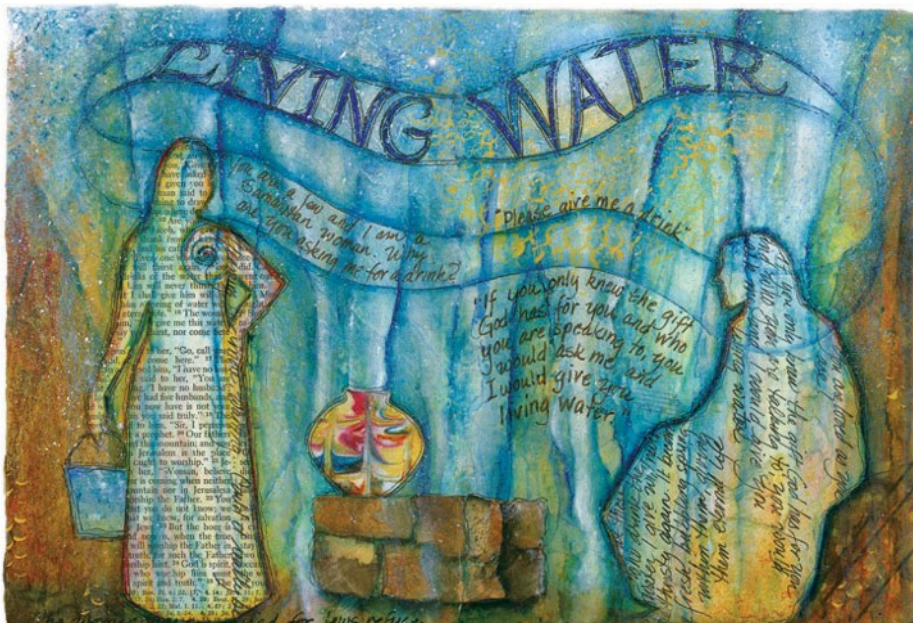


# Christ Church Gabriola

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.*



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent March 15, 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**

#### ***The Kingdom Of God***

MV #146

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

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

\*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:**

*Bruce Prewer*

One: If you are thirsty, you are in the right place.

**All: Blessed are those who thirst, for they shall be satisfied.**

One: O come, let us sing to our God,

**All: let us make joyful music to the God of our salvation!**

#### **\*Collect:**

*UCC Worship Ways*

God of grace and truth, **we come to your house today to worship you. We bring all of ourselves to you, all of the good, the bad, and the ugly. We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves to your transforming power and gentle, loving care. Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone. Thank you for the many ways your Spirit breaks into our lives and into this troubled world. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

#### **\*Hymn:**

#### ***All Who Are Thirsty***

**MV #4**

**Call to Confession:** Here in this container of worship, in the presence of our merciful God, we are invited to bear the light of self-honesty and give to God what we need to carry no longer.

## Confession Meditation:

UCC Worship Ways

*When Thirst Parches Your Soul (Meditation from Exodus 17:1-7)*

When the thirst of life parches your soul, desperation sets in. It sets in hard, and you don't remember who God is or what God has done. That's just the truth. Desperation makes you believe you're going to die; it makes you test the limits of faith, and of ethics. It makes you blame the "Moses" in your life, the one who gave you the word of your deliverance from bondage. It makes the past struggles seem not so bad. Church becomes a wilderness. Relationships become wastelands. It all gets big. It's never just about you anymore when you're desperate. It's everything. It's everyone. It's the equivalent of "your children and your livestock." When your throat, your life, is parched, you want to stone the messengers. You argue and you test. You bargain and you beg. It's hard to trust who God is or what God has done. That's just the truth. And still, God provides even when you're moaning and complaining; even when you're parched and pleading; even when your faith is a faint whisper from the past. God still provides. Disappointed in our desperation, maybe. Wishing we would remember the miraculous escapes we've had. But providing nonetheless. That's just the truth. Look up; there's a rock gushing with refreshment for you somewhere in your life. Your past only sounds good because you can't see the future. There is a rock gushing somewhere in your life. That's just the truth. Look for it.

