All Saints / All Souls November 3, 2024 + 4pm



Unsplash / JR Korpa





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 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 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.

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 Lak™apan 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 seeking to live in right-relationship with each other.

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

Opening Words

Let us pray: "Holy Spirit, making life alive, moving in all things, root of all created being, cleansing the cosmos of every impurity, effacing guilt, anointing wounds. You are lustrous and praiseworthy life, You waken and re-awaken everything that is". *De Spiritu Sancto by Hildegard von Bingen

Holy Trinity, you are making all things new. Draw us to you today as we remember that with the changing seasons, we too are part of this cycle of birth and resurrection, of sacred death and abundant life. Teach us the patient healing of tears and the joy of companionship as we follow in the footsteps of your Saints ever pointing us toward You and into your beloved world. **Amen.**

Silence is kept. Bell x 3

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: Holy Holy Lord God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity! Heber/Dykes - Public Domain

The Poem

selected and read by Rev. Reba Yeo, Poet-in-Residence

We Proclaim

The Hebrew Scripture

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (25:6-9 NRSVUE) On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And God will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; God will swallow up death forever. Then God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of the people God will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for God so that God might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation." ... The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

We chant the Psalm together (please join in as you are comfortable)

The Psalm: Psalm 116 Dilexi, quoniam (* indicates a breath)

1 I love the Lord * who has heard the voice of my supplication, 2 who has listened to me * whenever I called. 3 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; * I came to grief and sorrow. 4 Then I called upon the name of the Lord: * "O Lord, I pray you, save my life." 5 Gracious is the Lord and righteous; * our God is full of compassion. 6 The Lord watches over the innocent; * I was brought very low, and the Lord helped me. 7 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, * for the Lord has treated you well. 8 For you, O Lord, have rescued my life from death, * my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling. 9 I will walk in the presence of the Lord * in the land of the living.

Sung Acclamation: Alleluia

Stay close my child through this dark night Rest in the shadows of these wings. Hope in the Lord whose day will come, The dawn of making all things new. Alleluia *(repeat)* Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used with permission

The Christian Scripture

A reading from the book of Revelation: (21:1-6A NRSVUE) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be God's peoples, and God will be with them and be their God; God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sung Acclamation: Alleluia

All wars will cease, all suffering end. Justice will roll, the kingdom come. Love will arise, grace will uphold. Mercy will heal where the lamb reigns. Alleluia (repeat) Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used with permission

Rev. Michelle Slater

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

bell + *short silence*

Credo

Sermon

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. Mindy Deckard; arr. Bruce Benedict /Rob C-S verses © 2006 Cardiphonia Music / CCLI * 'universal'

Our Prayers: Stations of the Saints and Candle Lighting

Place names of those you wish to remember in the prayer weave, light candles to re-member the faithful departed, wander and pray at the saint stations along the wall - or just sit in your seat in prayer singing along with all the saints...

Song: Prayers of The Saints

Are the prayers of the saints like sweet smelling incense,

Are the prayers of the saints like sweet smelling incense to Your heart, to Your heart? (*repeat all*) Let these prayers of the saints be sweet smelling incense,

Let these prayers of the saints be sweet smelling incense - To Your heart

Are the songs of the saints like sweet smelling incense,

Are the songs of the saints like sweet smelling incense, ro Your heart, to Your heart? *(Repeat)* Let these songs of the saints be sweet smelling incense,

Let these songs of the saints be sweet smelling incense - To Your heart.

Are the lives of the saints like sweet smelling incense,

Are the lives of the saints like sweet smel*ling incense* - To Your heart, to Your heart? *(Repeat)* Let these lives of the saints be sweet smelling incense,

Let these lives of the saints be sweet smelling incense -To Your heart. Matt Redman / 1999 Survivor Records / CCLI

Song: Adoremus Te Domine (Litany of the Saints)



Ateliers et presses de Taize / OneLicense

The Collect (Collecting Prayer)

God, you have been with us throughout the ages. You have bore witness to the ways in which the story of us – of all that has come into being – has been woven together piece by piece, life by life. We recognize, today, that it is because of your presence in the saints who have gone before us, that we are. Those who have struggled for justice, who have given so that others may live more freely – we would not be, if not for them. Because of those who have loved us – those who have nurtured us, embraced us, celebrated us, We are because they were. Like us, we know they were imperfect too. There is no life that is not messy and contradictory, often betraying the very justice and love we seek to embody. And yet, you, O God, promise that our labour to Love is never made in vain. Help us to lean on the witness of those who have gone before us, drawing on the love, justice, community, and faith that weaves us together in You, generation after generation – past, present, and future.

Names are offered silently or aloud

With gratitude and in remembrance we pray, **Amen.** *m. jade kaiser, enfleshed alt.*

The Peace

Beloved in Christ, may peace as sweet as the water of life promised to us by God, be with you all. **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: Give Thanks For Life

Give thanks for life, the measure of our days, Mortal, we pass through beauty that decays, Yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give thanks for those who made their life a light Caught from the Christ flame, bursting through the night, Who touched the truth, who burned for what is right, Alleluia! Alleluia!

