



# *Fall Agapé*

*a gathering for the TST Community*

## An Ecumenical Service of Worship

21 September 2016, Regis College Chapel



*\* indicates an invitation to rise in body or in spirit*  
**bold parts indicate responses of the congregation**

### Words of Welcome

#### Territorial Acknowledgment

*a candle is lit*

#### \* Call to Worship

*The Iona Community*

Creator of the world, eternal God,  
**we have come from many places  
for a little while.**

Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us,  
**we have come with all our differences,  
seeking common ground.**

Spirit of unity, go-between God,  
**we have come on journeys of our own  
to a place where journeys meet.**

So here, in this shelter house, let us take time together.

**For when paths cross and pilgrims gather,  
there is much to share and celebrate.**

In the name of the One, Holy and communal God, we pray.

**Amen.**

#### \* Gathering Song: "You Are Welcomed"

*Diane White-Clayton*

*an invitation to the Holy Spirit and each other as we gather*

#### Opening Prayer

*St. Augustine*

\* Hymn:

## O Ancient Love

Unison

1 O an - cient love, pro - cess - ing through the a - ges,  
2 O home - less love, that dwells a - mong the stran - ger,  
3 O gen - tle love, car - ess - ing those in sor - row,  
4 O suf - fering love, that bears our hu - man weak - ness,

O hid - den love, re - vealed in hu - man form, O prom - ised  
O low - ly love, that knows the might - y's scorn, O hun - gry  
O ten - der love, that com - forts those for - lorn, O hope - ful  
O bound - less love, that ris - es with the morn, O migh - ty

love, the dream of seers and sa - ges:  
love, that lay with - in a man - ger: O liv - ing Love, with - in our  
love, that prom - is - es to - mor - row:  
love, con - cealed in in - fant meek - ness:

hearts be born, O liv - ing Love, with - in our hearts be borne.

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BEDFORD ABBEY  
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**Reading:** Romans 12: 9-18

For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Choral Anthem:** “Ki Biya Bophelo Bjaka”

*Trad. Sesotho Church Song (South Africa)*

*Arr. Matlakala Bopape, from the Singing of the Polokwane Choral Society*

Translation: “I put my life in your hands Jesus. I trust you Lord, you are my rock.”

**Reading:** Qur’an 7: 154-156

**Sermon**

Nevin Reda, Assistant Professor of Muslim Studies, Emmanuel College

*silence is kept*

**Prayers**

**Sung Response**

*The Iona Community, alt.*

*Palestinian/Lebanese Chant*

God of peace and just-ice, rain down up-on us your peace.  
Ya Rab - ba ssa - la - mi am ter na-lay na - ssa - lam.

God of peace and just-tice, let ev' ry heart be filled with peace.  
Ya Rab - ba na ssa - la - mi im la'-qu - lu - ba - na ssa - lam.

**\* Commissioning:**

*Keri Wehlander*

May we sow seeds of justice,  
May we nurture holy visions,  
May we harvest gentle wisdom,  
May patience be our grain.

May we mix in grace and courage,  
May we kindle fires of truth,  
May we share the bread of healing,  
May God’s banquet fill each hand.

**Amen.**

\* Sung Benediction:

## May the Love of the Lord 惟愿主的爱

Maria Ling, Singapore

Chinese trans: Li Dong, China

Lim Swee Hong, Singapore

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics in English and Chinese. The lyrics are: "May the love of the Lord, rest up - on your soul. May God's love dwell in you, through - out ev - every day. May God's coun - tenance shine u - pon you and be gra - cious to you. May God's Spi - rit be up - on you as you leave this place." The Chinese lyrics are: "惟愿神的爱扶慰你的灵。每时刻他的爱住在你心里。他的荣光照耀你。慈爱伴随你。无论何处，他的灵都永远伴随你。"

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**Postlude:** IV 'Reconciliation' from "Reconciliation Suite"

*Tom Reynolds, William Kervin, Becca Whitla*

*All are welcome  
to the Agapé Lunch, Book Launch, CD Launch, and Art Exhibition  
immediately following the service.*



*Giving leadership in today's service:*

*faculty and students of Emmanuel College; TST Choir; Regis College Choir;  
members of the International Academy of Practical Theology.*

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*This annual ecumenical service is supported by anonymous donations in memory of Prof. Margaret O'Gara (1947-2012),  
for 36 years as an ecumenist at TST.*