



The Kirkin' o' the Tartan

Friday, October 27, 2017
7:00 pm

Scottish
Heritage Weekend

2450 East Fort Lowell Road, Tucson, AZ 85719

■ 520-327-7121

■ www.npctucson.org

Prayers

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

~Traditional Gaelic Blessing

(*Beannachd Dia dhuit*—blessings of God be with you—Scots Gaelic)



Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, Save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought In the day and the night,
Both waking and steeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
be thou mine inheritance now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

~Ancient Irish hymn

~Trans. M. Byrne, 1905; Vers. E. Hull, 1912

Order of Worship

**Those who are able, please stand*

Prelude

Scottish Songs for Flute & Piano

Gloria Day, flute

Welcome, Registration & Explanation

Procession of the Tartan

Scotland the Brave

Tucson Highlanders Pipe Band

*Litany Blessing of the Tartans

Dr. Andrew Ross & Dr. Pete Seiferth

Leader 1 Thank you, O Lord, for your self-revealed 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 onwards to the incarnation of Jesus Christ, to the establishment of his church: our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere.

Leader 2 *Never let us forget that a heritage of faith is a responsibility, not a treasure to be hoarded.*

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

Leader 1 Thank you, O Lord, for the blessing of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love.

Leader 2 *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 1 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.

Leader 2 *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 1 Raise the Tartans!

People On behalf of all clans, families, and nations, we raise these Tartans before Almighty God in gratitude for our heritage and pray God's blessing on His servant people in all lands.

***Placing of the Tartans**

Leader 2 *Eternal God, Our Father, bless these symbols of heritage and grant that those who wear them, and the families they represent, may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you; through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

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** *Amazing Grace* Tucson Highlanders

***Call To Worship from Psalm 100**

Leader Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People **Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his 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 339** *(blue hymnal): Be Thou My Vision* Irish Ballad

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Leader Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your lovingkindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our Sin.

People **Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Act of Praise *Gloria Patri*

(blue hymnal 579)

Affirmation of Faith Scots Confession (Chapter 16)

As we believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, so we firmly believe that from the beginning there has been, now is, and to the end of the world shall be, one Kirk, that is to say, one company and multitude of men chosen by God, who rightly worship and embrace him by true faith in Jesus Christ, who is the only Head of the Kirk, even as it is the body and spouse of Christ Jesus. This Kirk is catholic, that is, universal, because it contains the chosen of all ages, of all realms, nations, and tongues, be they of the Jews or be they of the Gentiles, who have communion and society with God the Father, and with his Son, Christ Jesus, through the sanctification of his Holy Spirit.

Anthem *Celtic Laud*

C. Courtney

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

(blue hymnal 591)

*Prayer of Dedication

Offering

Offertory *Highland Cathedral*

Tucson Highlanders with Organ

Prayer for Illumination (John Calvin)

O Lord, heavenly Father, in whom is the fullness of light and wisdom, enlighten our minds by your Holy Spirit, and give us grace to receive your Word with reverence and humility, without which no one can understand your truth.

Anthem *A Scottish Blessing*

D. Blackwell

Lesson Psalm 91

Leader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Grace Will Lead Me Home*

Dr. Ross

Blessing of the People

Following the sermon, all worshippers are invited to come forward to one of the pastors at the front of the Sanctuary. They will ask your clan or family name. The pastor will then

ask God's blessing on you and your family or clan, that you might be a blessing to others. Following the blessing, please return to your seats.

***Hymn 269** (*blue hymnal*): *O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand*

Scottish Psalter, 1605

***Charge and Benediction** (*from Patrick's Compline*)

Leader The God of life with guarding hold you;
the loving Christ with guarding fold you;
the Holy Spirit, guarding, mold you;
each night of life to aid, enfold you;
each day and night of life uphold you.

