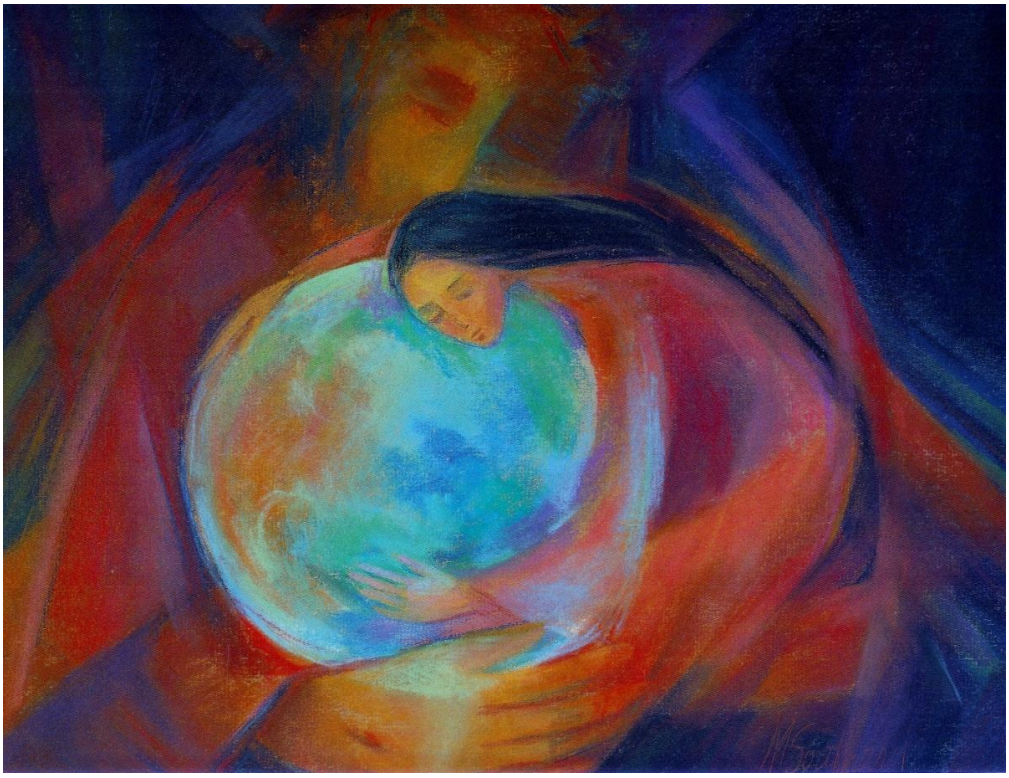


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ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

Deer Isle Maine

Pastor Elaine Hewes, Priest in Charge
The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Reece, Celebrant
Connie Mayo, Music Director

Second Sunday of Easter
Celebrating Earth Day
April 27, 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

