

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 8, 2020 † 10:00 AM

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS

Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Jeff Binder

LITURGIST: Ann Johnson

MUSICIANS: Bob Hinson, Eoghan McDowell

VIDEO/SOUND: Greg Russell, Donna Russell, Steve Rees, Dan Rueff

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSION OF THE TARTANS

WORDS OF PRAISE (Book of Common Prayer of St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1637)

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts upon us

Than we are to seek them.

You are more willing to give

Than we desire or deserve.

Help us so to seek that we may truly find,

So to ask that we may joyfully receive,

So to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened for us;

In the name of Christ Jesus, our one true hope.

OPENING HYMN No. 829 (My Faith Looks Up to Thee)

Verse 1: ***My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away; O let me from this day be wholly thine!***

Verse 2: ***May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire; as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!***

Verse 3: ***While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day; wipe sorrow's tears away; nor let me ever stray from thee aside.***

Verse 4: ***When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll; blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!***

OPENING PRAYER (Church of Scotland, Book of Common Order, 1940)

Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being:

You have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you.

Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, no weakness keep us from doing it; that in your light we may see light clearly, and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE No. 288 (Spirit of the Living God)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND PEACE

God's peace strikes us with amazement, and yet at the same time dwells within us constantly. In faith, we embrace the paradox of living as children of God. We are made new each day, and unceasingly loved! The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 583 (Glory to God)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE (Romans 8:31-39)

ANTHEM ("Spirit of God" by Don Hustad; Eoghan McDowell, tenor)

MESSAGE ("More than Conquerors" by Rev. Jeff Binder)

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 726 (Will You Come and Follow Me)

Verse 1: *"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known; will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"*

Verse 2: *"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"*

Verse 3: *"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"*

Verse 4: *"Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"*

Verse 5: *Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Iona Abbey Worship Book)

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.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

O Lord, bless the tartans we have presented today and bless the people of which they signify. May we strive to live up to the very highest ideals they represent.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

We thank you, God, for your Word which has ordained a rich heritage of faith and sacrifice from our ancestors: from Adam and Noah, from Ruth and Naomi, from Abraham and David, so onward to the incarnation of Jesus, to the establishment of his church: our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere. Never let us forget that a heritage of faith is a joy to be shared.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

Thank you, O God, for the blessings of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love. Never let us forget that our family love is a gift to be shared with kin and stranger.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

We praise you, O God, for those who have lived and died in Christ that we might have the freedom to dwell in a community of faith. Never let us forget the sacrifices made for us as we envision the future together.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

On behalf of all families and nations, we stand before God in gratitude for our heritage, and we pray God's blessings on all beloved children in all lands.

We proclaim that we are united in the covenant of Jesus, the Christ, for there is but one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT (The Martin Family)

OFFERTORY (Offerings can be mailed into the church office or made online by visiting our website: www.valleycommunity.org)

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

CLOSING HYMN No. 69 (I, the Lord of Sea and Sky)

Verse 1: *I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Refrain: *Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

Verse 2: *I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?* Refrain

Verse 3: *I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?* Refrain

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (Iona Abbey Worship Book)

May God, who is present in sunrise and nightfall,
and in the crossing of the sea,
guide your feet as you go.

**May God, who is with us when we sit
and when we stand,
encompass us with love
and lead us by the hand.**

May God, who knows your path
and the places where you rest,
be with you in your waiting,
be your good news for sharing,
and lead you in the way that is everlasting.

Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

