

AYR ST COLUMBA CHURCH
Sunday 28 February 2021



But the silence in the mind

But the silence in the mind
is when we live best, within
listening distance of the silence
we call God. This is the deep
calling to deep of the psalm-
writer, the bottomless ocean
we launch the armada of
our thoughts on, never arriving.

It is a presence, then,
whose margins are our margins;
that calls us out over our
own fathoms. What to do
but draw a little nearer to
such ubiquity by remaining still?

R S Thomas
(1913 - 2000)

Organ Voluntary

The Bible, God's Word for life, is placed in the pulpit by the Beadle.

Welcome & Announcements

Preparatory Silence

Call to Worship

Hymn 162

The God of Abraham praise

(t Leoni)

The God of Abraham praise,
who reigns enthroned above,
Ancient of everlasting days,
and God of love.
Jehovah, Great I AM!
by earth and heaven confessed,
I bow, and bless the sacred name
for ever blest.

The God of Abraham praise,
at whose supreme command
from earth I rise, and seek the joys
at his right hand.
I all on earth forsake,
its wisdom, fame and power,
and him my only portion make,
my shield and tower.

He by himself has sworn,
I on his oath depend:
I shall, on eagle's wings upborne,
to heaven ascend;
I shall behold his face,
I shall his power adore
and sing the wonders of his grace
for evermore.

There dwells the Lord our King,
the Lord our Righteousness,
triumphant o'er the world and sin,
the Prince of Peace;
on Zion's sacred height
his kingdom he maintains,
and glorious with his saints in light
for ever reigns.

The whole triumphant host
give thanks to God on high;
'Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!'
they ever cry.
Hail, Abraham's God, and mine! --
I join the heavenly praise --
all might and majesty are thine,
through endless days.

*Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) (alt.)
based on the Jewish Yigdal*

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Absolution and Supplication

Lesson Genesis 17: 1 – 7, 15 – 16

Hymn 237

Look forward in faith *(t Cardross)*

Look forward in faith,
all time is in God's hand.
Walk humbly with him
and trust his future plan.
God has wisely led
his people by his power.
Look forward in hope,
he gives us each new hour.

Look forward in faith,
the world is in God's care.
His purpose of love
he calls on us to share.
In our neighbour's need
the Lord is present still.
He blesses the meek!
The earth will know God's will.

Look forward in faith,
God gives us life each day.
Go onward with Christ,
his Spirit guides our way.
Now God lets us live
within the sphere of grace.
Trust ever in him,
he rules o'er earth and space!

Andrew J. Scobie (b.1935)

Reflection

Solo

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, Commemoration of the Faithful Departed and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 535

Who would true valour see *(t Monks Gate)*

Who would true valour see,
let him come hither;
one here will constant be,
come wind, come weather;
there's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound;
his strength the more is.
No lion can him fright;
he'll with a giant fight,
but he will have a right
to be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin nor foul fiend
can daunt his spirit;
he knows he at the end
shall life inherit.
Then fancies fly away;
he'll fear not what men say;
he'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

John Bunyan (1628-1688)

BENEDICTION

Closing Voluntary