The service begins with the ringing of the bell three times and ended with a ring of the bell
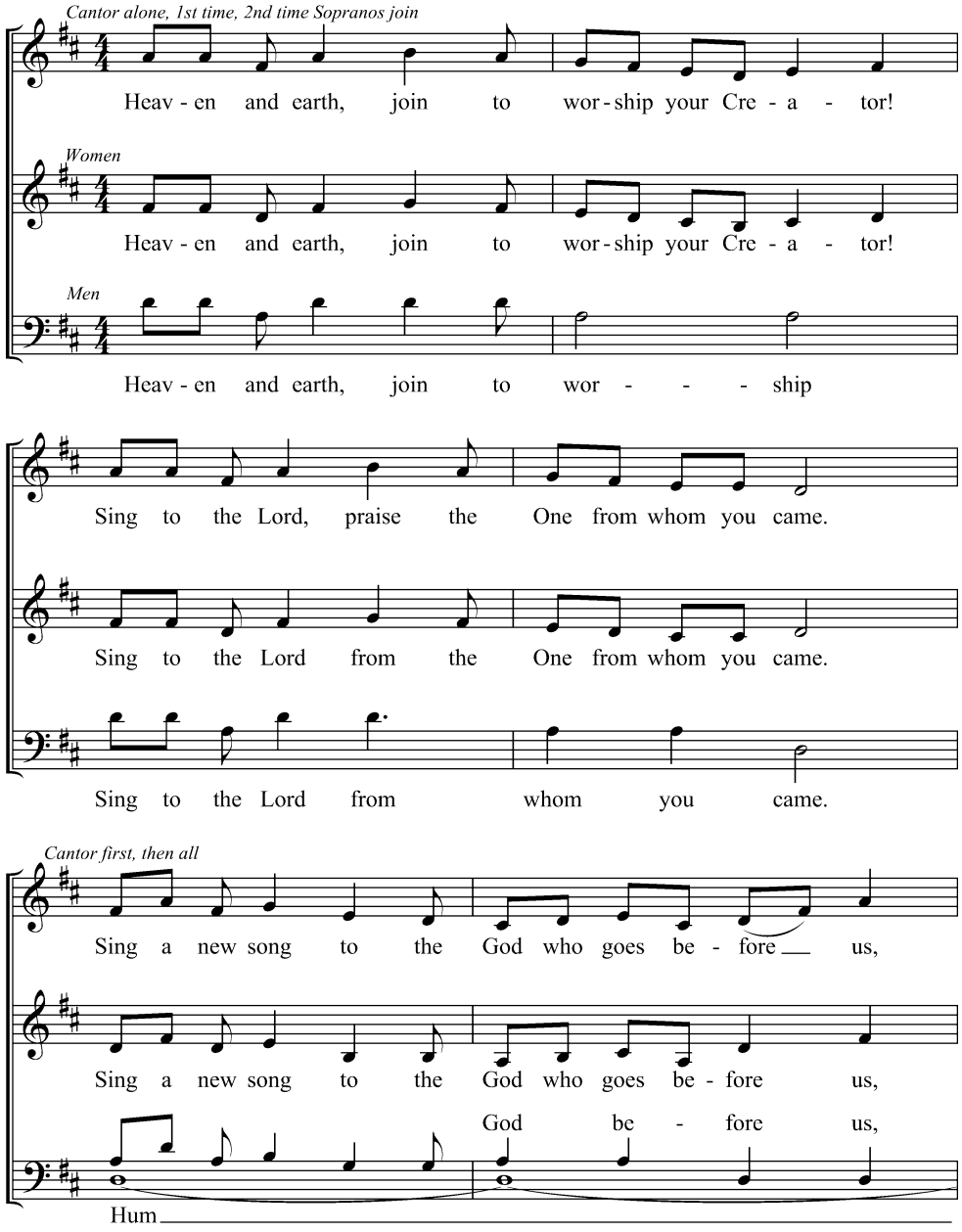
Hymn 385 *Many and great, O God, are thy works (in back of bulletin)*

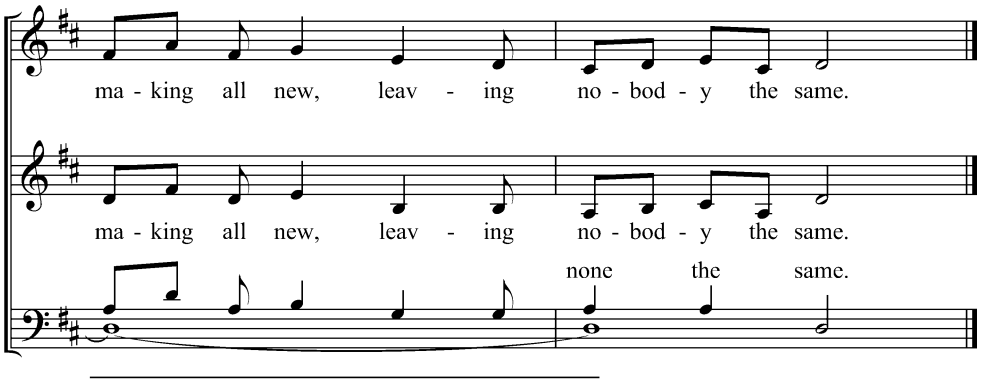
The Acclamation

Celebrant : Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Congregation: **The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Song of Praise*: Heaven and earth* My Heart Sings Out, *#133*