### *Silent Confession*

**Assurance of Grace:** God's world is filled with rocks with refreshment and fountains of healing; let us receive and be refreshed! Thanks be to God!

**\*Passing of the Peace:** Jesus brings his peace that transforms us into wholeness. Let us share his gift with one another.

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:** *Exodus 17:1-7*

**Psalm:**

*Psalm 96*

**VU p.815**

**Second Reading:**

*Romans 5:1-5*

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:** (stand or sit as is your custom)

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you**

One: The Good News of Jesus Christ according to John

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**John 4:5-42**

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise be to Jesus Christ**

### **We Engage the Story**

**Reflection**

*Silent Reflection*

**\*Hymn:**

*I Heard The Voice Of Jesus*

**VU #626**

### **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 p.959**

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

**\*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*

Spring of life and Source of goodness, receive all we offer you this day, and bring us to the living water, your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

## We Celebrate Communion

**\*Invitation:** This table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus; it is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself; it is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate; it is the table of radical welcome in the name of our God. Come to this table, whoever you are; it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

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**

### Great Thanksgiving:

Blessed are you, O God, for you have brought forth bread from the earth. **Blessed are you, O God, for you have created the fruit of the vine. In the beginning you watered the earth that all people might have food and drink.** You gave your servant Sarah bread to strengthen her family on their journey, and wine to make them glad. **You called Moses and his people out of bondage and refreshed them with food in the wilderness.** You gave Mary and Jesus their daily bread to share. And here at your table you offer us bread and wine for the journey to nourish us, the Body of Christ, first fruits of your new creation, and for your mending of the world's brokenness. **And so with the community gathered, before us and beside us, we praise you from our hearts for your unending greatness.**

### 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!**

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, and, having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying, **"This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."** In the same way he took wine, and, having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, **"this cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take this and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming kingdom of God."**

So now, following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this wine; the ordinary things of this world through which God will bless us. And, as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, and proclaimed the coming of your kingdom, in his living, his dying and his rising, so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Acclamation:** **MV #204**  
**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**  
**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

Hear us, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine. May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life, healing, renewing and making us whole. And as the bread and wine which we now eat and drink are changed in to us, may we be changed again in to you, bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh, loving and caring in the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever,  
**Amen**

One: These are 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 cups of wine on your 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: *Eat This Bread and Never Hunger*** **VU #471**

**\*Prayer after Communion: God of our pilgrimage, we have found the living water. Refresh and sustain us as we go forth on our journey, in Jesus' 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:** **Go Forth For God** **VU #418**

**\*Benediction:**

*Iona Abbey Worship Book*

**One:** The Creator's blessing be yours on your road, on your journey, g  
guiding you, cherishing you.

**Left:** *The Son's blessing be yours, wine and water, bread and stories,  
feeding you, challenging you.*

**Right:** *The Spirit's blessing be yours, wind and fire, joy and wisdom,  
comforting you, disturbing you.*

**All:** **The Angel's blessing be yours, on your house, on your  
living, guarding you, encouraging you. Let us walk together,  
a community on a journey, sustained in God's blessing.  
Amen!**

**One:** Let us go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*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**

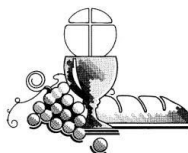
Karen is in the office Wednesday 1:00-3:00.

To make an appointment please phone the church or  
email [RevKarenHollis@gmail.com](mailto:RevKarenHollis@gmail.com)



**Notice of Annual General Meeting**

The AGM of Christ Church Gabriola will be held today **Sunday,  
March 15, 2020** following morning worship.



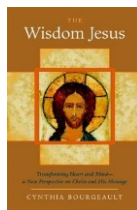
**Next Mid Week Eucharist is Wednesday March 25**

## Church Announcements



### **Bible Study at Roberts Restaurant**

Join Karen at Roberts at 9:30am on Fridays in Lent for a six week study of Galatians. Please read Chapter 4 ahead of time and bring your Bible.



### **Join our Faith Formation Conversations**

**Thurs. March 19 1:00-2:30 and Thurs. April 16 1:00-2:30**

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*



### **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.