

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

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, Priest in Charge and Celebrant

Connie Mayo, Music Director

Alan Flowers, Guest Musician

First Sunday of the Season of Creation

Pentecost Proper 18

September 7, 2025

The Gathering of the Community

Meditation Garden: 9:30 a.m.

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 bell is rung three times

Prelude: *Wake Every Breath* William Billings
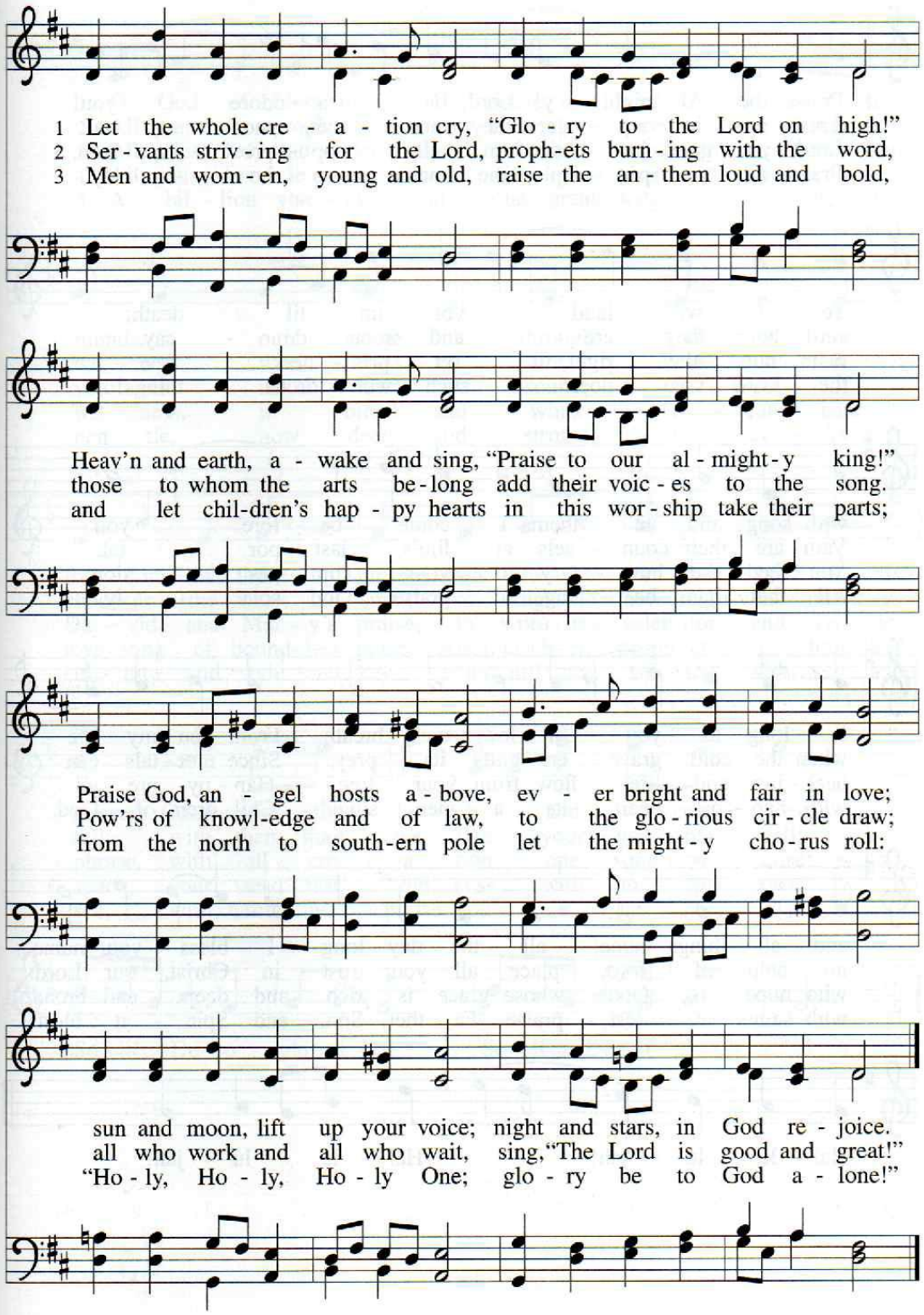
Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell

Opening Hymn 390 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (verses 1, 2, and 4, in back of bulletin)*

