

ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

Deer Isle Maine

Pastor Elaine Hewes, Priest in Charge and Celebrant

Connie Mayo, Music Director

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

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 Gathering of the Community

Prelude: Waltz Johannes Brahms

Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell

Opening Hymn: 663 *The Lord my God my shepherd is (in back of bulletin)*

The Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Song of Praise: Heaven and earth My Heart Sings Out, #133 (Sing Twice)



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Celebrant: The Lord be with you. Congregation: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

Congregation: Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

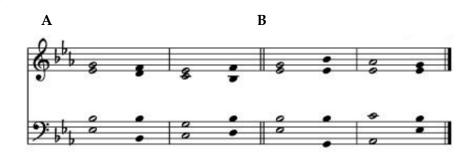
First Lesson: Book of Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23



The LORD is my <u>shepherd</u>; *
I shall not be in <u>want</u>. ||
He makes me lie down in green <u>pastures</u> *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. ||
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. ||
Surely your 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: The Book of Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying. *Congregation:* **Thanks be to God.**

CELTIC ALLELUIA



The Gospel John 10:22-30

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

Congregation: Glory to you, O Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

CELTIC ALLELUIA



Sermon Pastor Elaine Hewes

Affirmation

We believe in God, the source of love,
who breathed God's Spirit into all of creation,
who created humanity in God's own image and likeness,
and who calls God's children to be about the work of reconciliation
and justice in the world God so loves.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God incarnate, who was born of a woman, who modeled for us a way of living on the earth, and whose passionate love for God's creation led to his Passion and death on the cross.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

who moved over the darkness at the beginning to bring light and life, and who moves over the darkness still, opening our hearts to God's incarnate presence in our midst and calling us to be manifestations of incarnation in the name and in the way of Jesus.

Prayers of the People

Risen Lord, whose love defeated even death, hear and answer our deepest hopes and needs as we say, Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

When our cups seem empty Lord, fill them with your love so that our acts of service to the world overflow with courage, generosity and persistence.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Break open the hearts of those who hold authority in our country and in the world that they might focus their attention on policies that promote peace, justice, and the relief of suffering.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Help us to see the needs of those we encounter in our daily lives - our neighbors, the children, and the elders. May we respond with love and compassion.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant us wisdom and determination to respond effectively to climate change. Help us to be stewards, not destroyers, of your magnificent creation.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Bless and heal those who are anxious of heart, hopeless in spirit or ill. Give them relief from suffering and the peace of your presence.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Comfort those who are in their last days, their caregivers, and those who will grieve their loss. May we all learn to trust in your eternal care.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

Please offer your prayers and thanksgivings at this time

All are invited to add their own prayers here.

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

Risen Lord, open our eyes to your presence today, reassure our hearts of your promises, embolden us for mission, and hear and answer our prayers that we might more perfectly be bearers of your love.

Amen.

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

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory Hymn ELW 780 *Shepherd me, O God (in back of bulletin)*

Eucharistic PrayerEnriching our Worship #3

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: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we sing with joy:

Sanctus WLP 857



Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928) from *Freedom Mass*. Based on traditional African melodies. Copyright © 1989 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said,

"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Congregation: Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Congregation: Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.

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 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

God of abundance,

you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Go now as those who have met with Christ

in the morning of this day.

Go now as those who hearts have burned within them,

as the Scriptures were explained.

Go now as those

who have been touched by resurrection.

And may the blessing of God be upon you,

body, mind and spirit, as you leave this place,

Congregation: Amen.

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Sending Hymn 213 *Come away to the skies (vss. 1-4, in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *G minor Prelude*I. S. Bach

Announcements

Dismissal

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The Affirmation was written by Elaine Hewes.

The Prayers of the People adapted from Hear Our Prayer, Prayers of the People for the Revised Common Lectionary.

GIVING OUR PRIORITIES SHAPE (GPS) ACTION ITEM Justice for All

Our GPS Action this week is a call for advocacy and solidarity on behalf of the Wabanaki tribes of Maine. On this coming **Wednesday**, **May 14**, the leaders of the tribes will address the Maine State Legislature during a lobby day for tribal rights. Just as they did two years ago, the five Chiefs of the Wabanaki Nations in present-day Maine will deliver a historic State of the Tribes Address before the Maine Legislature, speaking to the issues facing their Nations, and to the pressing need for recognition and respect for Wabanaki self-determination. Go to the Navigator for a link_to read more about this sovereignty issue.

The Wabanaki Alliance asks folks from all over the state to show up in person at the State House on the morning of May 14 to help them in their advocacy, talk with legislators and be in community together. Please go to the Navigator for a link to the registration form to share with family and friends, and as the day approaches, the Alliance will follow up with more specific information (directions, an agenda for the day, streaming options and more).

CALENDAR

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

Monday, May 12 4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom) Wednesday, May 14 12:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry meeting (Zoom)

1:00- 4:00 p.m. Second Session Creating Mandalas Workshop with Sensei

Frederica Marshall

4:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Saturday, May 17 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sunday, May 18 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev Timothy Ensworth preaching and The

Rev. Donna Downs presiding

Looking Ahead

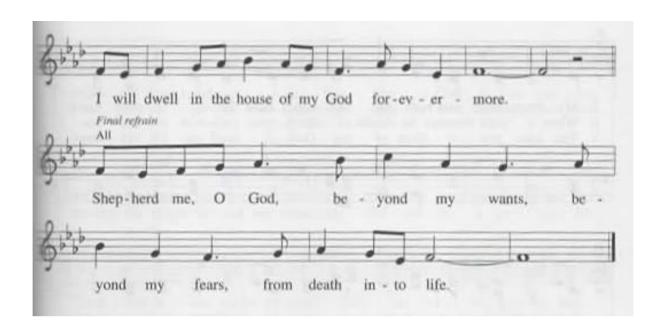
The Service for The Rev. Persis Williams will take place on Wednesday, May 21 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Francis.

The Lord my God my shepherd is The Hymnal 1982, #663



Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of Psalm 23. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Crimond*, melody Jesse Seymour Irvine (1836-1887); harm. *Hymnal 1982*.





Come away to the skies The Hymnal 1982, #213



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Middlebury*, melody from The *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946); alt. acc. Marilyn J. Keiser (b. 1941). Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Jack W. Burnam.

Unless a tadpole stills its gills and dies to underwater ways,

It remains a silent voice in the choir of "Peeper Praise."

But if it lets go of gills, takes a chance and takes a breath,

It will find a song inside where it feared was only death.

And then, oh then, what once was still will lift its voice to heav'n above,

Filling falling dark'ning dusk with God's Easter song of love.