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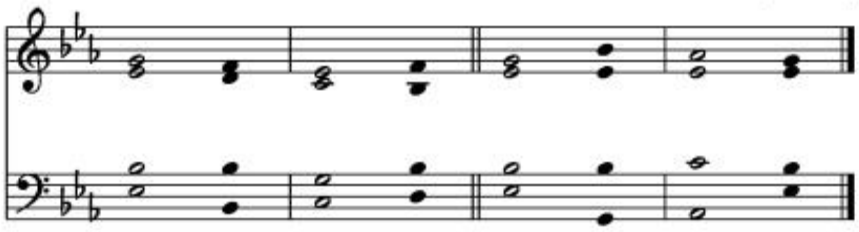
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.
God of abundant mercy, fountain of life, who in the death of your only begotten Son on the cross made yourself known as the source of life gushing forth for all; and who in his Resurrection opened up the ocean of your divine mercy for the whole world, empty yourself out on us we pray, and embrace the whole creation. Grant us to so trust and love you that we will walk in harmony with you, with each other, and with all that you have made, for the sake of that same Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Congregation: **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: A Reading from the writings of Pope Francis:
Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. We lack an awareness of our common origin, of our mutual belonging, and of a future to be shared with everyone.
Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth).
Just as the different aspects of the planet – physical, chemical and biological – are interrelated, so too living species are part of a network which we will never fully explore and understand. A good part of our genetic code is shared by many living beings. It follows that the fragmentation of knowledge and the isolation of bits of information can actually become a form of ignorance, unless they are integrated into a broader vision of reality.
May we pray for the grace to see with God's eyes- not a dis-integrated, elevated, or even secluded existence, but rather a radically interconnected tapestry of Creation in which God's love is the fundamental moving force.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si, 2015* p 77, 120, 138

Psalm 36



Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in their hearts;
there is no fear of God before their eyes. ‖
For they flatter themselves in their own eyes
that their iniquity cannot be found out and hated.

The words of their mouths are mischief and deceit;
they have ceased to act wisely and do good. ‖
They plot mischief while on their beds;
they are set on a way that is not good;
they do not reject evil.

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds. ‖
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. ‖
They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light. ‖
O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me,
or the hand of the wicked drive me away. ‖
There the evildoers lie prostrate;
they are thrust down, unable to rise.

Second Lesson: Letter to the Colossians 1: 11-23a

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from God's glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.
And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven.
Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 395 *Creating God, your fingers trace (in back of bulletin)*

The Gospel: John 20:19-31
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John
Congregation: **Glory to you, O Christ.**
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'
But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'
A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'
Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Reece

Response

Earth teach me quiet
as the grasses are still with new light.

Earth teach me suffering
as old stones suffer with memory.

Earth teach me humility
as blossoms are humble with beginning.

Earth teach me caring
as mothers nurture their young.

Earth teach me courage
as the tree that stands alone.

Earth teach me limitation
as the ant that crawls on the ground.

Earth teach me freedom
as the eagle that soars in the sky.

Earth teach me acceptance
as the leaves that die each fall.

Earth teach me renewal
as the seed that rises in the spring.

Earth teach me to forget myself
as melted snow forgets its life.

Earth teach me to remember kindness
as dry fields weep with rain.

Earth, Teach Me—a prayer of the Ute nation

Prayers of the People

After each bidding prayer, you may offer your own prayers silently or aloud

In this Easter season, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, those in need, and all the members of God's family.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Sean, for our Bishop, Thomas, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for this nation, and for all the nations; for the President, Congress, Judiciary, and all who hold powerful office, that they may be filled with a spirit of compassion and humbly do those things that support the people to live in justice and in peace. Pray for all the nations.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, for refugees, and for those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially for Jorge Mario Bergoglio, who served God and God's people faithfully as Pope Francis. Pray for all who have died; may they rest in peace.

