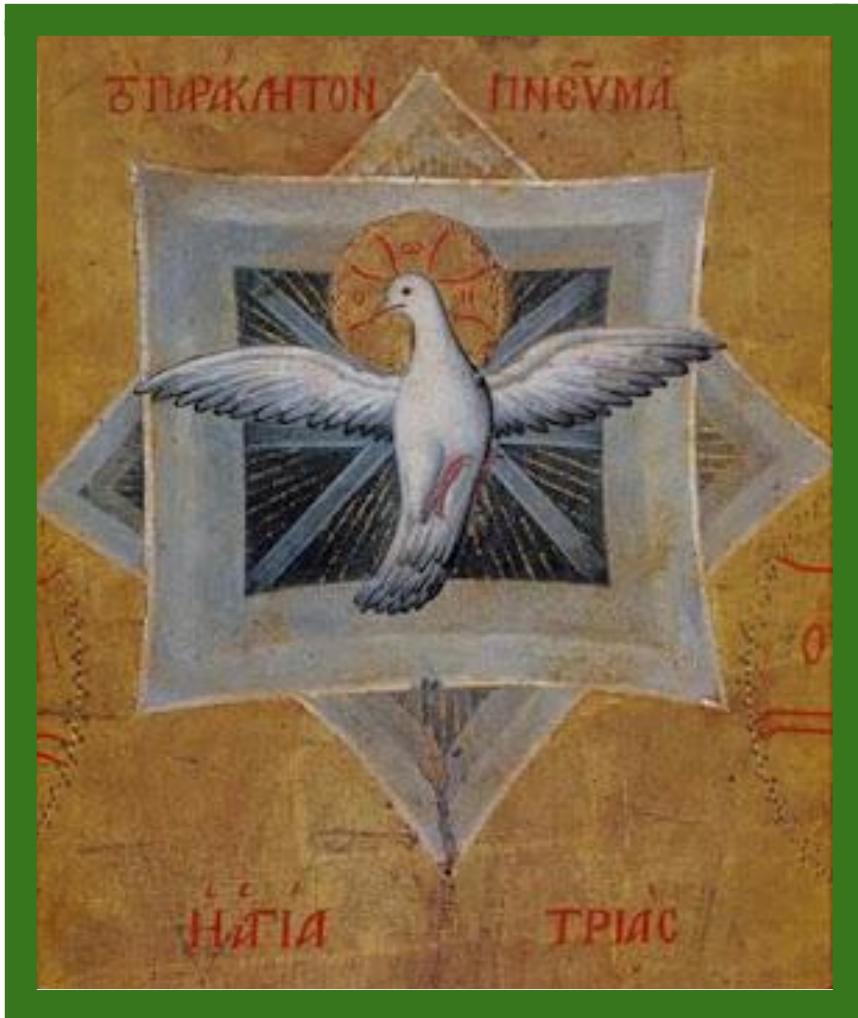




Second Sunday after the Epiphany
With Infant Dedication
January 18th, 2026 + 4pm



The Spirit Descending Like A Dove - Public Domain



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, uncertain, 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 Lek'wəŋən 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, Announcements and Land Acknowledgement

Opening Words and Collect:

Light and peace in Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Let us pray:

Lover of the Cosmos — under shimmering stars, we ponder Your vastness.

In the glow of the moon, we marvel at our shared living.

Down-To-Earth, Incarnate God— Your wisdom is ancient and ever unfolding.

Like a kind auntie, Your invitation to liberation is as gentle.

Like voices shouting for justice, Your call toward liberation is demanding.

Spirit of Christ who is alive in Us—

Make vivid the path of compassion and redemption.

Shake open doors towards radical transformation.

Sooth us with your Flung Wide Love. enfleshed, alt.

God of love, we long to be devoted, committed, and steadfast in our work towards collective liberation and beloved community. We also long to rest, play, and care tenderly for our bodies and spirits. Teach us how these two desires dance with each other. As we dedicate a child, bless us with the wisdom of our elders who have gone before us, creating freedom within and without. Thank you for the moon and the tides who show us how to ebb and flow, expand and retreat. **Amen.** enfleshed, alt.

*Folks of all ages are welcomed to set the table as we sing this opening song.
You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we sing joyfully.*

Opening 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 ears,'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 saviour and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread thro' all the earth abroad the honours of your name.

VOICES UNITED 326 Charles Wesley / Tune: AZMON / Public Domain

The Poem

Chosen by Molly LeBlanc - Poet-in-Residence

We Proclaim

The Hebrew Scripture Reading:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (49:1-7)

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." ...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We say or chant this Psalm together, all joining in as they wish.

