Ash Wednesday
February 26, 2020
5:30pm
Celtic Evensong
First Presbyterian Church
of Santa Fe

Please observe silence before the service.

CHORAL PRELUDE

Chancel Choir

O Lux Beatissima
by Howard Helvey

O Lux beatissima,
Réple córdis íntima
Tuórum fidelium,
Accénde lúmen sénibus,
Infúnde amórem córdibus,
Infírma nostri córporis,
Virtúte firmans pérpeti.

O light most blessed,
Fill the inmost heart
Of all thy faithful,
Enkindle your light in our minds,
Infuse your love into our hearts,
Strengthen the frailties of our flesh
By your perpetual power.

text: attr. Stephen Langton

WELCOME

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi
miserere nobis.
Agnus dei qui tollis peccata mundi
miserere nobis.
Agnus dei qui tollis peccata mundi
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world;
grant us peace.
At the close of this day we gather to worship God;

at journey's end we give thanks
for the road travelled and the open door.

We offer to God our tiredness and our expectancy;
we rejoice in a God who welcomes us just as we are.

Here and now we might entertain angels unaware;
here and now we can meet Christ in one another.

Pat Bennett

Yearnings
Iona Abbey Music Book, p. 148

Kenneth Finlay

GARELOCHSIDE

Words © Pat Bennet. Music © Broomhill Church of Scotland, Glasgow, UK.
Have mercy on me, O God, in your faithful love;  
In your great mercy wipe out my offence.  
Wash me clean from my guilt and purify me from my sin.  

I am well aware of my misdeeds; my sin is ever before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned.  
I have done what is evil before your very eyes.  
You are right to accuse me, justified in passing sentence;  
For the causes of my sinfulness go back to my earliest years.  
In my birth and my beginnings were the seeds of my distress.  
In the womb, from my conception, my brokenness began.  

You desire deep and inner truth; teach me your hidden wisdom.  
Purge me with hyssop till I am clean; wash me till I am bright as snow.  
Create a pure heart in me, O God; put a new and right spirit within me.  
Do not drive me away from your presence, or remove your spirit of holiness.  
Restore to me your joyous salvation; support me, strengthen my will.  
Then I will teach other sinners your ways, that they, too, may turn back to you.  

Open my lips, O God, that my mouth may proclaim your praise.  
Sacrifices give you no pleasure.  
If I were to bring you a burnt offering you would not accept it.  
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit.  
A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
For some of us, this ancient place is strange and amazing; for others, it has become home.

Some of us are uncertain of what lies ahead; and others are eager to explore.

Some of us have brought burdens we need to lay down; others are looking for challenges to take up.

Here we are, your children, with our unique stories, different needs, varied gifts.

Help us to learn here that we are loved, and to celebrate the humanity we share.
Amen.

IMPOSITION of ASHES

PRAYER and The LORD'S PRAYER

In the light of your love, O God, we acknowledge the many things on our minds, and the concerns that we carry with us.

(silence)

Free us from the grip of busyness and worry; help us to put any anxiety into your hands.

(silence)

Enable us to be open to the healing and humour and hope of the coming week. And, while we are here, we commit to your care those we name in our hearts.

(silence)
Now, grateful that we are free to unite in prayer, we pray in the words Jesus taught his friends:

*(in our own language or preferred version)*

**Our father...**

ANTHEM

*Chancel Choir*

*Travis Bregier, soloist*

*Ash Wednesday*

by David W. Beatty

My God, my God, have mercy on my sin,
For it is great; and if I should begin
To tell it all, the day would be too small
To tell it in.

   Good Lord, today
I scarce find breath to say:

   Scourge, but receive me.
For stripes are hard to bear, but worse
Thy intolerable curse;
So do not leave me.

   Good Lord, lean down
In pity, tho’ Thou frown;
Smite, but retrieve me:
For so Thou hold me up to stand
And kiss Thy smiting hand,
It less will grieve me.

My God, Thou wilt have mercy on my sin
For Thy Love’s sake: yea, if I should begin
To tell This all, the day would be too small
To tell it in.

text: Christina Rossetti
Story of the table

It was on a night when old, familiar stories were retold that Jesus and his friends engaged in the sacred meal which Jews call the Passover.

During that meal, rich in food and memory, Jesus took a piece of bread. And after he had blessed it, he broke it and said, "This is my body. It is given for you. Do this to remember me."

Later in the meal, he took a cup of wine, and having given thanks over it, he gave it to his disciples with the words, "In this cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink it, all of you, to remember me."

Invitation

Gathered round this table, we will do what Jesus did, and what he asked his disciples to do throughout the ages.

We are all invited to share in this meal, whether we regularly receive communion, whether we have never been at such a celebration, or whether indeed we have given up on God.

At this table, it is neither our virtues nor our defects that are important. It is the invitation to each and to all to take what Jesus has to offer those with whom he is pleased to dine.

During Communion

Ana B'Koach

Linda Raney
Generous God,
in our world, some hunger for food
and others for meaning;
you have blessed this place and time,
where we have been fed in many ways;
bless us now, as we go on —
sharing food for the journey,
finding companions on the way. Amen.
Serving Tonight

Rev. Andrew Black, Officiant
MelindaJoy Pattison, Liturgist
Linda Raney, Organist/Music Director
David Solem, Assistant Organist
Travis Bregier, Assistant Choir Director
David Beatty, Associate Musician
The Chancel Choir

Readings from *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, 2017, unless otherwise noted.