A Prayer for the Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*

Leader: Christ our life,
You are alive
to every unhealed hurt
to every deadened place
to every damaged heart.
Congregation: **By the power of your Spirit,**
help us to be Easter people
in this, our Good Friday world.

Adapted from "Resurrection Prayer," a poem by Rev. Kathy Calloway

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: *God the sculptor of the mountains (in back of bulletin)*
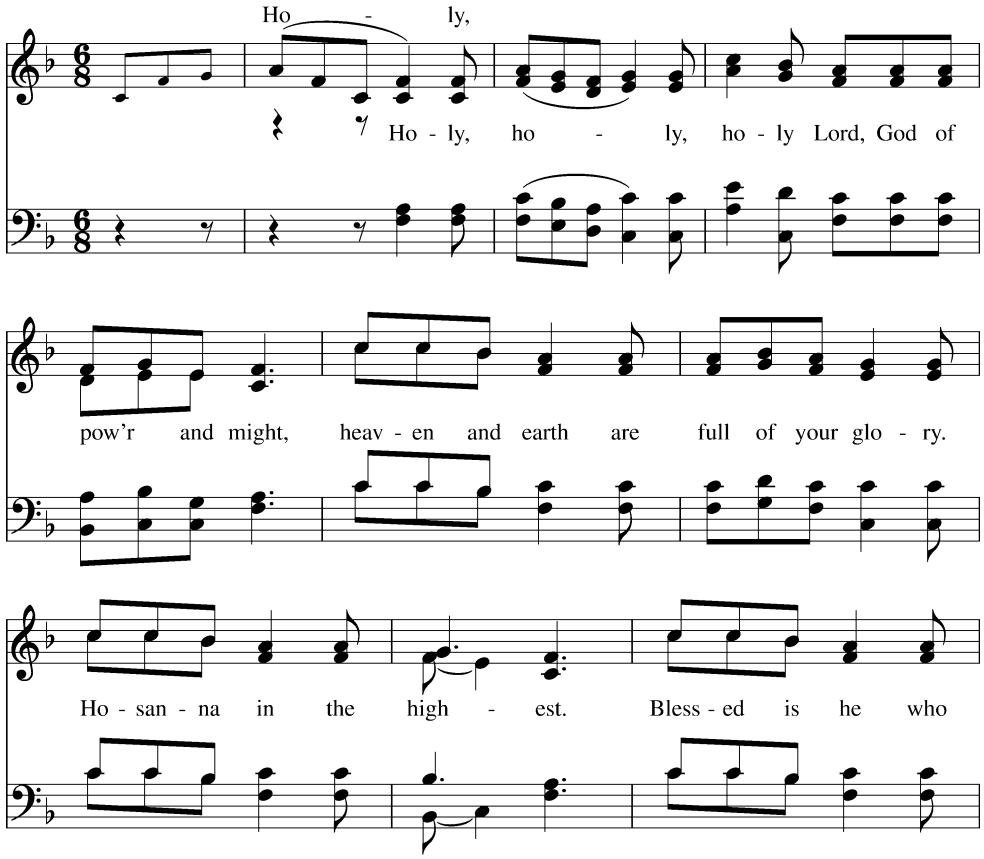
Eucharistic Prayer *Enriching our Worship #3*

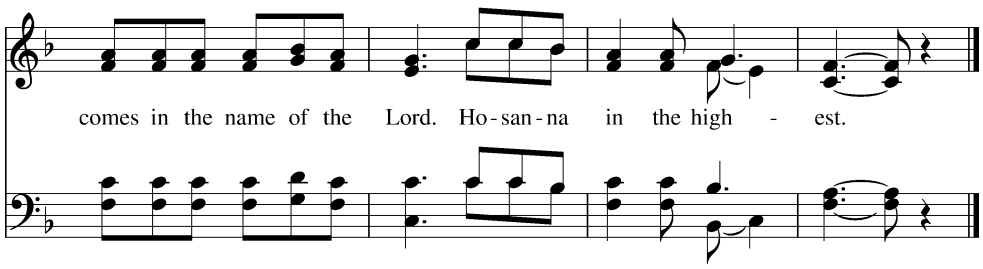
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
Congregation: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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.