The Psalm: Psalm 40 *Expectans, expectavi*

Refrain: I waited patiently for the Lord, who inclined and heard my cry.

Who lift me up out of the pit, out of the miry clay

I will sing, sing a new song. I will sing, sing a new song.

How long - to sing this song - how long, to sing this song?

How long? How long? How long? How long? To sing this song.

40, by U2 (Hewson/Evans/Mullen/Clayton)

I waited patiently upon the Lord *
who stooped to me and heard my cry.
God lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay, *
and set my feet on a high cliff and made my footing sure.
God put a new song in my mouth, *
a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, *
and put their trust in the Lord.
Happy are they who trust in the Lord! *
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.
Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God! *
how great your wonders and your plans for us!
There is none who can be compared with you. *
Oh, that I could make them known and tell them,
but they are more than I can count.
In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure *
(you have given me ears to hear you);
burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.
And so I said, "Behold, I come. *
In the roll of the book it is written concerning me:
I love to do your will, O my God; *
your law is deep within my heart."
I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *

behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.
Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; *
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness *
from the great congregation.
You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.
For innumerable troubles have crowded upon me; *
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.

Refrain: I waited patiently for the Lord, who inclined and heard my cry.

Who lift me up out of the pit, out of the miry clay

I will sing, sing a new song. I will sing, sing a new song.

How long - to sing this song - how long, to sing this song?

How long? How long? How long? How long? To sing this song.

40, by U2 (Hewson/Evans/Mullen/Clayton)

The Epistle / Christian Scripture:

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:1-9)

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ... the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

You are invited to rise in body or spirit as we prepare our hearts to hear the gospel.

The Gospel Acclamation

[redacted for copyright purposes]

The Gospel

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops. **With our words and with our lives!**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (1:29-42)

The next day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter)

...Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops. **With our words and with our lives!**

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia Repeated

[redacted for copyright purposes]

The Sermon

Lynn Mills, ec

Bell. Silence for reflection. Bell.

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we affirm our faith in these words:

Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed

[we say together]

We are not alone,

 we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen. The United Church of Canada, 1968, rev..

Our Prayers

Josh Ruberg

The Confession

Trusting in God's forgiveness, let us turn to the cross of Christ and, in silence, confess our failings and acknowledge our part in the pain of the world.

[together we say] **Before God, with the people of God we confess to turning away from God in the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.**

Silence is kept.

The Absolution / Assurance of Grace

The Peace

...The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God's 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 AbbeyChurch / 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: Will You Come and Follow Me

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

John Bell / Wild Goose / Iona Community - OneLicense

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 new life and freedom. Fill us with your love and open our hearts to receive you and follow you. Accept all we offer you this day and make us new in Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of hope, You speak and creation comes to life. You come with healing in your wings and we are filled with your Spirit. You loosen the bonds of sickness to let the oppressed go free. You shelter the poor and feed the hungry the bread of life. When the night is longest, you break upon us like the dawn.

And so now we give you thanks that you have shown the greatness of your love by sending your Son Jesus Christ to share our fragile flesh and to bear our every burden. Jesus suffers with the sick, cares for the injured and rescues the dying. By his passion and death he rescues us from evil and binds up every wound. Therefore with angels and archangels and all of Creation, we raise our voices and sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord - God of power and might

Heaven and earth of your glory are full

Hosanna, hosanna, hosana in the highest

+Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord

Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth of your glory are full

Hosanna, hosanna, hosana in the highest

Hosanna, hosanna, hosana in the highest

Steve Bell / Signpost Music / CCLI, alt.

It is right to lift our voices in praise for on the night before he died, Jesus at supper with his disciples, took bread, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Holy God, who sent down your Holy Spirit like a dove upon your Beloved, send your Spirit among us now to sanctify us by your grace. By the power of that same Spirit, may these gifts of bread and wine be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Be close to those who ache for your liberating power. Visit all who need the healing, forgiving, peacemaking and restoring touch of your Spirit. Bless all your beloved children until that day when all Creation is restored and all are enfolded in your embrace. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 gluten-free, there are also rice crackers available.

Grape juice is in the small cups. It is wine (port) in the larger chalice.

Song (pre-recorded): Agnus Dei / Lamb of God

Tom Wuest Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used with Permission.

