

# Creationtide VI

## & Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

October 6, 2024 + 4pm



Image: St. Francis - modern saints by Gracie Morbitzer / Modern Saints - support the artist - <https://www.themodernsaints.com/>



# 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 practise 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 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 that makes 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.

## TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

Season of Creation 2024 - September 1 until October 6



In the letter of Paul the apostle to the Romans, the biblical image pictures the Earth as a Mother, groaning as in childbirth (Rom 8:22). Francis of Assisi understood this when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his Canticle of Creatures. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used. And yet, there is hope for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather by our groaning, crying, and actively striving for new life amidst the struggle. Just as in childbirth, we will go through a period of intense pain, but new life springs forth.

*2024 Season of Creation Resource Guide*

***A wee note on devices!*** We're encouraging folks of all ages to minimise device use during worship from 3:45-5:15 in order to enhance our sacred time together - and to not be a barrier for others. Let's work together for a time of fullness in worship and community! Of course, we know there are times where folks need to be available and on-call or connect with others - and we therefore don't legislate this, but we do encourage all individuals and families to be intentional around what is needed for both personal and the common good!

## We Gather

*The AbbeyChurch acknowledges that we worship and pray on the stolen territory of the, the Lək'wəḡən 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 are grateful for the ongoing wisdom, stewardship and tending of these lands and apprentice ourselves to this good work of caring for creation and living in right relationship with each other.*

### **Opening Loop + Tolling of the Bells + Announcements + Land Acknowledgement**

*Catching our breath*

Come, Creator, come down.

**Come in, come among us.**

Come as the wind to move us.

**Come as the light to prove us.**

Come as the night to rest us.

**Come as the storm to test us.**

Come as the sun to warm us.

**Come as the stillness to calm us.**

Come, Creator come down.

**Come in come among us, and make us one.** Celtic Daily Prayer

We pause in stillness and gratitude to recognize the presence of God with us.

*Bell x 3*

### **The Confession**

Knowing God is with us in this time, we hold with gentleness the groans we have heard in creation and we offer our lament and confession as we turn to God in song, singing together...

### **Confession: All Creatures Lament**

All creatures of our God and \*King

Lift up your voices, let them ring

Fill the earth with lamentation.

Cry out abuses of our pow'r

Tell what we lose with every hour

To our greed and depredation

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy.

All creatures in air, sea and land

Join as we lift each heart and hand

Fill the world with lamentation

Mourn the destruction of our homes

Weep with the fear of worse to come

Hear the groans of all creation

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy.

\* Or "Kin" - 2022 The Porter's Gate/ CCLI = based on a theme from St. Francis of Assisi

### **The Assurance/ Absolution**

*During this song, folks of all ages (including children and youth!) are welcome to set the orange table with icons and symbols of faith and hope found on the back table!*

### **Procession Song: Declaring Glory (The Earth Sings its Refrain)**

When I was young  
You woke me with the sound of song  
The wind and rhythm drew me along  
I echoed in the hymn of the dawn  
I turned, and turned  
This dance that all the planets learned  
In circles, 'round the stars as they burned  
I praise You as I orbit and turn  
Declaring glory, glory. Declaring glory, glory

The mountains rise  
The forest grow before my eyes  
The moments and the seasons in mind  
Then turn again, embracing the tide  
The waters fall  
And carve their way across my soil  
Their canyons cutting deep in my soul  
I praise You while the rivers still roll

Declaring glory, glory. Declaring glory, glory  
New life begins,  
Your creatures dance across my skin,  
Like me, they have Your Spirit within,  
But soon they fade away as I spin,  
They fall to dust,  
And dress me in decay and rust,  
Their secrets bury deep in my crust,  
I praise You in the layers of dust.  
Declaring glory, glory. Declaring glory, glory

The rocks wear down,  
Beneath passing of the crowds,  
The rivers run until they run out,  
I'll praise You till my fire's run out,  
I'll praise You till my fire's run out,  
I'll praise You till my fire's run out.

