

An Iona Vesper Service



In the Chapel of
The Presbyterian Church in Morristown
April 3, 2011
4:00 p.m.

An Iona Vesper Service

A Contemporary Service in the Scottish Tradition

PRELUDE *Shape-Note Hymns from Appalachia*

Wayfaring Stranger

Idumea

Prospect

Holy Manna

Boundless Mercy

Primrose

Foundation

Detroit

Wondrous Love

OPENING RESPONSES

The Reverend Cynthia J. Alloway

Leader: Peace on each one who comes in need,

ALL: **Peace on each one who comes in joy.**

Leader: Peace on each one who offers prayers,

ALL: **Peace on each one who offers song.**

Leader: Peace of the Maker, Peace of the Son,

ALL: **Peace of the Spirit, the Triune One.**

**HYMN* *Come, Host of Heaven's High Dwelling Place*
(Please see insert)

St. Columba
Trad. Irish Melody)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Reverend David J. Smazik

Leader: Thanks be to you O Christ,

ALL: **For the many gifts you have bestowed on us,
Each day and night, each sea and land,
Each weather fair, each calm, each wild.**

Leader: Each night may we remember your mercy
Given so gently and generously.

ALL: **Each thing we have received,
From You it came,
Each thing for which we hope,
From Your love it will come;
Each thing we enjoy,
It is of Your bounty;
Each thing we ask,
Comes of Your disposing.**

Leader: O God, from whom each thing that is, freely flows,

ALL: **Grant that no tie over strict, no tie over dear,
May be between ourselves and this world. Amen.**

VOLUNTARY

I Will Go Home to Kintail

Traditional Scottish Air

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Source of hope,
Whose word began and sustains all life,
We confess that there have been times
When we have not lived
As those who have heard the voice of God.**

**Shaper of hope,
In whose living and loving, God's intention was realized,
We confess that there have been times
When we have not lived
As those who know the love of God.**

**Inspirer of hope,
Whose challenge and call are insistent and strong,
When we have not lived
As those who have felt the touch of God.**

**Triune God,
We offer ourselves afresh to you:
Inspire, enlarge and energize us
That now, and always,
Our lives may serve
As a sign of Yours.**

SOLO

Kyrie Eleison (from the Galloway Mass)

James MacMillan

Elise Figa, soprano

Lord, have mercy. Christ Have mercy. Lord have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace.

All: **Lead us now, O God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries Glory! Amen.**

SOLO

Iona Gloria

Traditional Scottish Chant

Elise Figa, soprano

Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo.

Glory to God in the highest.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 63

All: **O God, You are my God:
How I long for You!**

Leader: My soul thirsts for you, my body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

All: **I gaze upon you in the sanctuary
to behold your power and glory.**

Leader: Your unchanging love is better than life:
my lips will speak your praise.

All: **And so I will praise you with all of my life:
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

Leader: My soul will feast and be satisfied,
and my mouth will praise you with joy.

All: **For I will call you to mind as I lie in bed,
and meditate upon you in the watches of the night.**

Leader: My soul clings to you,
and your right hand upholds me.

All: **You have been my helper, my joy:
I am safe in the shadow of your wings.**

*SOLO I Will Always Bless Lord
Elise Figa, soprano*

Traditional Scots Gaelic
Words by John L. Bell and Graham Maule

I will always bless the Lord,
Praise his name and love his word.
Humble folk will fill with joy,
as in God I glory.

When I prayed God answered me,
From my fears he set me free;
None who trust God's faithful love
Shall be disappointed.

Those who cry are listened to,
Those in need receive their due:
Angels guard God's loyal folk,
Keeping them from danger.

Taste and see that God is good,
Know your yearnings understood,
Find your true security,
Be God's holy people.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 5:8-14

*SOLO I Bow My Knee In Prayer
Elise Figa, soprano*

Gaelic Traditional

I bow my knee in prayer
Before the Father who made me,
Before the Son who purchased me,
Before the Spirit who cleansed me,
In friendship and love.

Lord, through your anointed,
Give us the fullness we long for:
Love and affection for our God,
The grace of God.

So may we live on earth
As saints and angels in heaven;
Each shade and light, each day and night,
Through every moment we draw our breath,
God, give us your Spirit.

REFLECTIONS ON IONA

"Columba - Gladdened in Heart by the Holy Spirit"

Rev. Alloway

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH*

ALL: **We believe, O God of all Gods,
 That you are the eternal God of life,
 We believe, O God of gods,
 That you are the eternal God of love.**

Men: We believe, O God and Maker of all creation,
 That you are the creator of the high heavens,
 That you are the creator of the deep seas,
 That you are the creator of the stable earth.

Women: *We believe, O God of all the peoples,
 That you created our souls and set their warp,
 That you created our bodies and gave them breath,
 That you made us in your own image.*

ALL: **We give You our worship
 With our whole lives,
 We give You our assent
 With our whole power,
 We give You our existence
 With our whole mind,
 We give You our kneeling
 With our whole desire.**

**HYMN We Pray You, Heavenly Father
 (Please see insert.)*

The Sally Garden (Trad. Irish)
Words by V.S.S. Coles

INVITATION TO THE FEAST

This is the table of our Lord
On which he sets His tokens of love and hope
And to which he calls
All who want to share his life.

So come-
Whether your faith is strong or weak,
Whether your hope shines brightly or is dimmed.

Come, ready to receive-
For all are welcome At the feast of love.

COMMUNION NARRATIVE

Now let us hear the stories of the bread and wine:

This bread is a sign of hope...

