



Pentecost + 20
October 26, 2025 4pm



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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, certain, 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 Lək'wəṇən 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.

Let us pray,

Good and gracious God, you promise to pour out your Spirit upon us; you are the hope of the world. Give us strength, that we might serve you; make us humble, that we might live for your glory alone. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

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

Opening Song: Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art,
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
Raise thou my heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

(8th Century; tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); vers. Eleanor Hull (1860-1935) Music traditional © Oxford U. Pres.

The Poem

chosen by Molly LeBlanc - Poet-in-Residence

The First Reading: Hebrew Prophets

A reading from the prophet Joel (2:23-27)

O children of Zion, be glad,
and rejoice in the LORD your God,
for he has given the early rain for your vindication;
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors shall be full of grain;
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army that I sent against you.
You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
... The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We read the psalm responsively - please join in the bold print.

Psalm 65 *(Translation by Dr. Ellen Davis, 2019)*

To You, silence is praise, O God in Zion, and to You vows are paid.

O You who hear prayer, before You all flesh comes.

Reports of wrongdoing overwhelm me; our transgressions – You are the one who atones for them. **Fortunate are those whom You choose and draw near to dwell in Your courts.**

May we be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple.

With awesome works, in righteousness, You respond to us, **O God of our salvation, the Confidence of all the ends of the earth, and the far reaches of the sea.**

He sets firm mountains in his strength; He is girded with might.

He stills the roar of the seas, the roar of their waves, and the din of nations.

Those dwelling at [earth's] ends feel reverent-fear at your signs;

the horizons of morning and evening you make ring with joy.

You visit the earth and water it; abundantly You enrich it – God's stream, full of water.

You set their grain – just so You set it. Drenching its furrows, settling its hillocks,

You soften it with showers; its growth You bless.

You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your wagon-tracks drip richness.

Wilderness pastures are dripping, and hills are girdled with rejoicing.

Meadows are clothed with the flocks, and valleys robed in grain.

They shout out; they even sing.

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 . (18:9-14)

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank

you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

...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

Reba Yeo

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

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Absolution / Assurance of Grace

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of Christ 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 Abbey Church / 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: This is God's Wonderful World

This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world: the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass, God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring: God reigns, let earth be glad!

Maltie D. Babcock 1901 Public Domain / Trad. English Melody.

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

God of constant love, you have guided your people in all times and ages.
May we who offer you our praise today always be ready to follow where you lead; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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.**

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe. You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do. In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we proclaim:

**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.**

We give you thanks and praise, loving God, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected. Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

On the night before he gave up his life, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children. Holy One, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom. We sing your praise, almighty God, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen

(BAS Eucharistic Prayer 5)

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: Underneath the Shadow of Your Wings

Underneath the shadow of Your wings
We dwell underneath the shadow of Your wings (x2)

Hidden close to Thee
We find rest.

Tom Wuest

Communion Song: The Maker

Oh, Oh Deep water
Black, and cold like the night
I stand with arms wide open
I've run a twisted mile
I'm a stranger
in the eyes of the maker

I could not see
for fog in my eyes
I could not feel
for the fear in my life
From across the great divide
In the distance, I saw a light
Jean baptiste
walking to me with the maker

My body is bent and broken
by long and dangerous leaps
I can't work the fields of Abraham
and turn my head away
I'm not a stranger
in the eyes of the maker

Brother John
Have you seen the homeless daughters
standing there
with broken wings
I have seen the flaming swords
there over east of Eden
burning in the eyes of the maker
burning in the eyes of the maker
burning in the eyes of the maker
burning in the eyes of the maker

Oh river rise from your sleep.

Daniel Lanois

We Are Sent

The Prayer After Communion

God our guide, you have fed us with bread from heaven
May we who have been inwardly nourished be ready to follow you all our days;
we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Glory to God, **All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Song: (You Gotta Move) When The Spirit Says Move

You gotta move when the Spirit says move,
You gotta move when the Spirit says move,
When the Spirit says move, you gotta move, oh ya,
You gotta move when the spirit says move.

You gotta sing...
You gotta clap....
You gotta dream ...
You gotta go...

African-American Spiritual / Public Domain

Sending:

Go in the joy of the Spirit to love God and serve God's good creation
Thanks be to God. Amen!

Next week is our small church gathering - talk to us if you haven't signed up yet.

Our whole gathered worship will be Nov 9, 23 and all of Advent at 4pm .

Weekday Prayer with the Emmaus Community

@ Emmaus/AbbeyChurch *Upper Room* (off the Balmoral parking lot, metal stairs up)

Mondays at 9 am - Morning Prayer with Centering Prayer
- approx 45 mins - in-person only.

Tuesday- approx 25 mins - in-person and online.

Thursdays at 8:15 am - morning prayer - The Upper Room and online on zoom.

Fridays at 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 dates are: Oct 28th- Haunted Manor Mini Golf, Nov 11th - Abbey Church Hang Out, 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

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.

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