And for our own, our living and our dead, Thanks for the love by which our life is fed, A love not changed by time or death or dread, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain That lies in darkness does its life retain In resurrection to grow green again, Alleluia! Alleluia! Shirley Erena Murray 1987 / OneLicense

We Celebrate

Prayer Over The Gifts

For all those we have re-membered in your presence, God,we give thanks, and come gladly to this table to eat once more with those we love to join with all the saints all *our* saints in praising Jesus Christ, who defeated death and leads us all to God's heavenly banquet. Presbyterian Church USA All are welcome here.

The Great Thanksgiving The United Methodist Church GBOD and ELCA God 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.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Sovereign of the universe. You have given us a share in the inheritance of your luminous saints. In the bleakness of this age your saints proclaim the glory of your reign. Chosen as lights in the world, they surround our steps as we journey on towards that eternal city, the renewed creation - where they sing the triumphal song. Open our hearts to behold your glory and free our tongues to join their song:



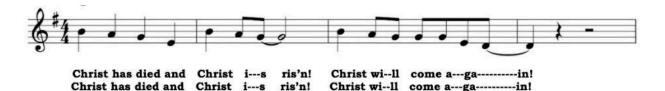
Holy are you, O Lord, and great is your majesty. All the saints in heaven and on earth sing their praise of your eternal glory. For in the beginning, you laid out your holy plan of creation and redemption, that all who might know you would have faith, not in things seen, but in things not seen.

In Jesus is the fulfilment of the faith and hope of all the prophets, sages and saints of all ages. In Jesus is our redemption found and your love revealed.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In heaven and on earth, O God, the saints and angels unite around your holy altar to sing the mystery of faith:



We remember and hold fast to Christ's example of faith and life as the saints before us have done. We remember his living among outcasts and sinners, his concern for the poor and oppressed, his life of prayer and worship, and his teachings about Your love.

+Send now your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be the body and blood of him who is the hope and salvation of the living and the dead. Send your Holy Spirit upon us also that we might know his presence in these gifts, and through them, be united in communion, community and co-mission, with all those who have gone before us.

With this feast, join us in one Holy Communion of saints, one great cloud of witnesses whose lives of faith in unseen things continue to inspire us with whom we say.

A--men. A----men, A- me-----n. A--men. A---men, A- me----n.

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.

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) Church of The Apostles / Lacey Brown c 2015 COTA Music.

Communion Song: Gather Around

Come take this bread - Come share this cup - The presence of the Lord is near

At the table - Our lives grown whole - The presence of the Lord is here

Gather around the broken body - Gather around the broken body Tom Wuest/ Peter LaGrand / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission

Communion Song: When The Saints

Refrain: Oh, when the saints go marching in, oh, when the saints go marching in, oh, Lord I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in.

We are travelling in the footsteps of those who are gone before but we'll all be reunited on a new and sunlit shore. *refrain*.

Some say this world of trouble is the only one we need, but I'm waiting for the morning when the new world is revealed. *refrain*. African-American Spiritual - first recorded 1923 - Paramount Jubilee Singers - Public Domain

Prayer after Communion

We say together Jesus Christ, lamb and shepherd, we remember you here, as we remember all your saints. Help us to remember you not just in this sanctuary but in our homes and schools on our bikes and our cars and offices to remember that every part of our life is shot through with your grace and that we are never alone but surrounded by a cloud of witnesses united by your love. Amen.

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make Their face shine upon you. And be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up their countenance upon you. And give you peace...

Closing Song: The Little Light / Glory Glory Hallelujah

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine...(repeat x 3)

Won't let no one blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine...

Let it shine 'till Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.. Words and music by Harry Dixon Loes.Public Domain.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burdens down. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burdens down!

I feel better, so much better...

Going home to be with Jesus... African-American Spiritual / Public Domain

The Sending

Go, in the company of the Saints, to love God and serve the people. **Thanks be to God.** Alleluia!

You are welcome to join our QomQem partnership today in the kitchen after 5:30 and most Sundays after worship - we prepare food for their 'street family'...

We'll be back for worship next Sunday at 4pm.

Partnership with QomQem : ONGOING 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.

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.



Weekday Prayer Gatherings

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

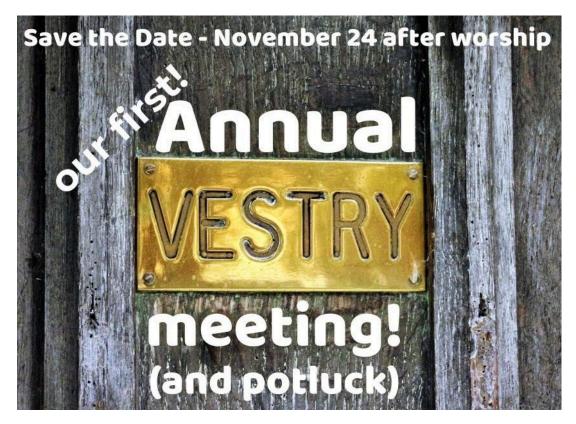
 in-person and online on Zoom - approx 25-30 mins.

 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.

Want to donate 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! There's also a point of sale machine at the back table for debit or credit donations. All donations are eligible for a charitable receipt for income tax purposes.





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