Opening Sentences
Celebrant: Blessed be the One who creates all things.
Congregation: **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Song of Praise: ELW 876 *Let the whole creation cry (verse 1)*

Let the Whole Creation Cry 876



Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.
Music: Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

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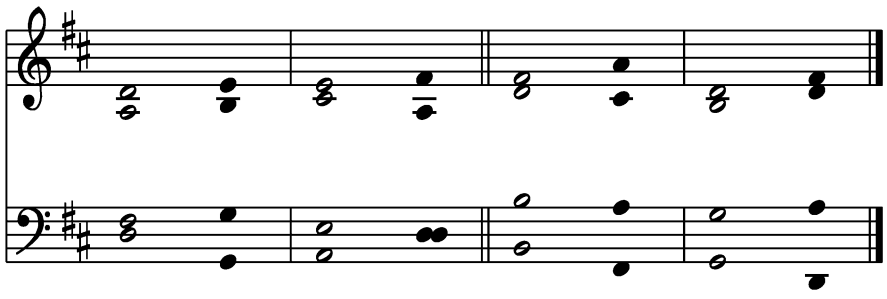
The Collects of the Day
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Congregation: **Amen.**
O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and remembering the account that we must give one day, grant that we may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.
Congregation: **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: Jeremiah 18:1-11
The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.
Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 139: 1-5, 12-17 (ASC 415)

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from a-far. ‖

You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it alto-gether. ‖

You press upon me behind and be-fore *
and lay your hand u-pon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot at-tain to it. ‖

For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well. ‖

My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; *
all of them were written in your book; ‖

they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them! ‖

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

Second Lesson: Letter to Philemon 1-21
Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.
For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.
So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn ELW 814 *Take, O take me as I am (Sing twice, in back of bulletin)*

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Congregation: **Glory be to you, O Christ.**
Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, `This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far

away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."
Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Elaine Hewes

Silence

Profession of Faith
We trust in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We trust in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.
We trust in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.
And we trust in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.
We trust in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God and moves among us today.
We trust in everlasting life in God,
and we look forward to that time
when all of creation will be gathered
in the embrace of God's expansive love.

Prayers of the People
Leader: Creator God, hear the prayers of our hearts as we strive to care for the earth and each other.
We pray for the holy Church of God to be a light for all creation, a place of healing and reconciliation embodying the love of Christ to a hurting world.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: We pray for all bishops, ministers, and spiritual leaders, especially we pray for our Presiding Bishop Sean, and our Bishop, Thomas; and all priests and deacons who serve our churches.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: We pray for those in authority here and in the world that they might work together to seek justice and equity for all people. Strengthen them to lead with compassion and wisdom.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: We pray for seasonable weather and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth for which we give thanks to our Creator God.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind and spirit, for those struggling with addiction, homelessness, joblessness or loneliness, that they may know the power of your transforming love.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: Show us how to respect and appreciate the earth, its oceans, mountains, trees, and all its creatures, the birds and the bears, the bees and the butterflies.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For all those who have died and for those who mourn them, for those who are dying and those who care for them, be with them Creator God, may they be comforted by your promise of eternal life in love.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: I invite you to add your own prayers and thanksgivings.

Members of the congregation are invited to add prayers and thanksgivings at this time.

Leader: Do any of you on Zoom wish to add prayers and thanksgivings?

We offer these prayers for all creation in faith and hope that we might be doers of the Word and agents of your love to all whom we encounter. In the name of, Jesus Christ, our redeemer and advocate who lives and reins with you and the Holy Spirit forever.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Celebrant: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

Confession of Sin
Celebrant: God of wild, windy and prodigal love,
Congregation: **We confess our bondage to fear,**
Our smallness of heart,
Our lack of imagination,
Our guardedness in giving,
Our complicity in systems of racial and economic injustice,
Our misuse of the gifts of creation,
Our resistance to the Way of Jesus.
We ask your mercy and the power of your Wholly, Holy Spirit
to burn through our defenses,
to break open our hearts,
to ignite our imaginations and
to raise us from the dead,
that we might be signs of your healing and liberating love in the world.

