Order for the Public Worship of God  
February 21, 2021  
First Sunday in Lent  
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATORY MEDITATION  
Chris Curvin, Pastor

OPENING VOLUNTARY  
“Allan Dodd’s Farewell to Scotland”  
John M. MacKenzie

Gemma Briggs, Highland Bagpipes

HYMN #664  
“Morning Has Broken”  
BUNESAN

Morning has broken like the first morning;  
black bird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the word!

Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dew fall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation; praise every morning,  
God’s re-creation of the new day!

(this is a 20th century text set to an old Gaelic melody; the tune is named for a small village on the Isle of Mull off the west coast of Scotland)

LITANY OF BLESSING OF THE TARTANS AND CLANS OF THE KIRK

One: Thank you O Lord, for your Holy Word which has ordained a rich heritage of faith and sacrifice from our ancestors: from Adam to the incarnation of Jesus Christ, to the establishment of his church everywhere. Never let us forget that heritage of faith is a gift to be shared, not a treasure to be hoarded.

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

One: We praise you, O Lord, 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.

All: On behalf of all clans, families, and nations, we are grateful before Almighty God of our heritage and pray God’s blessing on his servant people in all lands.

One: Eternal God, our Father, bless these tartans—symbols of our heritage—and grant that the families they represent may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you; through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.
CALL TO CONFESSION

John Bell

The words of hope I often failed to give,
The prayers of kindness buried by my pride,
The signs of care I argued out of sight: these I lay down.

Of those around in whom I meet my Lord,
I ask their pardon and I grant them mine,
That every contradiction of Christ’s peace might be laid down.

—Text and music © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community
(This hymn from the Scottish Iona Community is intended for the Lord’s Supper, however these inner stanzas speak of our need to confess and to grant pardon to others.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

All: Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You adorn us with the armor of light, but we hide ourselves in darkness. You trust us with the message of grace, but we bury that treasure in fear. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne. Amen.

KYRIE

John Merbecke (1523-1585)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

(This was the final stanza of Englishman Thomas Ken’s “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night” from 1649. Known and loved in all Protestant churches including the Church of Scotland.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we for give our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the king-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM

“Thou Gracious God, Whose Mercy Lends” Mack Wilberg
(Chancel Choir with Madison Poth, Highland Bagpipes, recorded on February 17, 2019)

Thou gracious God, whose mercy lends the light of home, the smile of friends,
Our gathered flock Thine arms enfold, as in the peaceful days of old.
Wilt Thou not hear us while we raise, in sweet accord of solemn praise,  
The voices that have mingled long in joyous flow of mirth and song?

For all the blessings life has brought, for all the sorrowing hours have taught,  
For all we mourn, for all we keep, the hands we clasp, the loved that sleep.

The noontime sunshine of the past, these brief, bright moments fading fast,  
The stars that gild our dark'ning years, the twilight ray from holier spheres.

We thank Thee Father; let Thy grace our loving circle still embrace,  
Thy mercy shed its heav'nly store, Thy peace be with us evermore. Amen!

—text by Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING  Luke 18:9-14 NRSV

“God’s Grace Makes All the Difference!”  Paul Means, Associate Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

AMAZING GRACE

“Amazing Grace”  Introduction on the Highland Bagpipes by Gemma Briggs

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come.  
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

BENEDICTION

“Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes”  David Cherwien

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

- Our thanks to the congregation of Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church for loaning the tartans displayed in the chancel area today.
- Thanks to our piper today, Gemma Briggs. Gemma is a 2020 graduate of the College of Wooster (Ohio) where she was Pipe Major leading the band her senior year. Gemma is a member of Northwood, the daughter of Spencer and Ann Briggs.
Morning Has Broken

1 Morning has broken like the first morning; black-bird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass. Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light E-den saw play! Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.
THANKSGIVING

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come. 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to now am found, was blind, but now I see.

CHOCTAW
Shilombish holitopa ma!
Ishmimminti pulla cha
hatak ilbusha pia ha
is pi yukpalashke.

CREEK
Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
ah toni ah cha pa kas
cha fee kee o funnan la kus
um e ha la la yus.

NAVAHO
Nizhónígo joobá diits’ a’
yisdašíšnimígo,
lah yóóítįįd, k’ad
shěndhoosdzin,
doo esslįį da ní’ée.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanza 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tissie
Text Phonetic Transcr. Choctaw, Creek, and Navaho © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference; Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tissie

AMAZING GRACE
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