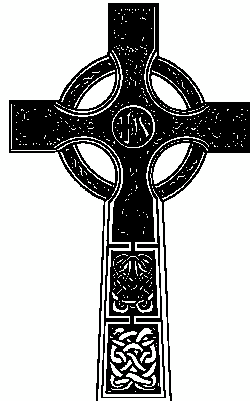




The Kirkin' o' the Tartans



Ancestral Scottish Heritage Festival & Celebration of All Heritages

Sunday, October 30, 2011



Woodstock Presbyterian Church
142 E. Court Street
Woodstock, VA 22664



Prayers from Iona

O Christ of the poor and the yearning
Kindle in my heart within
a flame of love for my neighbour,
for my foe, for my friend,
for my kindred all.
From the humblest thing that lives
to the Name that is highest of all
Kindle in my heart within
a flame of Love.

J. Philip Newell



O Christ, you are a bright flame before me
You are a guiding star above me
You are the light and love I see in others' eyes.
Keep me, O Christ
in a love that is tender
Keep me, O Christ in a love that is true
Keep me, O Christ,
in a love that is strong
Today, tomorrow and always.

J. Philip Newell

The Iona Community is a Christian ecumenical community working for peace and social justice, rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship. It is one of the oldest and most important religious centers in Western Europe, recognized as the founding place for Christianity in the Western world. The Iona Abbey, built in 564, was a focal point for the spread of Christianity throughout Scotland.



Prelude

Scottish Medley

Liz Sollenberger

Procession of the Acolyte, Pipes, Cross, Bible, Choir and Pastor

Welcome & Announcements

***Litany Blessing of the Congregation**

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

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

Leader: Thank you, O God, for the blessing of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love. Never let us forget that our family love is a gift to be shared, that the stranger may be as welcome as the brother.

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

Leader: 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 that the days of sacrifice are not yet over, that we too, have lives to live in faith.

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

Leader: On behalf of all clans, families, and nations, we stand before God in gratitude for our heritage and pray God's blessing on His servant people in all lands.

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

Introit

The Music o' Spey

Holly Heine, Cellist

***Call to Worship (Psalm 100)**

Seth Coffman, Liturgist

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

People: *Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.*

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his.

People: *We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

People: *Give thanks to him, bless his name.*

Leader: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever.

People: *And his faithfulness to all generations.*

***Hymn 464**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Ode to Joy

Call to Confession

Confession (Adapted from Scottish Reformer John Knox's Liturgy of 1560)

Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable God, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our lives, but also the words of our mouths, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the good news: The Lord is present to all who call upon him, to all who call upon God in truth. He will fulfill the desire of them that love him; he will hear their cry, and will save them. In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.

All praise be to God! The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Anthem *Bound for the Promised Land*

L. Larson

New Testament Reading 1 Peter 2:4-10

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God!*

Meditation God's Own People

Rev. Webb

***Affirmation of Faith** Scots Confession

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

***Glory Be to the Father (Hymn 579)**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Sharing Our Gifts with God and Neighbor**

Offertory *Spirit of God . . . Skye Boat Song* Traditional Scottish Tune

***Doxology (Hymn 592) & Prayer of Dedication**

Necrology and Memorial Prayer

Evelyn McDonald (11/10/23—11/20/10)

Price McDonald (3/28/25—1/2/11)

Bob Marshall (7/29/31—9/10/11)

Meg Courtright (6/13/46—9/12/11)

Pipe Soloist *Amazing Grace* Pipe Major John Taylor

***Hymn 260** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Ein' Feste Burg

***Benediction**

***Recessional** *Scotland the Brave* Pipe Major John Taylor

The warmest of welcomes as well as heartfelt thanks are extended to our guest musicians: Pipe Major John Taylor from Winchester Pipes and Drums; Holly Heine, cellist and WPC Director of Children's Ministry. Thanks also to Liz Sollenberger and the Chancel Choir. Other worship leaders include Seth Coffman - Liturgist, Alison Nelson - Cross Bearer, Jerry Germroth - Beadle (Bible presenter).

We also welcome guests who are worshipping with us today. We are honored by your presence and invite you to join us for our Heritage Feast following worship.

Kirkin' o' the Tartans ~ Its Origins

The History...

The ceremony of Kirkin' o' the Tartans is of American origin, though based on Scottish history and legend. After Bonnie Prince Charlie's Scottish forces were defeated by the English at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, Scotland once again came under British rule. To control the Scots, an Act was passed that forbade the carrying of arms and the wearing of kilts or tartan which represented Scottish heritage. Orders were given for British troops to kill any person dressed in or displaying the tartan.

As the Legend Goes...

This Act prompted the stubborn Scots to carry with them secretly a piece of their tartan as they went to the Kirk (church). The minister then slipped a blessing (a Kirkin') into the service for the tartans. The prohibition against tartans lasted for nearly 50 years. When at last repealed, the Church of Scotland celebrated with a Service of Family Covenant, at which time the tartan of each family was offered as a covenant expression for the Lord's blessing.

The First Kirkin'...

The Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, DC held the first Kirkin' during the early years of World War II. The late Dr. Peter Marshall, an eloquent Scot, then Chaplain of the US Senate as well as a pastor, led the service in 1943, choosing "Kirkin' o' the Tartans" for the title of his sermon. He had preached many sermons in support of the British War Relief and the Scottish Clans Evacuation Plan. His sermons were so popular that a request was made for their publication, with the proceeds designated for war relief programs. As the war continued, the DC St. Andrew's Society continued to hold prayer services for the British subjects. These became known as Kirkin's.

The Service...

The worship service is of traditional content, using much of the Church of Scotland form. Central to its theme is the blessing of families, called clans. Clans were simply a gathering of peoples for their protection and for economic, political, and social support. Clansmen demonstrated a true brotherhood, and the tartan is a symbol of this love and togetherness. The Kirkin' is intended to encourage all participants to reflect with thanksgiving on their own family and ethnic heritage, and to celebrate God's grace poured out for all generations.