

The Blessing of the Tartans

Those who wish for a blessing please come forward.

Priest: Please join with me in the Blessing of the Tartans

As we believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, so we firmly believe that from the beginning there has been, now is, and to the end of the world shall be, one Kirk, that is to say, one company and multitude of people chosen by God, who rightly worship and embrace God by true faith in Christ Jesus, who is the only Head of the Kirk, even as it is the body and spouse of Christ Jesus.

O Lord, bless the tartans we have presented today and bless the people of the clans which they signify. May we strive to live up to the very highest ideals they represent.
Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

We thank you, God, for your Word which has ordained a rich heritage of faith and sacrifice from our ancestors: from Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, from Abraham to David, so onward to the incarnation of Jesus, to the establishment of his church: our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere. Never let us forget that a heritage of faith is a joy to be shared.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

Thank you, O God, for the blessings of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love. Never let us forget that our family love is a gift to be shared with kin and stranger.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

We praise you, O God, for those who have lived and died in Christ that we might have the freedom to dwell in a community of faith. Never let us forget the sacrifices made for us.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

On behalf of all clans, families, and nations, we stand before God in gratitude for our heritage, and we pray God's blessings on all beloved children in all lands.

We proclaim that we are united in the covenant of Jesus, the Christ, for there is but one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all. Amen.

from *The Scots Confession* (1560), 'The Kirk' (The Church)