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,
and through this meal
you have united us with Christ and your whole creation.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.

And fill us with your Spirit that we might
proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever 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 whose hearts burned within them,
as the Scriptures were explained on the road to Emmaus.

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.**

Sending Hymn *While earth remains (in back of bulletin)*

Postlude

Seth Wrightington, pianist

Announcements

Dismissal

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Concluding Collect to the Prayers of the People written by The Rev. Kathy Calloway "Resurrection Prayer" from *In Love with the Life of Life* ©Iona Community/Wild Goose Publications. Use with permission. www.ionabooks.com.

GIVING OUR PRIORITIES SHAPE (GPS) ACTION ITEM

Caring for Creation

The GPS Action for this Second Sunday of Easter is simply an invitation to enter into the mysteries of God's unfathomable love for us and for all of creation and to allow ourselves to be held in that mystery. By the power of this love we are released from the things that hold us captive, such as fear, hopelessness, or anger, and set free to be signs of God's love in the world in which we now live.

Let our GPS Action this week lead us to be "insurrections of resurrection", bringing hope, comfort and caring into the grief and suffering of the world around us.

Richard Rohr identifies death and resurrection as the universal pattern of Reality. See The Navigator for the link to his post.

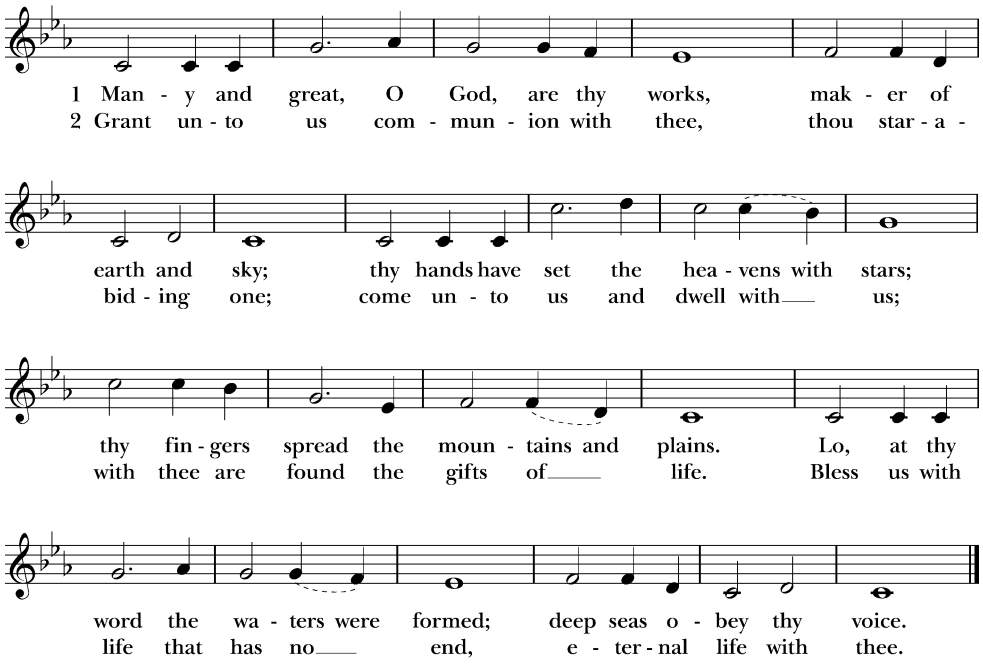
CALENDAR
All services and meetings will be held both in-person and via Zoom unless otherwise designated.