**It holds a story
Of dying and rising...
Of breaking and sharing...
Of nourishment and strengthening...
Of being more than enough...**

It is both the story of what it is in itself
And the story of which it reminds us-
That, on the night before his death,
Jesus broke bread and broke it with friends.

This cup is a sign of hope...

**It holds a story
Of dying and rising...
Of pouring and sharing...
Of refreshment and renewal...
Of being more than enough...**

It is both the story of what it is in itself
And the story of which it reminds us-
That, on the night before his death,
Jesus took the cup and poured it for friends.

And we too are a sign of hope...

**For we too hold a story
Of death and rising...
Of old and new...**

Of offered life
Taken into the hands of God,
Who wastes nothing,
And there
Becoming more than enough...

It is both the story of who and what we each are
And the greater story of which we are a part-
The ongoing story of God's Kingdom.

THANKSGIVING

Generous God
Whose story and song are
Now and always
The hope of the world:

We praise you for the stories
Of creation and incarnation
Redemption and resolution-
The unending words of love.

We rejoice in your song
Of yearning and calling
Waiting and welcoming
Gathering and cherishing-
The eternal music of hope.

And we hear now
In that great song
Of love and adoration
That creation sings back to you.

SOLO

Sanctus and Benedictus (from St. Anne's Mass)

James MacMillan

Elise Figa, soprano

Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he,
O blessed is he
Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

CONSECRATION

Leader: And so, we do in this place
What Christ did in an upstairs room,

**ALL: Send down Your Holy Spirit
On us,
And on these gifts of bread and the cup,
That the story of hope—
Of death and rising
Of new life and the Fruit of the Kingdom
May continue on
In us, and through us...**

**HYMN*

Spirit of God

Skye Boat Song (Scottish folk melody)
Words by Margaret Olds

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

(All who put their trust in Jesus Christ are invited to come forward to receive the sacrament by intinction. Take a piece of the bread and then dip it into the cup before communing of the elements.)

SOLO

Angus Dei (from the Galloway Mass)

James MacMillan

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
Grant us peace.

Our Father, whiche in heaven art

John Angus (16th century)

Our father, whiche in heaven art
And makst us all one brotherhood,
We call upon thee with one hart,
Our heav'nly Father and our God:
Grant we pray not with lips alone,
But with the heart deepe sigh and grone.

Elise Figa, soprano

COMMUNION PRAYER (responsively):

Heaven is inter-twined with the earth. **Alleluia!**
We have taken the divine life into ourselves. **Alleluia!**
And so now each may say,

**I rise up clothed in the strength of Christ.
I shall not be imprisoned, I shall not be harmed;
I shall not be down-trodden, I shall not be left alone;
I shall not be tainted, I shall not be overwhelmed.
I go clothed in Christ's white garments;
I go freed to weave Christ's patterns in the world;
I go loved to serve the weak ones;
I go unafraid with the peace of God within. Amen**

**HYMN* *Take Our Minds* Suo Gan (Trad. Welsh melody)
(Please see insert.) Words by The Rev. Dwyn Mounger

CLOSING RESPONSES

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ
You have called us to share In God's story of hope.

ALL: **And so we offer ourselves To its telling.
Breathe Your life through ours That the story may continue on
In us, and through us, Until the world is remade. Amen.**

SOLO *Dance and Sing* Pulling Bracken (Scottish Waulking Song)
Elise Figa, soprano

Dance and sing, All the earth, Gracious is the hand that tends you:
Love and Care ev'rywhere, God on purpose send you.

Shooting star and sunset shape the drama of creation;
Lightning flash and moonbeam share a common derivation.

Deserts stretch and torrents roar in contrast and confusion;
Treetops shake and mountains soar and nothing is illusion.

All that flies and swims and crawls displays an animation
None can emulate or change for each has its own station.

Brother man and sister woman, born of dust and passion,
Praise the one who calls you friends and makes you in his fashion.

Kiss of life and touch of death suggest our imperfection:
Crib and womb and cross and tomb cry out for resurrection.

Today's liturgy is taken from the worship life of the Iona community.

Participating in this afternoon's service are

The Reverends Cynthia Alloway and David Smazik.

James Hicks, Scottish Smallpipes in A and D, whistle, piano, organ

Elise Figa, soprano

Todd Collins, guitar

Eric Rappeport, violin

Matthew Gray, keyboard

We warmly welcome you to worship with us any Sunday at our 9:15 or 11:00 a.m. services and Wednesday at noon in the Chapel.

Lenten and Holy Week Worship Services

Palm Sunday, April 17, 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The 9:15 service is preceded by a bell prelude by the Ringers-on-the-Green.

Vespers for Passiontide, April 17, 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel. The Chamber Singers perform the oratorio, "The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ," by William Billings.

Maundy Thursday, April 21, in the Sanctuary, 7:45 p.m. Violoncello prelude; 8:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae led by the Chancel Choir, featuring "Wondrous Love" by Paul Halley.

Good Friday, April 22, in the Sanctuary, 11:30 a.m. - Organ prelude, 12:00 Noon - Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists perform the Moravian oratorio, "Good Friday Story" by Johann Christian Geisler.

Easter Vigil, April 23, 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel Soloists from the Music Ministry sing the mass, "Messe pour le Samedi de Pasques" by Marc-Antoine Charpentier.

Easter Sunday, April 24, 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary led by a banner procession, all children's and adult choirs join with brass and percussion to celebrate the Resurrection.



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