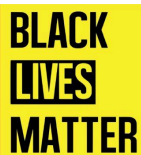


Advent 2

December 8, 2024 + 4pm



Image: The AbbeyKids Advent Altar in The Vestry



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.

We Gather

The AbbeyChurch acknowledges that we worship and pray on the stolen territory of the Ləkʷəŋən 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.

For Advent, we have no announcements or welcome but begin right with our worship with singing.

Invocation + Table Setting: Make A Way

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



1. Come, Son of God, and make us new; Light of the world, our — hearts re - new.
 2. Come, pro-mised since our E - den's end; child of the wo - man, — come de - fend.
 3. Come, Son of Man, to show the way. O, through the tears, may we see the day.

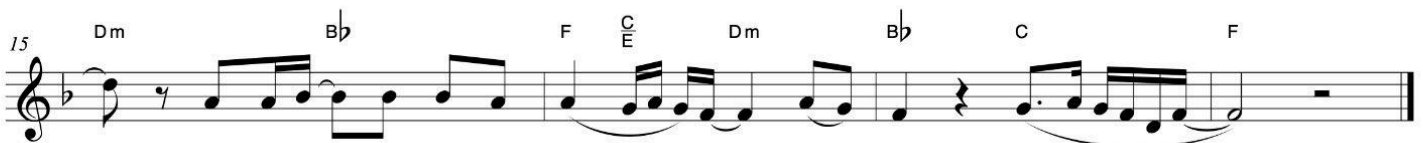


Hope in our in - ner dark - ness lies: oh, heal - ing sun of jus - tice rise! —
 Long have we felt the ser - pent's sting: come, strike his head, and mer - cy bring! — O make a way!
 So long did we in dark - ness dwell. Come down to break the chains of hell! —

CHORUS



o - pen wide the gates. O make a way! — through the sor row and the pain. — O make a way!



— though the road is dark and wind - ing. O — come, come! —

Welcome & Candle Lighting

Today, as we mark the Advent Path with candle flames,
we light the second candle, the candle of peace.

The second Advent candle is lit.

In this time and place we await the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

Maranatha, Come Christ Come.

In this time and place we await God's transformation of the world.

Maranatha, Come Christ Come.

In this time and place we await the coming of the commons of peace.

Maranatha, Come Christ Come.

In this time and place, the lands of the Songhees and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) Nations
we commit ourselves to work with Christ that all these things may be accomplished.

In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Anglican Church of Canada, alt.

As we sing our altar is set with signs of our faith and joy

Song: I Have Love (Peace)

I have hope and my house does too
I have hope and my house does too
There is hope under my bed
There is hope over my head
I have hope and my house does too

I have peace and my house does too
I have peace and my house does too
There is peace under my bed
There is peace over my head
I have peace and my house does too
Linnea Good / I Hav Luv / c Linnea Good / CCLI

*The children leave for kids time with Tressa and Maya,
but youth stay in until the gospel reading.*

The Poem

Selected by Reba Yeo, Poet-in-Residence

We Proclaim

The Hebrew Scripture

A reading from the Prophet Malachi

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom
you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom
you delight indeed, who is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the
day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire
and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify
the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present
offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will
be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we sing to prepare our hearts for the reading of the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation: Wayfarers All

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

Show us the way home (show us the way home), wayfarers all, Lord (wayfarers all Lord)

Hold us in mercy (hold us in mercy) thro-ough this long night (through this long night)

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

Tom Wuest. Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission

The Gospel

Amaya Crosby-Shearer & Abigail Humphrey

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth,

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

Let us proclaim the Gospel from the rooftops!

With our words and with our lives!

The youth leave with their time with Jake as we sing:

Gospel Acclamation: Wayfarers All

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

Gather us in (Gather us in), mender of everything (mender of everything)

Bright mourning dove (Bright morning dove), rise over all of us (rise over all of us)

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

O God we wait on you. O God we wait on you.

Tom Wuest. Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission

Sermon

Lynn Mills, ec

bell + short silence

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

Affirmation of Faith

[saying 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. The New Creed - The United Church of Canada

Prayers

The Confession

Laboring God, you clear a holy space where hurt and destruction have no place and a little child holds sway. Clear our lives of hatred and despair, sow seeds of joy and peace, that shoots of hope may spring forth and we may live in harmony with one another. *RCL*

We name in our hearts that which we confess as we sing together:

God in all your tender compassion
The dawn from on high, it will break on us
Shining on those living in shadow
Guiding our feet into the way of peace
You will guide our feet
You will guide our feet
You will guide our feet into peace
2021 The Porter's Gate, exclusively distributed by Integrity Music / CCLI

The Assurance or Absolution

The Peace

Beloved in Christ, the peace of Emmanuel - God-with-us - 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.

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 by making a donation to AbbeyChurch / Emmaus via CanadaHelps by using the QR Code to the right. All donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.



As we prepare for this holy feast we are reminded that all are welcome to receive wherever they find themselves in their spiritual journey. You are also welcome to come forward for a simple blessing if you do not wish to receive. All are welcome to Jesus' table (none compelled!) - as you feel ready.

Offertory Song: River

When the strong winds blow
And the waters rise
When the mountains crumble at our feet
As the earth gives way
We shall not fear
For the help of the lord is near
Your promises shall never be unmade
Though we wait we do not wait in vain
There is a river whose streams flow down
There is a city that will stay

And You will help her at the break of day
Though nations war
Though kingdoms fall
If You lifts Your voice
the whole earth would melt
You will break their guns
You will stop our bombs
You will bring peace
and send the soldiers home
Ordinary Time / Peter LeGrand / CCLI

We Celebrate

Prayer Over The Gifts

Let us pray, Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen (Sundays and Seasons)

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you



C: And al - so with you.