Sunday, April 27	11:30 a.m. Two Ukrainian students who are studying at George Stevens Academy will share with us their experiences in Ukraine and the current situation. Roadside cleanup
Monday, April 28	8:30 a.m. Simmering Pot 4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, April 30	10:00 a.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (in person) 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal
Sunday, May 4	10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Pastor Elaine Hewes presiding

Looking Ahead

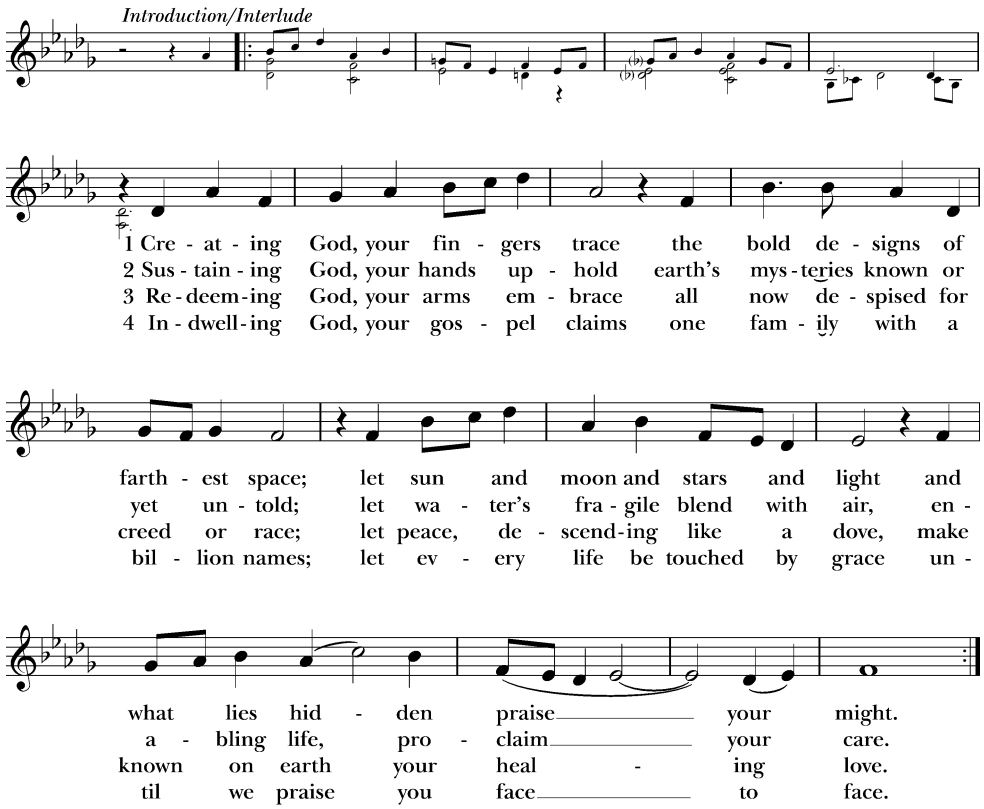
May 7 and 14	1:00-4:00 p.m. Creating Mandalas Workshop with Sensei Frederica Marshall

