Oil of Unction is infused with the oils from Western Red Cedar leaves or scales. It is green and translucent, with a citrus scent.

Métis herbalist Lori Snyder guided the process of gathering and preparing the local medicinal plants used to infuse the chrism.

All plants used are native to Coast Salish Territory.

A fair trade Palestinian olive oil (Zatoun) was chosen for the base oil.

[www.salalandcedar.com](http://www.salalandcedar.com)

[earthandcompanyinfo@gmail.com](mailto:earthandcompanyinfo@gmail.com)

[www.sthildegards.com](http://www.sthildegards.com)

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