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**The Poem:** *an original poem written and recorded by poet-in-residence Rebecca Yeo*

## **We Proclaim**

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit for the reading of the Gospel.*

### **Sung Gospel Acclamation: Brother Sun, Sister Moon**

Brother sun, sister moon - your light shines from the heavens  
Giving glory, all the glory to the Maker  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Singing glory, glory,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Singing glory to the Maker Hallelujah!  
Liz Vice/Porters Gate [Merlin] Absolute Label Services Integrity Music Publishing / CCLI

### **The Gospel** (Matthew 11:25-30, First Nations Version alt.)

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops. **With our words and with our lives:**

“I honour you, O Great Abba, Maker of earth and sky,” Jesus prayed, “for you have hidden these things from the ones who are wise in their own eyes but have shown them to the humble of heart. Yes, my Abba, it has made your heart glad to see this day come.” Then Jesus turned to the ones who walked the road with him. “My Abba has put everything into my hands,” he said with a solemn voice. “Only the Abba knows the Son and only the Son knows the Abba. No one can know the Abba in fullness unless the Son makes Them known.” Then Jesus lifted his eyes to the horizon as if he were speaking to all the world. “Come close to my side, you whose hearts are on the ground, you who are pushed down and worn out, and I will refresh you. Follow my teachings and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest from your troubled thoughts. Walk side by side with me and I will share in your heavy load and make it light.”

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

## **Acclamation: Brother Sun, Sister Moon**

Gentle wind, welcome home - You've been travelling with your song  
Singing glory, all the glory - To the Maker  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Singing glory, glory,  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Singing glory to the Maker Hallelujah!

Liz Vice/Porters Gate [Merlin] Absolute Label Services (on behalf of Integrity Music); Integrity Music Publishing / CCLI

## **Storytelling - Francis, the Holy Fool**

Rob Shearer, ec

*Bell + short silence*

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we affirm our faith.*

## **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us affirm our faith as we say, together

**We trust in God above us, the Creator of all things, the Sustainer of all life.**

**We trust in Jesus, the Christ beside us, our Companion and Friend, our Sibling and Lord;**

**The Redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe**

**who calls us into lives of right relationship, healing and renewal.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit deep; both within and beyond;**

**Our Advocate and Guide, who lifts up the groans of creation.**

**We believe in the hope of Christ's resurrection -**

**And of our own resurrection.**

**Of a time when all creation will be renewed in beauty, truth and justice;**

**Where all will live in peace and without fear.**

**We trust this God of hope; above, beside, within, beyond.**

**We trust in this Triune God of yesterday, today and forever. Amen.**

## **Our Prayers**

*During this prayer time folks are welcomed to come forward for prayer and anointing with oil (an ancient ritual for healing), to pray and / or sing along in your seats or to put your prayers into the prayer weave on the north side of the church.*

## **Come to Me**

Come to me - walk with me  
Learn the rhythms of my grace  
Come to me - I have all you need  
Learn to rest even while you are awake

Are you tired? Are you worried?

Worn out from the day?

Have you been in a hurry?

I will slow the pace.

Rain for Roots / Sandra McCracken

© 2014 Drink Your Tea Music / CCLI

## **My Help My God**

Why are you so full of heaviness?

Why are you disquieted within?

O my soul, O my soul

As the deer longs for the water brooks

So my soul it longs, it thirsts for you

O my God, O my God

*Refrain:* Put your trust in God,

I will yet give thanks to You

Put your trust in God,

I will yet give thanks to You

Put your trust in God,

I will yet give thanks to You

My help, my God

Deep calls unto deep like ocean waves,

All your floods and rapids on me break

Oh my soul, O my soul

I will say unto my God, my strength,

“How is it you have forgotten me?

O how long? O how long?” *refrain.*

Yahweh grants sweet kindness in the day

Through the night this song, it is with me.

Oh my God, O my God... *refrain.*

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## **The Peace**

...Peace and all good! The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*We share a sign of God's Peace*

*During the 'offertory' song, the communion table is set.*

*Contributions to our common life can be made at the back of the space (now or later).*

*As we prepare for this holy feast we are reminded that all are welcome to receive wherever they find themselves in their spiritual journey. All are welcome to Jesus' table - as you feel ready.*

## **The Offertory Song: Instrument of Peace**

*Refrain:* Lord make me  
an instrument of peace  
An instrument of peace (*repeat refrain*)

Where is there hatred let me sow love  
Where there is darkness let me sow light  
For in the giving we shall receive  
And in the dying we're given life. *refrain.*

Where there is sorrow let me sow hope  
Where there is doubt let me sow faith  
Where there is injury your pardon  
give Your consolation to those in pain.  
*refrain.*

...A-men A-men

2020 Integrity, Paul Zach Publishing/ PG Songs And Hymns / CCLI  
Based on a prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

## **We Celebrate**

### **Prayer Over The Gifts**

Creator, you bless us with many good gifts returned to you from your creation. Feed us with the Bread of Life, your Son and our sibling, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

God is with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We give thanks to you O God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation, in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus.