Celebrant: Creator God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Congregation: **Amen.**

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 are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn ELW 684 *Creating God, your fingers trace (in back of bulletin)*

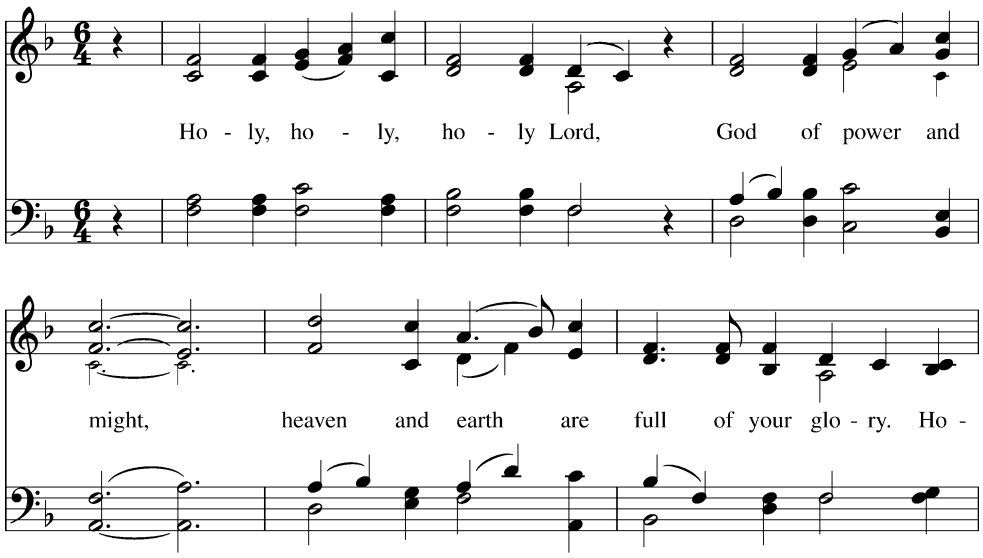
Eucharistic Prayer

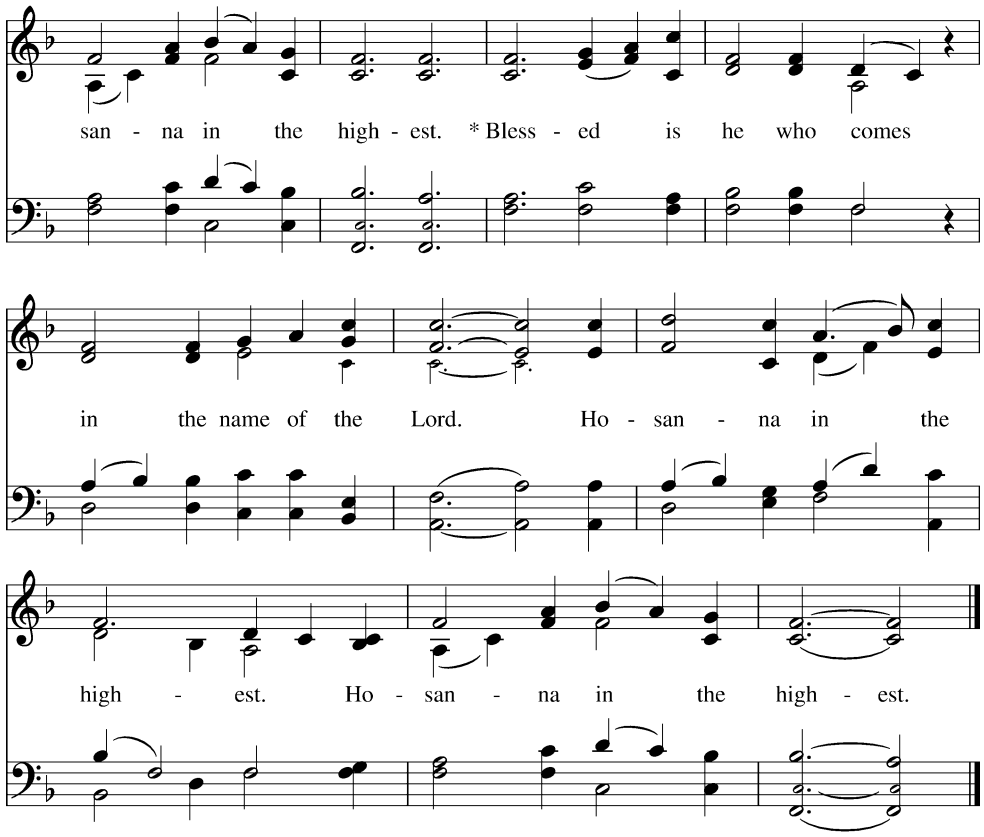
Celebrant: Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, and your simplicity into our corruption.

Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life. Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy Lord* ***WLP* 858**





In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."
So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Congregation: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive.

Celebrant: Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew.
Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Gathered into one body by the Holy Spirit, let us all pray the prayer Jesus taught us to 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 us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Fraction Anthem

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

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.**

Celebrant: 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

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God,
that the gifts of your Spirit may work
in us and renew the face of the earth.
May we be one with you
so that our work is yours
and your work is ours.
Lead us to transform our lives
to reflect your glory in Creation;
through Jesus Christ our Savior
who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Sending Hymn 657 *Love divine, all loves excelling (in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *Voluntary on Hyfrydol*

Announcements

Dismissal

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Confession written by Elaine Hewes.

CALENDAR

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

Monday, September 8	4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, September 10	10:00 a.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (in person) 10:30 a.m. No Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal
Friday, September 12	7:00 p.m. Screening of the film *Echoes of the Forks of Cypress.* See Navigator for further details
Sunday, September 14	10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Brent Was presiding and The Rev. Alice Hildebrand preaching.

Looking Ahead

Saturday, September 20	10:00 a.m. Service of Celebration for Michael Hewes at the Blue Hill Congregational Church
Saturday, September 27	8:30 a.m. - The topic of this month's Men's Breakfast will be immigration and will be led by Dan McDonald. Because it is a topic of general interest to everyone in our community, this will be a joint Men's and Women's Breakfast. Everyone is welcome.

GPS (Giving Our Priorities Shape)
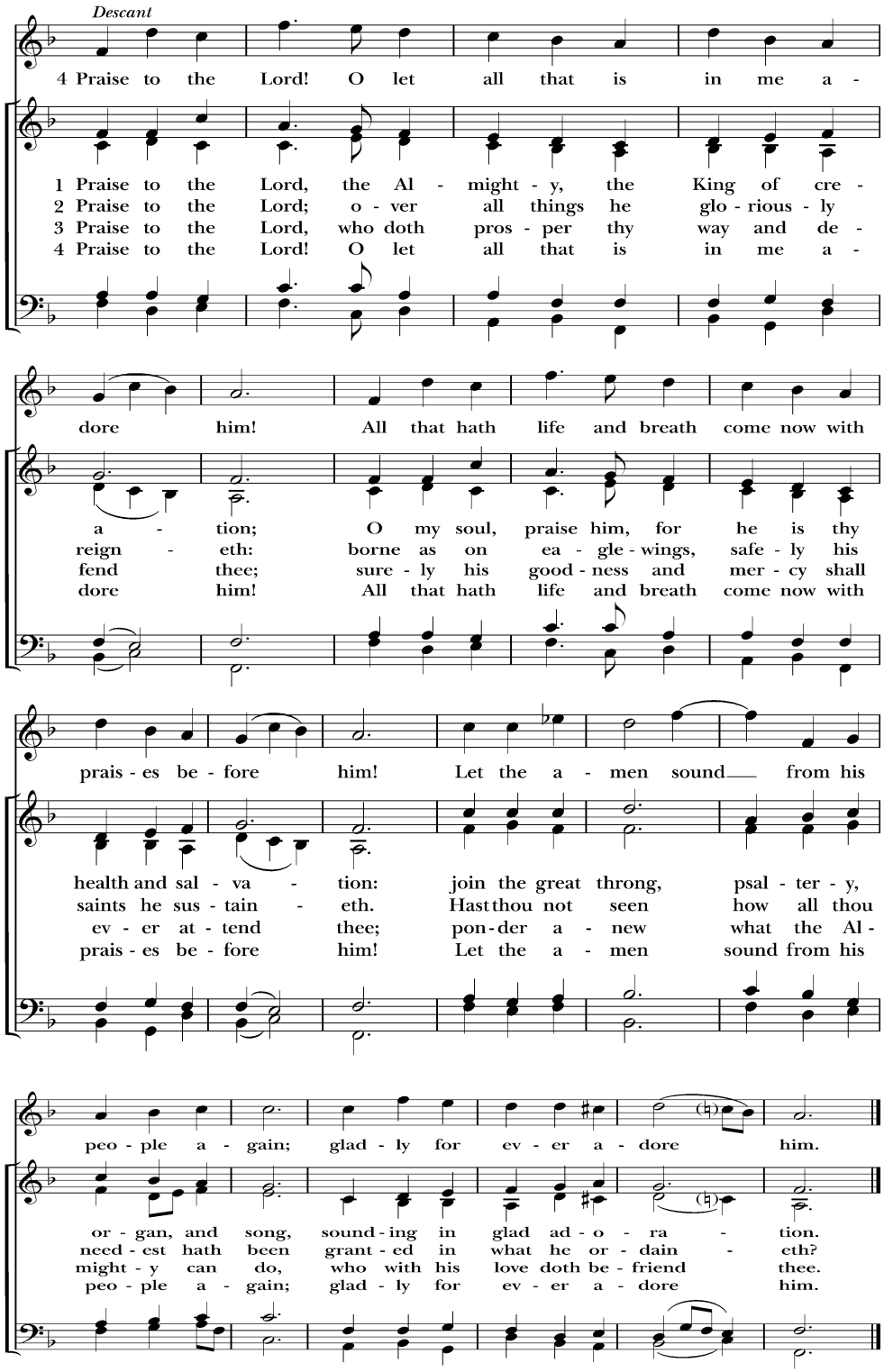
Celebrate the Season of Creation, September 1- October 13

