

Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge

Easter 7 – May 17, 2026

Kilbride 9:30 am; Carlisle 11:00 am



drawing by Albrecht Durer c. 1508

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*Those who wish to do so are invited to stand for the Hymns and the Sending Forth/Benediction. Likewise, those who wish to do so are invited to respond aloud where indicated by **bold print**.*

Welcome & Acknowledgement of the Land

As we worship God, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of

(Kilbride: the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca, Neutral, Anishinaabe, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),
(Carlisle: the Neutral, Haudenosaunee, Anishinabek, and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),
who continue to cry out for justice. As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work to right the wrongs of the past and present.

The Life and Work of the Church (Announcements & Celebrations)

Lighting of the Christ Candle: *(mgm)*

The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.

The Spirit of Christ is with us.

The light in me recognizes the light in you.

The Light of Christ is in our midst.

Gathering Song: VU 400 – Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema's 1973 song is performed by Larnelle Harris on the latter's 1975 album *Tell It to Jesus*. Harris is a multiple Grammy and Dove Award-winning American gospel singer and songwriter who was inducted into the Gospel Music Association Foundation Hall of Fame in 2007.

[Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying - YouTube](#)

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Call to Worship:

We have gathered to worship God.

**We have come seeking comfort,
inspiration, community, and insight.**

We have come to open ourselves
to the power of God's presence in our midst.

**We have come to offer up the seasons
and the turnings in our lives
and to ask God's help
in our learning and in our growing.**

Opening Prayer:

O God,
you pour out the spirit of grace and love.
Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts,
that with steady minds and burning zeal
we may worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.

Hymn: VU 374 – Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Words: Shirley Erena Murray 1989, alt.; Music: attrib. Benjamin Franklin White 1844

The combined Sammamish High School choirs in Bellevue, Washington, sang an arrangement of this hymn at their Winter Choir Concert this past December.

[Sammamish Winter Choir Concert SHS Combined Choir 18 Dec 2025 Come and Find the Quiet Center](#)

- 1 Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.
- 2 Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.
- 3 In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

Prayer for Grace:

God of Grace, we read the words of Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Time and again the scriptures tell us that Jesus went alone to pray.

He did not face his difficulties and disappointments alone, but turned to pray.

Even as Jesus trusted in and sought your presence, may we have the grace to do the same. May we never be afraid to seek your presence in all circumstances, trusting the Spirit to give us words when we have none, trusting in your compassion and your grace to lead us the way we should go, trusting that even in silence, maybe especially in silence, you are with us. When we pray, help us. When we don't know how to pray, help us. We ask it in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying,

Prayer of Jesus

Assurance of Grace:

Take comfort in the assurance
that even those things that are hidden from memory,
or are too deep for our words,
are not beyond God's forgiving love.
God, who knows us completely,
bestows pardon and peace.

Sung Response: VU 661 (v. 3) – Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus

Words & Music: Joe Pinson 1979

Haewook Kim performs Joe Pinson's 1979 hymn as a piano solo in this lyric video.

[#661 Come to My Heart, Voices United \(Instrumental\)](#)

3 Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
 teach me to walk in your way.
 Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
 answer my prayer today.
 Give me the peace and joy
 that only you can bring.
 Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
 give me a song to sing.

Story: *When I Pray for You* by Matthew Paul Turner

Prayer for Illumination

Readings from Our Christian Tradition

Gospel: John 17:1-11

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

17 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they

are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Response: May God bless to our understanding this reading from the Holy Scriptures.

Reflection: When We Pray

Hymn: MV 77 – Be Still and Know (repeat)

Words: Psalm 46:10; Music: John Bell

This lovely SATB a cappella track from the 1995 album [God Never Sleeps: Songs from the Iona Community](#) features The Cathedral Singers under the direction of the composer, John L. Bell.

[Be Still and Know](#)

Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.

Prayers of the People:

Sing into prayer: VU 400 – Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
[Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying - YouTube](#)

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Prayer of Dedication/Offering:

Written by Gord Dunbar in Gathering LE/2026, p. 46, used with permission

Loving God, may what we offer here this morning be a prayer:
that we may be blessed as living testimony to your good news,
that our offerings may be blessed as good news to use in the world,
and that your word may live within us in spirit and in truth. Amen.

Offertory: VU 544 – In Gratitude and Humble Trust

Frank von Christierson's 1960 offertory hymn is sung to the tune FOREST GREEN, an English folk tune sometimes used for the carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Ralph Vaughan Williams' 1906 setting). It is performed on organ by David Christensen.

[Forest Green - English Folk Tune played on organ](#)

In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.

O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

Hymn: VU 424 – May the God of Hope Go with Us

Words: v. 1 Alvin Schutmaat 1984, v. 2 Fred Kaan 1993; Music: Argentine folk melody

This closing hymn, also known as "Song of Hope," is performed by a praise band featuring Jim Marinangel (vocals), Tiffany Umbarger (keyboard), DuWayne Fair (drums and vocals), and Jason Vanick (guitar and vocals).

[May The God of Hope Go With Us Every Day](#)

- 1 May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

- 2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. R

Commissioning & Benediction

Sung Sending Forth: Go Now in Peace

Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price; Music: Don Besig

Church pianist Natalia Boldyreva performs Besig and Price's choral benediction as a piano solo.

[Go Now In Peace - Don Besig and Nancy Price | COVER](#)

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

Online Postlude: Be Still and Know by Amy Grant

Amy Grant is a highly awarded American singer-songwriter and musician who established her career in contemporary Christian music before crossing over into mainstream pop and eventually being inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. Thank you to Rev. Gayle MacDonald for sharing the following link to a piece from Grant's 2015 compilation album *Be Still and Know... Hymns & Faith*, which primarily contains pieces from two previous faith-based albums. Composed by Grant herself, this piece is one of two completely new tracks and quotes from Psalm 46:10a: "Be still, and know that I am God."

[Amy Grant - Be Still And Know \(Lyric Video\)](#)

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We don't want to explain yesterday's world; what we want to do is articulate tomorrow's possibilities.

What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the master calls a butterfly. – Richard Bach

Prayer for the Week

(from Appreciative Inquiry for Congregations in Transition)

O God of peace,
keep us from being content with things as they are.
Let us all know that at the heart change and turbulence
there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you,
and from the central heart of peace, may there flow
a creative compassion, a thirst for justice,
a relentless proclamation of your love,
and a willingness to give of ourselves in the Spirit of Christ.
Amen.