

Christ Church Gabriola

A Collaborative Anglican – United Church Open to All

We gather on the ancestral lands the Snuneymuxw people.



3rd Sunday in Lent March 24, 2019

Rev. Karen Hollis
Musician Hiromi Bradshaw

Office: 2600 South Rd. Gabriola BC V0R 1X7 250-247-8633

Email: ChristChurchGabriola@gmail.com

Website: ChristChurchGabriola.ca

Office Administrator: lisamillard@shaw.ca

Communications: hplowright@shaw.ca

* Please stand if you are able
VU is Voices United Hymn Book

Bold print in bulletin – congregation
MV is More Voices Hymn Book

We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

All Are Welcome To Worship Together

We welcome you, whoever and wherever you are, to join us on a journey. We strive to accept each other as we are and welcome the ministry and participation of all persons regardless of age, gender identity, health, race, sexual orientation, differing abilities, religious or ethnic background or economic circumstance.

We hope that in all that we do, in our worship and community life, that the Creator's unconditional love is experienced.

We do this trusting The Creator is with us on the journey.

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Stillness

*One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

***Call to Worship:**

One: Bless us, O God to gather on this land and worship you.

All: We have seen you in the sanctuary of the forest and on the shoreline; we come this morning to praise You, O God, for you live in all things.

One: We seek you again this morning, hungry for your word and thirsty for your love.

All: We bless you, God of all creation; like the psalmist, we raise our hands and call on your name!

***Collect:**

Led by Love

Ancient One, your works delight our hearts and expand our thoughts. Your grace and mercy draw us together to praise you and to celebrate your wonderful deeds. Dwell among us today, and reign within the lives of each one gathered here, helping us to grow in discernment and understanding. In Christ Jesus we pray, Amen.

***Hymn:**

Long Before the Night

VU #282

Call to Confession: Here in this place where God draws near, let us pray for the courage to name our truth before God most loving.

Prayer of Confession:

The Pattern of Our Days

Lord, you know that we love you and we know what you ask us to do . . .

But for those times when we have been too busy, when we have been hard-hearted, when we have been lukewarm, we say sorry, and ask for your forgiving love.

Prepare us for your way, O Lord.

Your kingdom come, your will be done

Lord, you know our good intentions and we know your will . . . But hold us back long enough to listen to those in need . . . and to learn from them . . . and to learn from our own need. Where we think we are sent, make us ready to receive, where we are keen to teach, make us ready to learn.

Prepare us for your way, O Lord.

Your kingdom come, your will be done

Lord, you know our deepest desires and we know the vision of your Kingdom . . . We bring before you those elements in our lives in need of your transforming power: that which we misuse or neglect, that which we most reluctantly let go of, that which we believe is not good enough. Inspire us and disturb us to examine our deepest desires.

Prepare us for your way, O Lord.

Your kingdom come, your will be done

Silent Confession

Assurance of Grace: God's initiating presence in our lives is relentless. God seeks us and searches for us. Our God who was in the beginning before anything else was formed, who loved the world into being, also loves us in our becoming. Thanks be to God!

***Passing of the Peace:** Christ was in the beginning with God, bringing creation into being through him, in the way of transformation seeking wholeness. When we pass the peace, we bring ourselves back to the world God intended.

One: The Peace of Christ be with you all!

All: **And also with you!**

Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.

We Listen to the Word

Reader: By the gift of your Spirit, calm and quiet our souls that we may hear your Word today and be lifted up to walk with you.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Children's Story: *Isaiah 55:1-9*

Psalm: *Psalm 63 refrain 1* VU p.781 **Second Reading:**
1 Corinthians 10:1-13

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: (stand or sit as it your custom) One:
God be with you.

All: And also with you

One: The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke **All:**
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 13:1-9

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.
All: Praise be to Jesus Christ

We Engage the Story

Special Music: *Build Your Kingdom Here* Rend Collective

Reflection: **Practicing the Presence of God**

Silent Reflection

***Hymn:** *How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place* VU #29

We Respond to God's Love

***Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed** VU p.918

Prayers of the People (stand or sit as is your custom)

Lord's Prayer VU #959

Minute for Mission Hilary Plowright

Invitation to Offering: Let us express our gratitude through our giving.

***Doxology:** CP #669

Praise God the Source of life and birth, Praise
God the Word, who came to earth.

Praise God the Spirit, holy flame. All
glory, honour to God's name.

***Offering Prayer:** Bless these gifts and the lives we share in you; multiply them for the work of your kingdom and help them bear fruit in the places of greatest need, in Jesus' name, Amen.

We Go Into the World

***Hymn:** *Isaiah 55 (You Shall Go Out with Joy)* **VU #884**

***Glory to God 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.**

***Commissioning:** Send us out to always practice your presence in the world and in the rhythm of our lives.

***Benediction:** God's blessing be yours, infusing life with meaning and mystery; Christ's blessing be yours, opening you to God manifest in the world; the Spirit's blessing be yours, inviting you into relationship with every breath you take. Amen.

Musical Postlude

Please remain seated to reflect on the worship service or leave quietly This service is over and our service begins



About the Music: Rend Collective is a Northern Irish Christian folk rock worship band originating from Bangor, Northern Ireland. They said this about the song **Build Your Kingdom Here**: "We are the living, breathing body of Christ, which makes us the hope of the world . . . it makes our decisions and what we do with our lives actually matter . . . we can build the kingdom together with the help of the Holy Spirit."

How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place was written by UK native, Matt Redman. He loves writing and singing worship music because "it's not just telling a story, or putting a point across – the song becomes a prayer." He has an innate gift of connecting music with prayer, weaving together heartfelt devotional hymns and pairing them with moving melodies.