From Elaine: "The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through **celebration, conversion, and commitment** together. During the Season of Creation, we join our siblings in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home. "

GPS Action for this week (and beyond): A fun way to track your carbon footprint is provided by *The Episcopal Season of Creation Celebration Guide.*
Please check out the website: https://www.sustainislandhome.org/actions
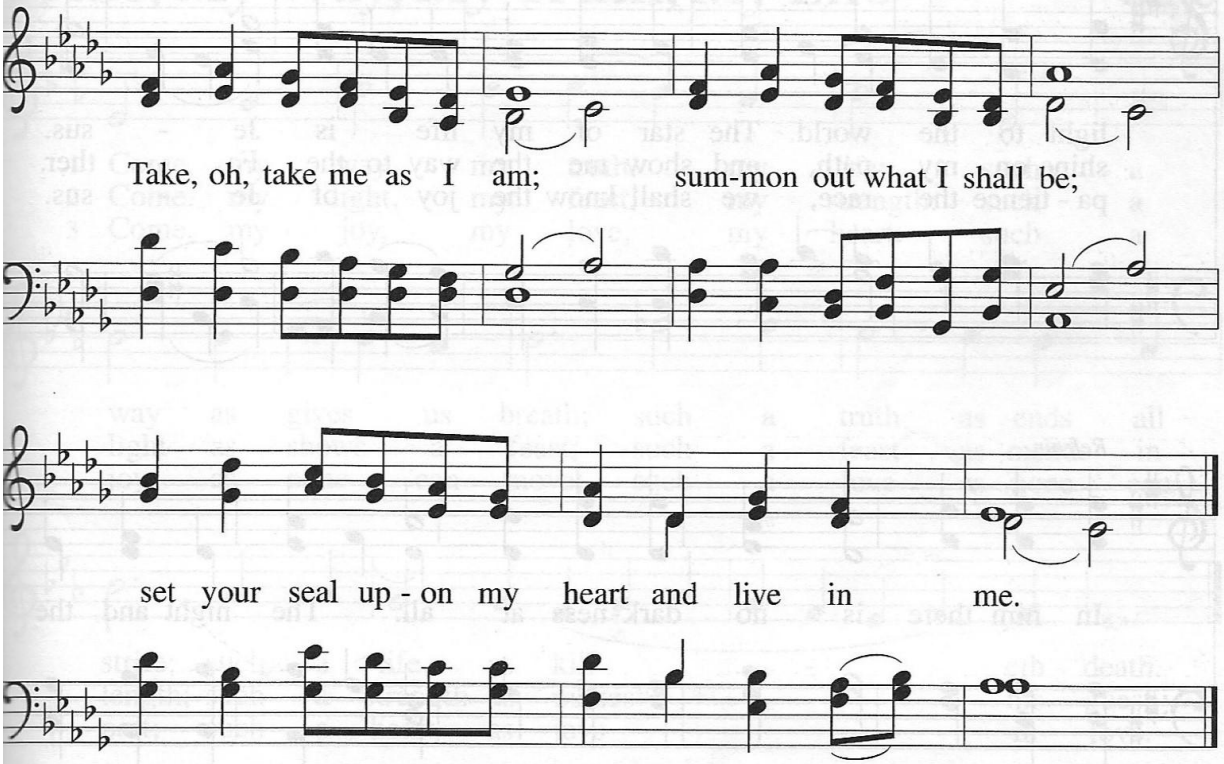
There are very doable actions suggested such as
- always bring a reusable water bottle
- take shorter showers
- combine errands, drive less
- reuse, recycle, compost
- remember reusable bags

