

Christ Church Gabriola

A Collaborative Anglican – United Church

Open to All

We acknowledge these lands upon which we worship are the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.



First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

Rev. Karen Hollis

Musician Hiromi Bradshaw

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* 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.

Prelude: *Holy Spirit Come To Us* **MV #75**

You are welcome to light a candle at the back of the sanctuary as the community gathers for worship.

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:** *Gathering*

One: We have come to this holy space to worship the living God.

All: We have come thirsty for the living water that refreshes the soul.

One: We have come because God is the helper of all.

All: We have come broken and bruised, ready for the healing that comes when we stand together in the presence of God.

One: Let us worship God, whose love is incarnate among us in Jesus Christ, who heals and liberates.

All: Let us worship God, whose loving power works in the Holy Spirit.

***Collect:** *Gathering*

God of all journeys, **you call us out from places of bondage into a wilderness where old things will become new, where we will be restored and refreshed. In this Lenten season, we pray that you will give us strength for the journey, new hearts to discover your promises, and a new calling to follow Jesus. Amen.**

***Hymn:** **As The Deer Pants For The Water** **VU #766**

Call to Confession: We are loved by God – with a love that goes beyond anything we could imagine. We are held in this love throughout our lives. We still live at times as if there was no God, as if we were alone. But we are not. Let us turn toward God who is always with us.

Prayer of Confession:

Gathering

One: Maker of sky and sea, who eases your people's cry, and tastes their Lenten tears . . .

All: open the imaginations of our hearts to see as you do.

(silence)

One: Merciful One, we are so sensitive when others sin against us.

All: give us the eyes to see when we have sinned and the spirit to know our impact on others and you.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Grace:

One: Be imitators of God, as beloved children. Walk in love as Christ loves us.

All: Thanks be to God for the love that names us children of God.

***Passing of the Peace:** Seeing as how we are reconciled with God, let us also be reconciled with one another in the passing of the peace that brings us into wholeness.

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

First Reading: *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7*

Psalm: *Psalm 32* **VU p.759**

Second Reading: *Romans 5:12-19*

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 Matthew

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 4:1-11

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise be to Jesus Christ

We Engage the Story

Reflection: Picking Fruit

Silent Reflection

***Hymn: God Who Gives To Life Its Goodness VU #260**

We Respond to God's Love

***Affirmation of Faith: Apostle's Creed VU p.918**

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

Lord's Prayer VU #959

Invitation to Offering: In response to all the goodness God gives us, let us gather our gifts and present them as an offering to God.

Lay Assistants please come forward

***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: BAS**

God our refuge and our strength, **receive all we offer you this day, and through the death and resurrection of your Son transform us into his likeness. We ask this in his name. Amen.**

We Celebrate Communion

Invitation to Eucharist: As we prepare this feast, we remember that this is not our table or the table of a particular denomination. This is the table of Jesus Christ, the family feast of the whole people of God. All are welcome to come and be nourished; it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Holy Eucharist

*Invitation to Thanksgiving:

One: God be with you

All: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to God

One: Let us give thanks to God most high

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

Rev. Rex A E Hunt

For the love we name Creativity God, and all of creation. **For the one we name Jesus and his message of peace, justice and inclusiveness that is the realm of God.** For the renewing strength and freedom of the Spirit always present on the breath of life. **We give thanks for the presentness of God in the midst of life.**

We remember the stories... how Jesus gathered with friends and foes to tell them of a re-imagined way of living and being. A way that did not conform to the standards of a system of governance that suppressed people until starvation and deprivation resulted in death. **In this way, the issues of life and death, justice and injustice, conflict and peace, goodness and evil were discussed and made real to ordinary people. We praise and thank you O God of stories shared and remembered.**

Sanctus:

MV#203

O Holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace

Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

So in our time and in this place, with today's issues before us, let us continue the tradition: to break bread together. We remember what that tradition says...

At the end of a journey, among friends, gathered round a table...

Jesus took bread, gave thanks, and broke it: 'This bread is broken, as my body will be'. And he handed it to his friends, and invited them to eat, saying: 'Remember all that I have been to you'.

Then Jesus poured a cup of wine, offered thanks for it, and gave it to his friends: **'This wine is poured out as my life will be. As you drink give thanks for all I have given.'**

Bread... the very stuff of life, in which is gathered up warm sun, rich earth, gentle rain, human labour and knowledge and skill. Wine... fruit of the vine, nurtured, tended, harvested, and pressed out for us to drink.

Bless these gifts with the presence of the Holy Spirit and bless us who have gathered here out of love for you, and strengthen us by these gifts to serve you in the world and share your love with everyone we meet.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory and honour are your,

Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen

Breaking the Bread:

One: We break this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

One: The gifts of God for the people of God!

All: Thanks be to God!

We have bread, wafers, and gluten free wafers available (please indicate if you would like a wafer or gluten free), as well as the chalice of wine on the left and cups of wine, juice and water on the right.

If you would like a blessing, please indicate so by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion Hymn:

We Are One

VU #402

***Prayer after Communion: Faithful God, in this holy bread you increase our faith and hope and love. Lead us in the past of Christ who is your Word of life. In his name we pray, Amen.**

We Go Into the World

***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.**

***Hymn:**

Peace Be With You

MV #215

***Blessing & Dismissal:** May the mystery of God go with you, may Christ bless your steps, and may the Holy Spirit sustain you on your way. Now let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Draw Near To Me

Gottfried Heinrich Stolzel

Draw near to me ! You would I follow wherever You shall lead me,
Lord, my mind and heart are stayed on You.
Though storms arise, You are beside me, no darkness can dispel
Your light, through You alone my eye shall see.
In You I live, my guide and Father. Though raging tempest surge
around me, my joy and shelter You shall be.
Your face I see; Your voice is saying , “ when troubled waters would
overcome you, I am forever at your side.”
Then I would die, dying victorious! In death or life I shall not fear!
I know my soul shall rest in You.

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



Church Announcements



Karen's Office Hours

Karen is in the office Wednesday 1:00-3:00.
To make an appointment please phone the church or
email RevKarenHollis@gmail.com



Visioning Report: Sunday March 22

On Sunday March 22 after worship the Visioning Team will report back to the congregation on what we heard during our visioning conversations. We will share our process, the big picture (a chart will be displayed a week prior), strengths/gifts of CCG, and our dreams. You can expect 30 min of content with questions/conversation interspersed.

Church Announcements



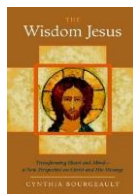
Bible Study at Mad Rona's

Join Karen at Mad Rona's at 9:30am on Fridays in Lent for a six week study of Galatians. We will look at one chapter per week. Please read the chapter ahead of time and bring your Bible - all translations are welcome.



Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Christ Church Gabriola will be held on **Sunday, March 15, 2020** following morning worship. Business will include: receiving the 2019 annual report and 2019 financial statements; approval of the 2020 budget; discussion of, and decision on, a Gifts policy for CCG; appointment of committee members; election of trustees, churchwardens, and Council members; election of a chair and secretary for future congregational meetings up to, and including, the 2020 AGM.



Join our Faith Formation Conversations

The Worship Committee warmly invites you to join our continuing conversation of Reverend Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault's book, *The Wisdom Jesus: Transforming Heart and Mind - A New Perspective on Christ and His Message* (Book available through Amazon, Abe Books) Dates: Thurs. March 19 1:00-2:30 and Thurs. April 16 1:00-2:30