Communion Song: Veni Sancte Spiritus (Come Holy Spirit)

Ateliers et Presses de Taize / Taize Community, France / Jacques Berthier - OneLicense

Communion Song: I Want Jesus To Walk With Me

I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me; In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
When the shades of life are falling, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my sorrows, Lord, walk with me; In my sorrows, Lord, walk with me;
When my heart within is aching, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
African-American Spiritual / Public Domain

The Prayer After Communion

[we pray together] **Gracious God, lover of all, by this sacrament you make us one family in Christ your Son, one in the sharing of his body and blood, one in the communion of his Spirit. Help us to grow in love for one another and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ, members of one another. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Anglican Church of Canada, alt.

We Are Sent

The Dedication of Eden

The Dedication Song: Every Mother, Every Father

Every mother, every father - called to raise up sons or daughters
May your heart be patient, may your mind be clear,
may our God be with you - and calm your fears.

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Scripture

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Promises: response: *with the help of God, we will.*

Closing Blessing

The Dedication and Presentation of Eden

The Blessing

Closing Song: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious measure, sung by flaming tongues above;
O the vast, the boundless treasure of my God's unchanging love.

Here I make faith's affirmation: thus far by thy help I've come,
and I hope, by thy compassion, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
take my heart, O take and seal it, seal for thy courts above.

Robert Robinson, 1758. Public Domain

Sending

Go as beloved in Christ - with lives rededicated to seeking the peace and wellbeing of the places you go this week. **Thanks be to God! Amen. Alleluia!**

Sending Song: Felix Culpa

God who watches over you will never slumber nor sleep.
God who watches over you will never slumber nor sleep. (*repeat*)
Oh, My child, lay your burden down - lay them at My feet.
God who watches over you - will never slumber nor sleep
music and words by Alana Levandoski, alt. / CCLI

We'll be back next Sunday at 4pm.

★ ★ ★

Donations to our Common Life and Ministry

it
all



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our ministry in 2025, making possible for us to continue thriving! We continue to welcome your offerings of kinds; financial and otherwise - and are grateful for all the ways you give.

Here are a few ways to donate financially to the common life of our Beloved Community:

1. **E-transfers.** This method is our favourite as we receive the full amount. (no fees) Please use your online banking to interac e-transfer to treasurer@emmauscommunity.ca. Make sure you have filled out [this form](#) so we have the details to provide a tax receipt or email treasurer@emmauscommunity.ca with the details of the amount, date and your full contact details.
2. **Online** Via [Canada Helps - follow the link below or click the QR code -> here:](#) <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/emmausabbeychurch/>

(con't next page)

3. The **Square POS** reader at the back of the church. Again, be sure to provide your name and contact details either when making the donation via Square or using one of the slips by the iPad.

With deep gratitude for your generous support of this beloved AbbeyChurch.

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QOMQEM every Sunday!!

Join AbbeyChurch partnering on weekly Indigenous-Led Street Outreach

QomQem Coastal Connections has operated a weekly night outreach initiative for the past two years, bringing basic needs, hot and cold foods, harm reduction, and other supplies to the street family. This Indigenous-and-lived-experience-led outreach model follows Coast Salish teachings that everyone should have a home, food to eat, and a role in the community.

Items Needed: Drop them off into the treasure chest at the back!

- Non perishable foods used in the weekly menu: Gatorade/Powerade, juice boxes, fruit cups, pudding cups, peanut butter and jam (large jars), noodle bowls, large bags of candy/baked treats
- Supplies: Gloves, hats, socks, hand warmers, high-quality umbrellas, raincoats, winter coats, tarps, winter weight sleeping bags, emergency blankets, batteries, flashlights, tents
- Inexpensive phones and pay as you go phone credits

Volunteer: QomQem will be in the kitchen each Sunday after worship (about 5:15pm) - and AbbeyChurch folk are welcome to come and volunteer.

Donate Money: You can designate funds to this important work through AbbeyChurch - go to canadahelps.org/en/charities/emmausabbeychurch/ and select QomQem Coastal Connections on the drop down menu.

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Weekday Prayer with the Emmaus Community

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

Mondays 9 am - Morning Prayer w/ Centering Prayer - approx 45 mins. In-person only.

Tuesdays 9 am - approx 25-30 mins - in-person and online.

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

Fridays 8:15 am - morning prayer - *on-line zoom only*

Contact us for information on the accessible entrance or zoom/liturgies link

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WANNA CHAT? Reach out to us at admin@abbeychurch.ca

BORROW A BOOK? the (very in-process - 15% catalogued) library catalog is here: www.librarycat.org/lib/EmmausCommunity or email library@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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