Many and great, O God, are thy works *The Hymnal 1982,* #385
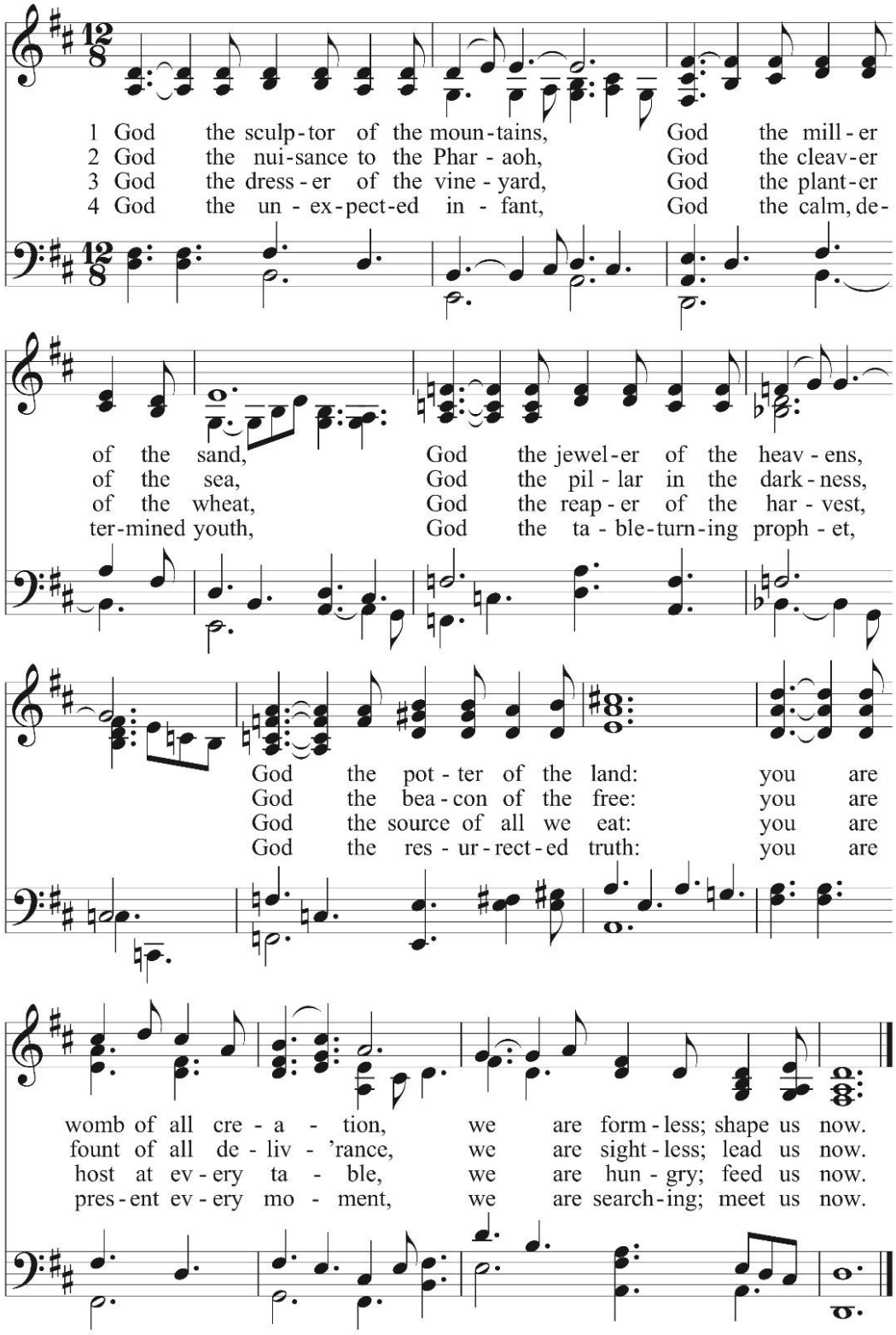


Words: American folk hymn; para. Philip Frazier (1892-1964), alt. Music: *Dakota Indian Chant [Lacquiparle]*, Native American melody.

Creating God, your fingers trace *The Hymnal 1982,* #395



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21 God the Sculptor of the Mountains