He was baptised in the waters of the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, travelled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, birds and sheep, labour and wages, yeast and bread. In the grief and joy of human community, he showed us the way of reconciliation and pointed to the day when all creation would be made new.

Filled with this hope, we join in Creation's unceasing song:

*(chanting)* **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.**

Around a table with his companions on the night before his death, Jesus took bread, the fruit of field and hearth and he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his companions saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this in remembrance of me.

And as supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, fruit of the land and human labour and gave thanks and gave it to his companions saying: This is my blood, given for you. do this in remembrance of me.

As we prepare to share in these gifts of the earth, we declare the mystery of faith:

*(chanting)* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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

Send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that they may become for us the body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit of reconciliation over the whole earth and gather us into your one body that we might become the hands and feet of Christ for a hurting world, ready to be made new. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honour, glory, and praise, forever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Prayer of Jesus**

As beloved children of a loving parent, we pray as Jesus taught:

**Our \*Father (\*or Parent, 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.*

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 but may contain almond flour, egg and dairy. Please ask the server if you would like a non-dairy / nut option (rice cracker). The juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the larger common cup. Please refrain from dipping the bread.*

**Lamb of God (pre-recorded)** Tom Wuest - Brass Trumpet Publishing. Used with permission.

### **Communion Song: The Kingdom of God**

The king-dom of God is jus-tice and peace and joy in the Ho-ly Spi-rit.

Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your... king - dom. The

Ateliers et Presses de Taizé /  
OneLicense

## **Communion Song: Blessed Are the Peacemakers**

Blessed are the peacemakers  
Blessed are the peacemakers  
Blessed are the peacemakers  
They are called children of God

Heureux ceux qui créent la paix  
(...crey la pay)

Heureux ceux qui créent la paix  
Heureux ceux qui créent la paix  
Ils sont les enfants de dieu

Felices los pacificadores,  
los pacificadores,  
buscan la paz  
aquellos son hijos de Dios  
Tom Wuest/ Brass Trumpet Publishing /  
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## **Prayer after Communion**

[together we say] **O Christ, we give you thanks for these gifts which feed us for lives of prayer, presence and simplicity! We ask this inspired by Clare and Francis to follow, you, our Sibling and Lord. Amen!**

## **The Blessing**

May God who established the dance of creation and marvelled at the lilies of the field, lead us to listen to the voice of all creatures as they reflect God's glory in creation and the blessing of God... *adapted from the CTBI Eco-Congregation Programme*

## **Closing Song: All Creatures of Our God and King**

All creatures of our God and \*King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O burning sun with golden beam,  
And silver moon with softer gleam,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu—a!

O rushing winds and breezes soft,  
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O rising morn, in praise rejoice;  
O lights of evening, find a voice:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu—a!

Dear Mother Earth who day by day  
Unfolds rich blessing on our way:  
Sing praises, hallelujah!  
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,  
Let them God's glory also show:

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu—a!

O everyone of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All you who pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and cast on God your care:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu—a!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship God in humbleness:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God the Source and praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, three in one:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelu—a!