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation *Hymnal 1982*, #390



Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.
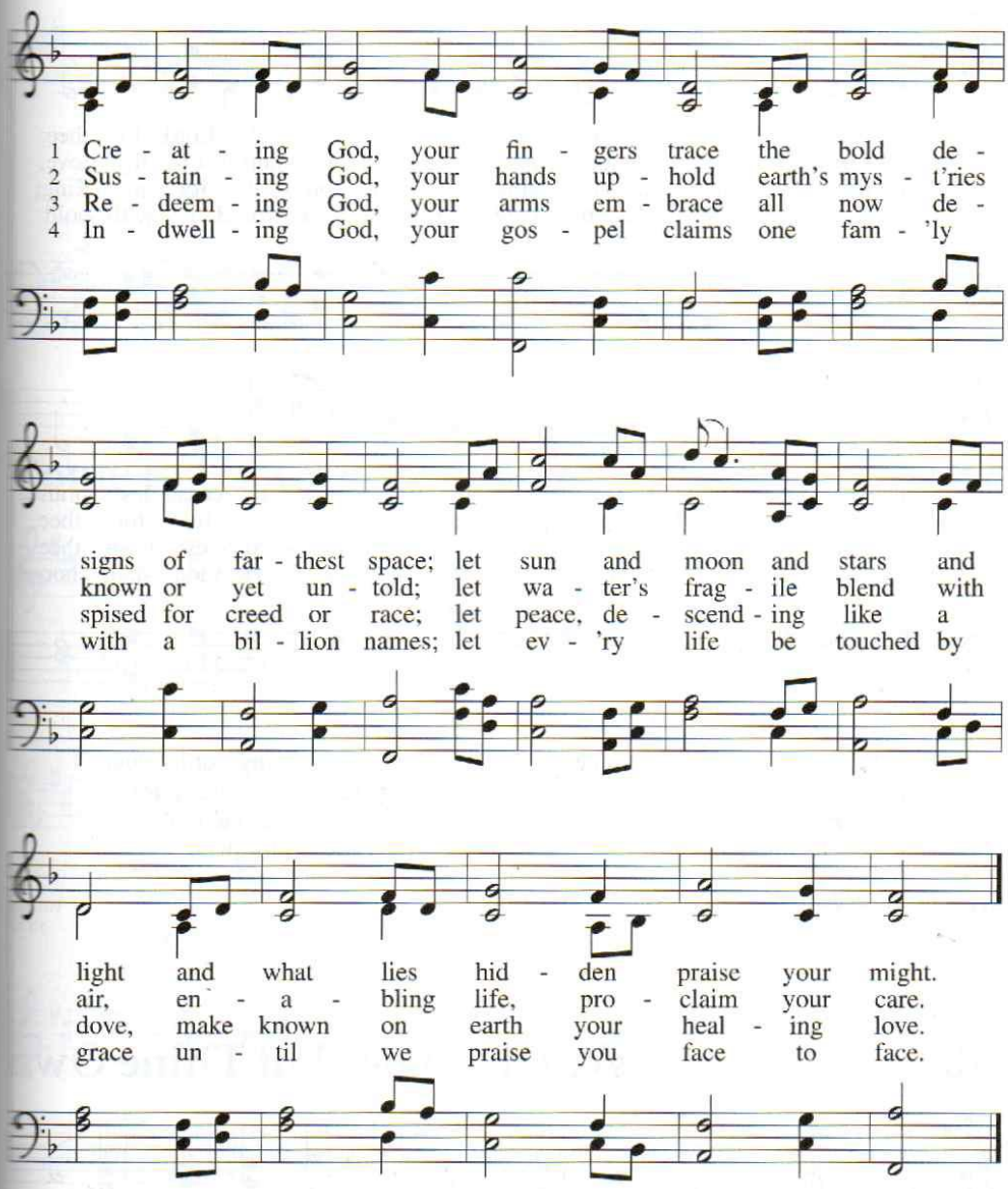
Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am 814