The responses continue with the same tone:

Lift up your hearts:

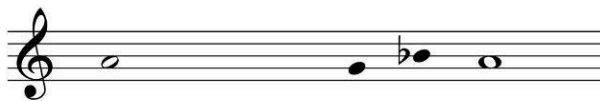
We lift them up to God

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God how wonderful...

... justice that would never fail:



Glory to you fore - ver and ever.

...With the company of heaven and all your creation we sing:



hea-ven and the earth are full, are full of your glo - ry, O Lord. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na! How bles - sed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

... take, this my body, do this in remembrance of me:

Glory to you fore - ver and ever.

.... Take, this my blood, do this in remembrance of me:

Glory to you fore - ver and ever.

... mystery of faith given to us in Jesus your Child:

2. Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ: dy - ing, you de - stroyed our death;
 ri - sing, you re - stored our life. Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry to reign. O come,
 O come, Em - man - u - el! Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry to reign.

Send your Holy Spirit...

... gathered and made one in your love:

A - - - men.

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) - Salt of the Sound / CCLI

Communion Song: Prepare The Way

Canon

Capo 1: (A) Eb (G) Ab (D) Eb (B) Eb (G) Ab (D) Eb

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and

Ateliers et Presses de
Taize / OneLicense / J
Berthier

(C) Eb (G) Ab (D) Eb (D) Eb (G) Ab (D) Eb

all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre -

Secondary Canon

(A) (B)

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -

(C) (D)

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Song: All Of Your Ways Are Peace

All of your ways are peace
All of your ways are peace
Though we are pressed on ev'ry side
We trust that you are peace

All of your words are true
All of your words are true
Though we have heard so many lies
We trust your words are true

All of your ways are just
All of your ways are just
Though we may say it through our tears
We trust that you are just

All of your ways are peace
All of your ways are peace
All of your ways are peace
All of your ways are peace

Porters Gate / CCLI (Isaac Wardell | Jessica Fox | Latifah Alattas | Liz Vice | Orlando Palmer | Paul Zach)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together, saying: **Generous God, you have come to us in the bread and the cup, in Jesus the Word made flesh, and by the power of your Spirit. As we arise from your table, make us again who we are: the body of Christ, vessels of your hope and peace, joy and love, for the world you love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Song: On Jordan's Bank

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin:
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the *Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost, forevermore.

*Or "Parent"
Public Domain (Chandler and Coffin, 18th, 19th century)

The Sending

Go in peace to walk the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God, Amen.

Benediction Song: Wait On the Lord

Wait on the Lord, waiting on the Lord
We will walk the way of peace
Wait on the Lord, waiting on the Lord
We will find our way.

Tom Wuest / Brass Trumpet Publishing / Used With Permission

*We depart gently for this season.
Feel free to grab more tea, coffee or snacks and mingle.*

Advent & Christmas at Emmaus and The AbbeyChurch

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

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

NEW Wednesdays at 10am - Midweek Communion - Emmaus/Abbey Church Office

Thursdays at 8:15 am - morning prayer - Emmaus/AbbeyChurch office and online on zoom.

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

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

Advent Spiral

Saturday, December 21 at Abbey Church Sanctuary 5pm-7pm (and after the longest night service)


Longest Night / Blue Christmas

December 21 at 7pm AbbeyChurch Sanctuary


Mark the time: Christmas Eve with Carols, Communion and Cider

December 24 at 4pm

Ecumenical Prayer in The Way of Taize - Friday January 17 at 6pm



AbbeyChurch Kids Advent



**Dec. 8
Peace
Sunday**

Playing with Advent
Yoga Shapes & Belly
Breaths

Exploring Peace
by welcoming all
sorts of Angels!

Singing our Advent
Song "I Have Luv"

Hearing the story of
the Shepherds and
Angels ~ Luke 2:8-20

~ with leader, Tressa

AbbeyKids!

What to expect when you come to AbbeyChurch

For children and their grown ups at 4pm Sunday worship.

Start with your grown up in the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is the big worship room. Together, you will pray and sing the opening song with everyone!

You can help set the Advent Altar, then go to The Vestry with leader Maya for AbbeyKids time. The Vestry is our AbbeyKids room. It is very close to the sanctuary. AbbeyKids time is parallel to worship time's readings, sermon, passing of the peace.

AbbeyKids return to the sanctuary in time for Eucharist / Communion. You will sit with your grown up and can share in this special spiritual practice!

Finally, you'll stay with your grown up to sing the closing worship songs with everyone!

*Dec. 15 is Joy Sunday with Tressa ~ Wondering about the Wild Star and the Wise Ones!
Dec. 22 is Love Sunday with Tressa ~ Wondering about the Holy Family!*

Year-end and Ongoing Donations **to The AbbeyChurch / The Emmaus Community**

We are so grateful for your presence with us! A huge thank you to everyone who supported our ministry in 2024 and made it possible to continue to thrive 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. You can also use the CanadaHelps for to donate by using the QR code here. All donations are eligible for a charitable receipt for income tax purposes.



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. NO QomQem on December 29th!



admin@emmauscommunity.ca www.abbeychurch.ca
778.557.4166 We would love to connect.

This leaflet is printed on tree-free paper. Please recycle.