Based on "Canticle of the Sun" by St. Francis of Assisi.  
Interpreted by William Henry Draper c 1919, alt.  
\*Or "Kin"

## **The Sending**

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road\*. Peace and all Good! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

\*St Clare of Assisi

**We'll be back for worship next Sunday.  
Next Potluck is October 27 (sorry for mistake in this week's email)**



**You are welcome to join our QomQem partnership today to prepare sandwiches in the kitchen today and most Sundays after worship...  
(no Qom Qem prep happening next week - Thanksgiving Sunday)!**

**Partnership with QomQem : Call for Food Donations**

We're now welcoming food donations for AbbeyChurch/Emmaus partnership with QomQem coastal connections - an indigenous harm reduction organisation. We'll be using this food to support their street outreach on Sunday evenings. Our folk are also welcomed to assist in sandwich prep after church at 5:30pm most Sundays. **NOTE: There will be no QomQem sandwiches today or on Thanksgiving Weekend.**

Here is the list of desired items:

- large bags of soft candies to make up mixed candy bags (ie sour keys, cherry blasters etc)
- Large jars of peanut butter, Nutella or jam
- Tins of Gatorade powder
- Tins of hot chocolate powder (once it starts to cool)
- Sweet treats like pre wrapped Rice Krispie squares, wagon wheels, ding dongs etc
- Fruit cups
- Flavoured Apple sauce cups
- Soft chew granola bars (nutrigrain, etc)
- Small easy peel oranges and bananas (for Sunday drop-off)
- Gatorade/powerade bottles
- Home baking on the day of - starting September 22nd (ideally 150 units)
- Sunscreen, batteries, flashlights

Up to 150 people served each night, so bulk family/sized items appreciated. We now have a treasure chest at the back of the church for collection. Thanks for any help you can be in this amazing work.

**north path**  
GIVE TO THE GOOD

**Abbey Church**

**SOLID OUTREACH\***  
A collaborative project between:  
QomGem, NPNA, SOLID, &  
AbbeyChurch

**NON PERISHABLE FOOD URGENTLY NEEDED!**

**WE NEED YOU!**

**Night outreach - We're at it again!**  
We are in need of non-perishable foods to support Street Family!

**What's Needed?**  
Large Tins of: Peanut Butter, Jam & Nutella  
Fruit Cups,  
Packaged treats (wagonwheels etc)  
Large bags of Soft candies  
Gatorade Powder Tins  
Camp gear!

**TO ARRANGE DROP OFF, CONTACT:**  
**admin@qomqem.com / 250-291-1204**

## **Prayer Gatherings other than Sunday Afternoons**

**Mondays at 9am** - Morning Prayer with Centering Prayer @ AbbeyChurch office (off the Balmoral parking lot, metal stairs up) - approx 45 mins.  
moral parking lot, metal stairs up) - in-person only.

**Tuesdays at 9am** - Morning Prayer @ AbbeyChurch office  
- in-person and online on Zoom - approx 25-30 mins.

**Thursdays at 8:15am** - morning prayer - AbbeyChurch office (see above) and online on zoom.

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

*Our weekday common prayer is liturgical in nature and based on ancient monastic practices. It's open to all who wish to join in-person or online. Liturgies can be found on our website.*

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE CHILDREN OF GAZA AND ITS BELEAGUERED POPULATION

# SOLIDARITY dinner for GAZA

Saturday, October 12, 2024

PROCEEDS TO:  
IDRF (International  
Development and  
Relief Foundation)

PROGRAM:  
• Middle Eastern food  
• Live entertainment

6:30 pm  
(doors open at 6:00pm)  
932 Balmoral Rd.  
Victoria, BC

ADMISSION:  
\$25 (2x \$40)

Info: Facebook: WallmapuBC - Text: 236-969-5544



# YOUTH TREK

2024

## WEST VANCOUVER

OCTOBER 18-20  
WEST VANCOUVER UNITED

INFO/REGISTER @ [FIRSTTHROMINISTRY.CA](http://FIRSTTHROMINISTRY.CA)



WallmapuBC (a local Latin American solidarity network) and The Abbey Church are jointly organising and sponsoring a fundraising dinner for Gaza and its beleaguered population next Saturday. Funds will go to to the Urgent Palestine Emergency Appeal of the International Development and Relief Foundation; a Canadian Muslim-run, CRA registered charity and NGO. We invite you to join us. NO ONE will be turned away for lack of funds in this humanitarian relief effort. Tickets are available for \$25 (\$40 for 2) or pay-what-you-can from Rob today or by emailing [admin@emmauscommunity.ca](mailto:admin@emmauscommunity.ca).



**[admin@abbeychurch.ca](mailto:admin@abbeychurch.ca) [www.abbeychurch.ca](http://www.abbeychurch.ca)**

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