People **May God shield me;
may God fill me;
may God keep me;
may God watch me;
may God bring me this night
to the nearness of His love.**

Leader The peace of the Father of joy,
the peace of the Christ of hope,
the peace of the Spirit of grace,

People **the peace of all peace be mine this night,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***Benediction Response** *A Blessing*

J.E. Moore

***Recessional** *Road to Passchendaele*

Tucson Highlanders

Please join us for a reception in the Rowley Courtyard.



Music and Recognition

The warmest of welcomes as well as heartfelt thanks are extended to our guest musicians from the Tucson Highlanders Pipe Band for their part in making this an authentic Kirkin' o' the Tartan. Thanks also to Gloria Day, flautist, and to those serving in our Music Ministry, led by Acting Director of Music John Brobeck. Thanks to our Pastors, ushers, and media personnel, as well as those who baked the wonderful shortbread cookies for the reception. Finally, thanks to all who participated tonight, and helped to make this a meaningful experience for all.

Kirkin' o' the Tartan

The History...

The ceremony of Kirkin' o' the Tartan is American in origin, though based on Scottish history and legend. After Bonnie Prince Charlie's Scottish forces were defeated by the English in 1746, Scotland again came under British rule. An Act was passed that forbade carrying arms and the wearing of kilts or Tartan which represented Scottish heritage.

This Act prompted the Scots to carry 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 Tartan. The prohibition against Tartan 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 Tartan" for the title of his sermon. He had preached many sermons in support of the British War Relief and the Scottish Clans Evacuation Plan. 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 service is traditional in content, using much of the Church of Scotland form. Central to its theme is the presentation of various Tartans – through flags and the wearing of Tartan – for a blessing. Clans were simply a gathering of peoples for their protection and for economic, political, and social support. The Kirkin' is intended to encourage participants to reflect with thanksgiving on their own family and ethnic heritage, and to celebrate God's grace poured out for all generations.



Welcome to Northminster

Please join us in the Rowley Courtyard for homemade shortbread cookies and other refreshments immediately following the Kirkin' Service this evening.

You are also invited to join us for worship each Sunday



8:00 am – Contemporary

(Praise Band, children's message)

9:30 am – Traditional

(Sanctuary Choir, Organ, Sunday School for all ages)

11:00 am – Kaleidoscope

(Experience God through creative expression)

11:00 am – ARISE!

(An African expression of worship)

Childcare and Sunday School: Nursery Care Available – (infants-three years) Sunday mornings from 7:45 am – 12:15 pm, CE Building, Room 2. We offer a Christian Education program at 9:30 am for all ages.

Information: Please pick up our newsletter *The Vine and the Branches* in the Sanctuary Narthex (lobby). You can also contact us at 327-7121.

Ministries: Northminster offers a wide variety of ministries, programs, and activities for all ages, given in the name and service of our Lord and Savior. Please check our website for additional information: www.npctucson.org. The website offers both live streaming of worship services and On Demand viewing of past worship services.

Radio Ministry: Join us on the air! Our worship services are broadcast on KGMS Radio, 940AM every Sunday, 6:00-7:00 pm and Monday-Friday from 6:30-7:00 am.

Coming Events/Special Services

Reformation Sunday, October 29: Join us Sunday for our Reformation Services, which celebrate both the Reformation begun by the early reformers and our Presbyterian Scottish Heritage. All morning worship services include stirring music by the Tucson Highlanders Pipe Band.

Greet 'N Treat, Tuesday, October 31, 5:30-7:30 pm: Our popular neighborhood outreach event held in the Northeast parking lot of the church. This lively evening offers safe 'treating' from car to car for families with children.

Anniversary Evensong Celebration, Sunday, November 5, 5:00-6:00 pm: You are invited to join us in the sanctuary for an evensong service that musically celebrates the 66th anniversary of Northminster's founding. There will be inspiring hymn singing, Scripture readings, prayer, and musical performances by all of the Northminster traditional musical ensembles, including Sanctuary Choir, Choraliers, Women's Choir, Men's Choir, and Steeple Bells. Join us as we musically celebrate 66 years of God's provision and blessing for Northminster!