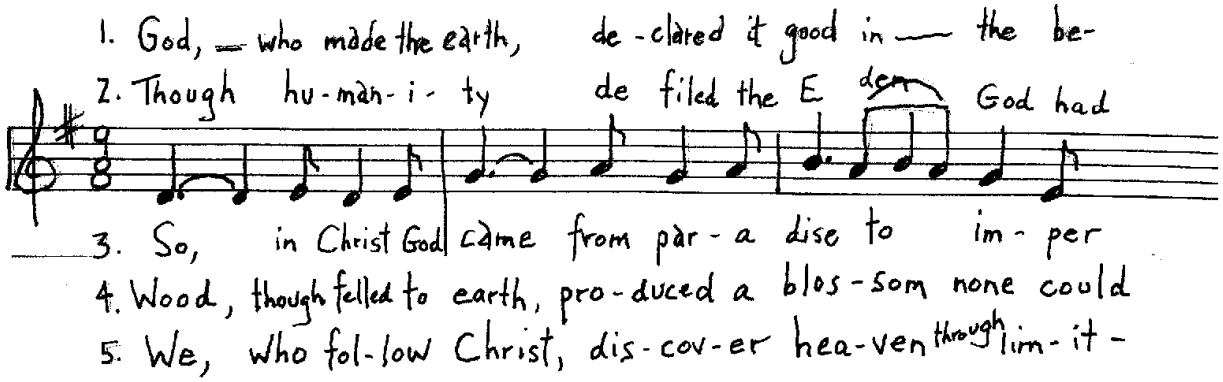


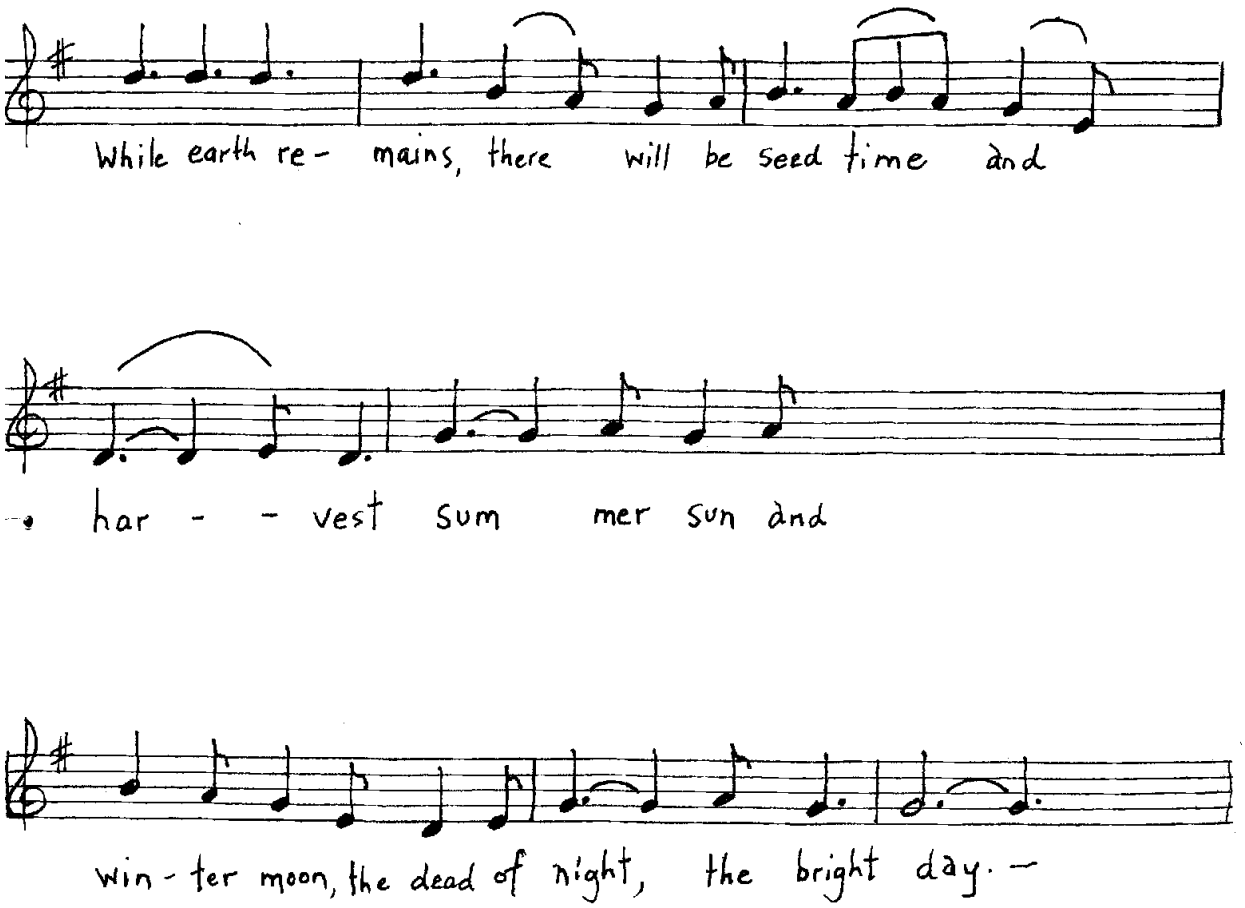
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U.S.A.
8.7.8.7.8.7.
JENNINGS-HOUSTON

While the earth remains





Tune from unknown Korean source
Words and arrangement by John Bell