



ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

Deer Isle Maine

Our **Mission** is to **love, praise, welcome, and serve:**

- to **love** one another as Christ loves us,
- to **praise** God in all things,
- to **welcome** and affirm all persons,
- to **serve** the needs of one another and of those on the island, the peninsula, and throughout the world.

Pastor Elaine Hewes, Pastor in Charge and Celebrant

Connie Mayo, Music Director

Fourth Sunday in Lent

A Spring in the Desert

March 15, 2026

9:30 a.m. Gathering at the Meditation Garden

10:00 a.m. The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant: We acknowledge that the land we now occupy is the ancestral home of the Wabanaki People. We grieve the history of greed and violence that led to their loss of life, land, language and culture.

Congregation: **We pray for the courage to find ways to support our indigenous neighbors who still face injustice and prejudice. May we always remember, as do the Wabanaki peoples, that the Earth does not belong to us; rather, we belong to the Earth.**

The service begins with the ringing of the bell three times.

Prelude: *St Cuthbert*

Healy Willan

Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell.

Opening Hymn LEVAS 119 *Spirit of God, descend upon my heart (in back of bulletin)*

Celebrant: As a deer longs for water brooks, so our souls long for you, O Lord.

Congregation: **In the desert of our brokenness and fear, grant us not what we may want, but what we need to live lives of justice, love and peace.**

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: First Book of Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Second Lesson: Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 641 *Lord Jesus, think on me (in back of bulletin)*

The Gospel: John 9:1-41

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John

Congregation: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a

sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Elaine Hewes

Silence will be commenced and ended with the sounding of a bell.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Leader: For all people in their daily life and work;

Congregation: **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Silence

Leader: For this community, our nation and the world;

Congregation: **For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.**

Silence

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

Congregation: **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression.**

Silence

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

Congregation: **For those who minister to the sick, the lonely and the stranger among us.**

Silence

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

Congregation: **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Silence

Leader: For our Presiding Bishop Sean, and our Bishop Thomas, and for all bishops and other ministers;

Congregation: **For all who serve God in the Church.**

Silence

Leader: For all who are searching for your healing waters in the desert of their lives;

Congregation: **For those in need of healing of mind, body or spirit.**

Silence

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life;

Congregation: **For all those gifts that bring us joy, open our hearts and give us courage.**

Silence

We pray for all those who have died, trusting that they are held in your eternal grace. We pray for those who grieve.

Silence

Leader: Please add your prayers and thanksgivings.

All are invited to add their own prayers here.

Are there any people on Zoom who would like to add their prayers and thanksgivings?

Leader: All these things we ask, O Lord, trusting that you meet us always in the desert of our lives, offering the healing waters of your love and grace.

The Peace

Celebrant: Peace within yourself.

Peace with Creation.

Peace with you who are with us remotely today.

Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

The people exchange the peace.

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory Anthem (*Sung by choir*) *Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts* Thomas Morley

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

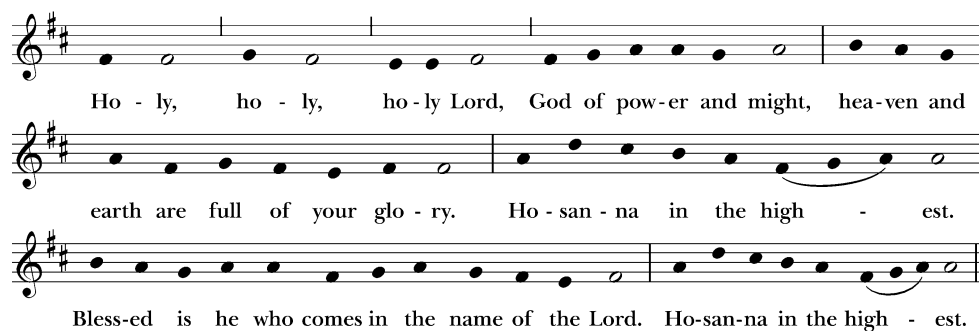
Congregation: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:



Our father in heaven hallowed be your name
 Your kingdom, come
 Your will be done on earth as in heaven

Give us today our daily bread
 Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us
 Save us from the time of trial and de-liver us from evil

For the kingdom, the power
 And the glory are yours
 Now and for-ever, A-men.

