

Church of Scotland  
**AYR ST COLUMBA CHURCH**  
**Sunday 23 May 2021**



**‘That there...’**

That there is the unfamiliar  
too. That there is a landscape  
that will through time  
resist our endeavours  
at domestication. There is one  
who models his disguises  
without a thought, to whom  
invisibility is as natural  
as it is to be above  
or below sound. He hides himself  
in a seed so that exploding  
silently he pervades the world.  
He is the wilderness imprisoned  
under our flagstones yet escaping  
from them in a haemorrhage  
of raw flowers. He bares his teeth  
in the lightning, delivering  
his electric bite, appals us  
with his thunder only to unnerve us  
further with the blessing of his held breath.

*R S Thomas (1913 – 2000)  
Welsh Priest and Poet*

*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 68 O thou my soul, bless God the Lord**  
*(Psalm 103)*

*(t Coleshill)*

O thou my soul, bless God the Lord;  
and all that in me is  
be stirred up his holy name  
to magnify and bless.

Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God,  
and not forgetful be  
of all his gracious benefits  
he hath bestowed on thee.

All thine iniquities who doth  
most graciously forgive:  
who thy diseases all and pains  
doth heal, and thee relieve.

Who doth redeem thy life, that thou  
to death mayest not go down;  
who thee with loving-kindness doth  
and tender mercies crown:

Who with abundance of good things  
doth satisfy thy mouth;  
so that even as the eagle's age,  
renewed is thy youth.

Call to Prayer

Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Absolution and Supplication

Lesson

Acts 2: 1 – 13

**Hymn 543 Longing for light, we wait in darkness**

*(t Christ be our Light)*

**Hymn 586 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire**

*(t Veni Creator)*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
and lighten with celestial fire;  
thou the anointing Spirit art,  
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
is comfort, life, and fire of love;  
enable with perpetual light  
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
with the abundance of thy grace;  
keep far our foes; give peace at home:  
where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
and thee, of both to be but One,  
that through the ages all along  
this may be our endless song,  
'Praise to thine eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.' Amen.

Reflection

Solo How good it is to think you, Lord *(CH4 56, vv 1 & 3)*

Organ Reverie *Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)*

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

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in your Church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

**BENEDICTION**

*Postlude* Veni Creator

*9th Century*