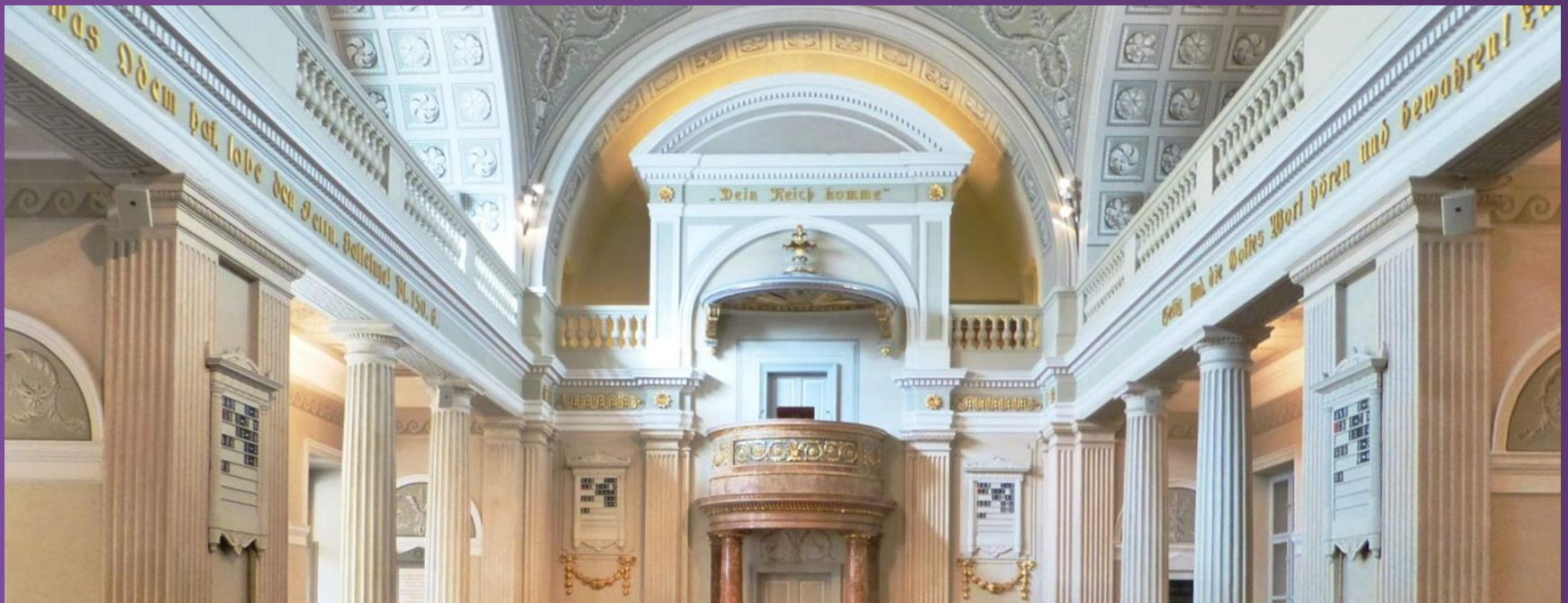


Beginning our Lenten Journeys

A service in the season of Lent
February 28, 2021



Losing it all

A time to connect

The VCC Bells



Welcome and peace

Wash and Pray

Meditation

Lighting Candles



Wash and Pray

wash & pray

Scientific studies have shown that thoroughly washing your hands with soap and warm water for 20-30 seconds helps prevent the spread of germs. Coincidentally, the Lord's Prayer takes about 30 seconds to say aloud or in your head. So next time you're washing your hands, use that half minute to pray AND help prevent the spread of germs!



0 Our Father in heaven,



1 hallowed be your name,



2 your kingdom come,
your will be done,



3 on earth as in heaven.



4 Give us today our daily
bread.



5 Forgive us our sins



6 as we forgive those who
sin against us.



7 Lead us not into
temptation



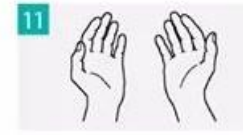
8 but deliver us from evil.



9 for the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are
yours



10 now and forever.



11 Amen.

Opening Song – Be now my Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me,
save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by
night
Waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom,
and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, and I thy true one
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not,
nor vain, empty praise
Thou mine inheritance,
now and always
Thou and thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven,
my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all!

Candles



Special people

Gospel Reading - Mark 8:31-38

Read by Kitty McKinsey

Jesus Predicts His Death

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

The Way of the Cross

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

Psalm 22:23-31

You who fear the Lord, praise him!

All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!

For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.