Fraction Anthem

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

Celebrant and Congregation: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread. United by the power of the Holy Spirit in our midst, we acknowledge the Holy Sacrament of communion and the fullness of Christ's presence in the gifts of the bread and the wine and in countless other ways in our lives. As a community of faith, nothing can separate us from the love of God nor are we separated from one another.**

The gifts of God for the people of God ...

Those gathered at St. Brendan receive the bread and wine.

Celebrant: And now may the Presence of Jesus, in whatever form it has come to you this morning, nourish you in grace, comfort you in love, and inspire you to be Christ's presence in the world.

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious and Holy One, you have met us in our desert places, and have fed us with the bread and wine of your incarnate presence. Send us forth now in the power of your Spirit, that all might know the healing waters of your grace and love. Amen.

The Blessing

May God the Creator find you in your desert places.

May God the Redeemer lead you to the spring of life.

May God the Spirit fill you with courage and hope for the living of these days, and may you know it to be all joy.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn 371 *Thou whose almighty word (in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *Fugue secundi toni*

Johann Pachelbel

Announcements

Dismissal

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GIVING OUR PRIORITIES SHAPE (GPS) ACTION ITEM

LOVE IN ACTION

Lenten practice? How to respond with hope, gratitude, compassion, and love in the midst of very unsettling, unprecedented times of misuse of power, absence of truth-telling, disregard of common good, democratic and constitutional norms. **Practice resistance** to the forces of fear, violence, and war that are swirling around our country and world.

The practices below are partially taken from the wonderful Red Hat Story shared in our **March 1 Navigator** under **News from Near and Far**.

Resistance is...

speaking freely and without fear, whether in public demonstration or to your inner group of friends

refusing simplistic language that pits groups against each other

taking a break from media when it stokes your fear and anger

getting to know your neighbor, especially those unlike yourself

not losing hope that there is some good in this world and it's worth fighting for

joining with Sunset Congregational Church friends on Thursdays at 3 PM

for a Vigil emphasizing loving kindness and a peaceful point of view

57 Church St (Route 15)

This Lent pick one form of resistance to practice throughout Lent,
or try a different one each week

CALENDAR

All services and meetings will be held both in-person and via Zoom unless otherwise designated.

Monday, March 16	9:00 a.m. Welcoming & Hospitality Ministry meeting 4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, March 18	10:00 a.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (in person) 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 3:45 p.m. Choir rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers – Pastor Carl Woodward, reflector
Saturday, March 21	8:30 a.m. Men’s Breakfast
Sunday, March 22	10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Reece presiding

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, March 25	5:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers – Reflector is Dwight Staples
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Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*, #119

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
 4. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love.

1. Draw it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 2. No sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 3. Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 4. One ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

1. Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 2. No an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - p'ning skies;
 3. To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
 4. The kin - dling of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

1. And make me love thee as I ought to love.
 2. But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 3. Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 4. My heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

Words: George Croly (1780-1860). Music: Frederick C. Atkinson (1841-1897).

Lord Jesus, think on me *The Hymnal 1982*, #641

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op-pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is passed,

from harm - ful pas-sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.
 let me thy lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste thy prom - ised rest.
 through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point thou the heaven - ly way.
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see, and share thy joy at last.

Words: Synesius of Cyrene (375?-414?); tr. Allen William Chatfield (1808-1896), alt. Music: *Southwell*, from *Daman's Psalter*, 1579; adapt. *Hymnal 1982*.

Thou, whose almighty word *The Hymnal 1982*, #371

1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,
 2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing
 3 Spi - rit of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly Dove,
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the
 heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the
 speed forth thy flight! Move on the wa - ters' face bear - ing the
 wis - dom, love, might; bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light!
 in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!
 gifts of grace, and, in earth's dark - est place, let there be light!
 full - est pride, through the world, far and wide, let there be light!

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt. Music: *Moscow*, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916, based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

Our Values

These are our **values** at St. Brendan the Navigator Episcopal Church.

We will:

Welcome others with **respect** and **compassion**;

Listen to others with **trust** and **appreciation**;

Seek God's goodness in each person;

Strive for **consensus** and work **collaboratively**;

Join in acts of **loving kindness**;

Share our faith joyfully across the generations;

Engage as many of our **parishioners** as possible, **year-round**, in our
common life and ministries;