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: John L. Bell
Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

TAKE ME AS I AM
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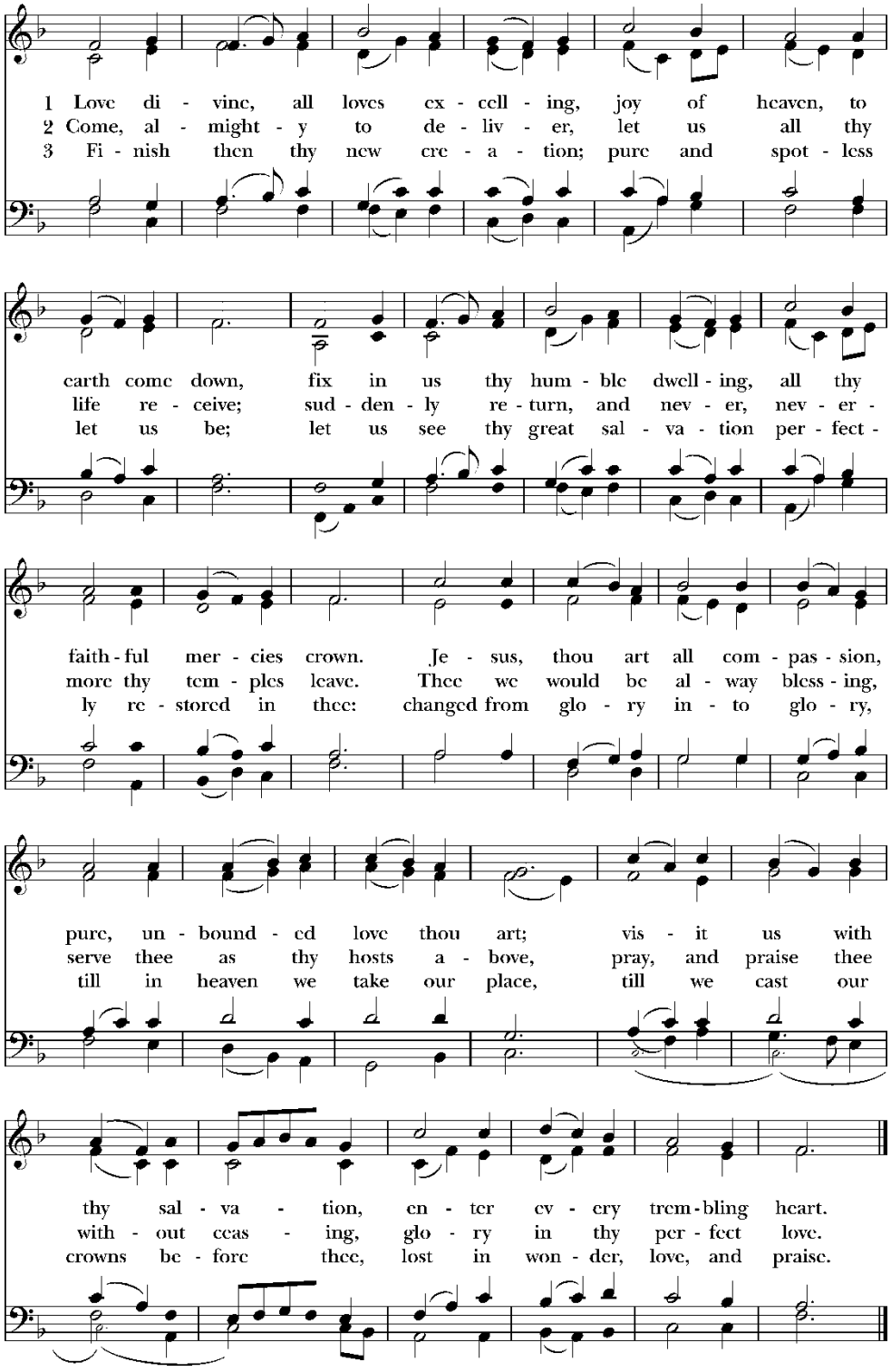
Creating God, Your Fingers Trace 684



Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934
Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1979 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

PROSPECT
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Love divine, all loves excelling *The Hymnal 1982*, #657



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).