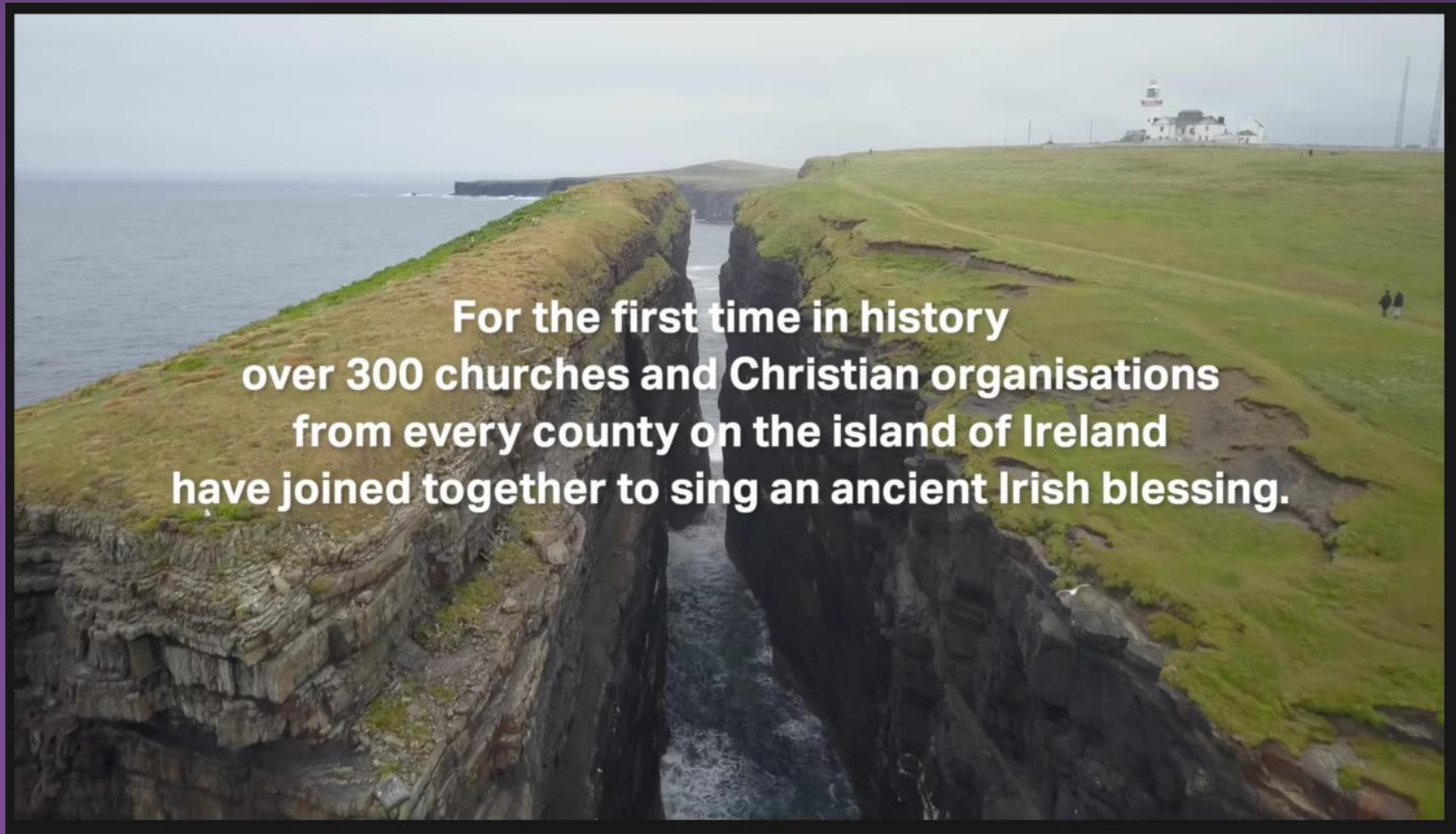
The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him—may your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—those who cannot keep themselves alive. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.

They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!

Special Music — The Irish Blessing



**For the first time in history
over 300 churches and Christian organisations
from every county on the island of Ireland
have joined together to sing an ancient Irish blessing.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TascswZPj8U&feature=youtu.be>

Sermon

Open your Hand



Responsive Song – Man of Sorrows

Performed by the Celtic Worship Band



Prayer Response

From
Celtic
Morning
Prayer

Prayers for others

Canticle

Christ, as a light
illumine and guide me.

Christ, as a shield
overshadow me.

Christ under me;

Christ over me;

Christ beside me

on my left and my right.

This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.

This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light;

Christ as a shield;

Christ beside me

on my left and my right.

Prayers



Communion

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven and
earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only
Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power
of the Holy Spirit and born of
the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and
was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven and is
seated at the right hand of the
Father.

He will come again to judge the
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal Christian
church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

Offering Song – I will offer up my Life

Performed by Celtic Worship



Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise father, son, and holy ghost



Announcements

How will you serve your VCC?



Closing Song – What a friend

Performed by Celtic Worship Band



A prayer as I put on my mask:

Creator,

as I prepare to go into the world,
help me to see the sacrament
in the wearing of this cloth -
let it be "an outward sign
of an inward grace" -
a tangible and visible way of living
love for my neighbours,
as I love myself.

Christ,

since my lips will be covered,
uncover my heart,
that people would see my smile
in the crinkles around my eyes.

Since my voice may be muffled,
help me to speak clearly,
not only with my words,
but with my actions.

Holy Spirit,

As the elastic touches my ears,
remind me to listen carefully -
and full of care -
to all those I meet.

May this simple piece of cloth be
shield and banner,
and each breath that it holds,
be filled with your love.

In your Name and in that love, I pray.
May it be so. May it be so.



Go into
the world
as
servants



Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God



Postlude – In Christ Alone

Performed by Celtic Worship Band

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are still, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

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