

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.

The Rev. Stephen Hayward, preaching
Connie Mayo, Musical Director

Morning Prayer
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2020

Prelude: *Kontakion* Benjamin Britten

Matthew Dane, viola

A brief silence

Leader: Holy God, you are always with us.
Congregation: **Open our eyes to your presence.**
Leader: God of faithful surprises, throughout the ages you have made known your love and power in unexpected ways and places: May we daily perceive the joy and wonder of your abiding presence and offer our lives in gratitude for our redemption.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Congregation: **God of all mercy,**
we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Leader: May God forgive us, Christ renew us,
and the Spirit enable us to grow in love. Amen.

Opening Hymn 837 ELWH *Many and Great, O God (in the back of this bulletin)*

The Invitatory

Leader: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
Congregation: **Come let us adore her.**
Leader: Glory to God, Source of all being,
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
Congregation: **as it was in the beginning, is now,**
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Canticle *Benedicite Omnia Opera*

All you works of God, bless your creator;
praise her and glorify her for ever.

Let the wide earth bless the creator;
let the arching heavens bless the creator;
let the whole body of God bless the creator;
praise her and glorify her for ever.

You returning daylight, bless your creator;
twilight and shadows, bless your creator;
embracing darkness, bless your creator;
praise her and glorify her for ever.

Let all who live and grow and breathe
bless our creator,
praise her and glorify her for ever.

-Janet Morley, excerpted from *All Desires Known*

First Lesson: Jonah 3-4
The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish." When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 145 *Praise. Of David*

א I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.
ב Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.
ג **Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.**
ד One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.
ה **On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.**
ו **The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.**
ז They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
ח **The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
ט **The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

י All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.
כ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,
ל to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
מ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
ס The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.
נ The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.
ע The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.
פ You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.
צ The LORD is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.
ק The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.
ר He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.
ש The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.
ת My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Reader: The Gospel according to Matthew
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.'

He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon The Rev. Stephen Hayward

A brief silence

A Creed

We believe in God, the creator of all life and beauty,
who blesses our journey.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
who lived as a friend and savior to all he met as he traveled,
and who ate and laughed, wept, and celebrated with them in love.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who rides on the gentle breeze,
who strengthens our bindings, and
who offers hope eternal.
We believe in the church,
which stands open to all travelers, and
bears witness to the everlasting love of God. Amen.

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be always with you,
Congregation: **And also with you.**

The Prayers

Leader: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer
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.

The Collect of the Day

Leader: Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever
Congregation: **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

God of love, we thank you for the Spirit of the Risen Christ that is ours in baptism and in the Word. Empower us to be your hands of healing in a hurting world, and to follow always in the way of service and love.
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of love, tend to flocks, fields, and vineyards. Bring favorable weather for crops to grow. Guide the hands of those who cultivate, farm, and garden. Let the earth flourish so that all may eat and be satisfied.
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of love, your Son commanded his disciples to have love for one another. Break through our hardened hearts, help us to love and respect the dignity of every human being, and help us to see and dismantle the systems of injustice, systems of privilege and discrimination that prevent us from living as one beloved human family
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of love, give ear to all who call upon you for any need of body or spirit, especially those listed on our parish prayer list, those suffering from COVID-19 and all healthcare workers. Give us the grace and energy to move us to find ways to be in solidarity with our neighbor who does not have enough to eat, who is unemployed or underemployed, and who relies on the generosity of others.
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of love, glorify your servants who walked by faith in this life and who now feast with you. Inspire us by the sacrifice of those who were imprisoned, persecuted, or martyred for their faith.
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Leader: Please add your own prayers

All are invited to add their own prayers here.

Leader: Holy One, in love you created us and called it good:
Grant us the deep wisdom of your love that,
wherever this day leads, our lives may remain rooted
in your goodness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn 814 ELWH *Take, Oh, Take me as I am (sing twice) (in the back of this bulletin)*

Postlude: "Aus Liebe will mein Heiland sterben" from *St. Matthew's Passion* J.S. Bach

Mara Riley, singer and flutist

Text translation of the German:

Out of love my Savior wants to die.
He knows nothing of a single sin;
so that the eternal destruction
and the punishment of judgment
would not remain upon my soul.

Announcements

Dismissal

You are invited to stay for Virtual Coffee Hour
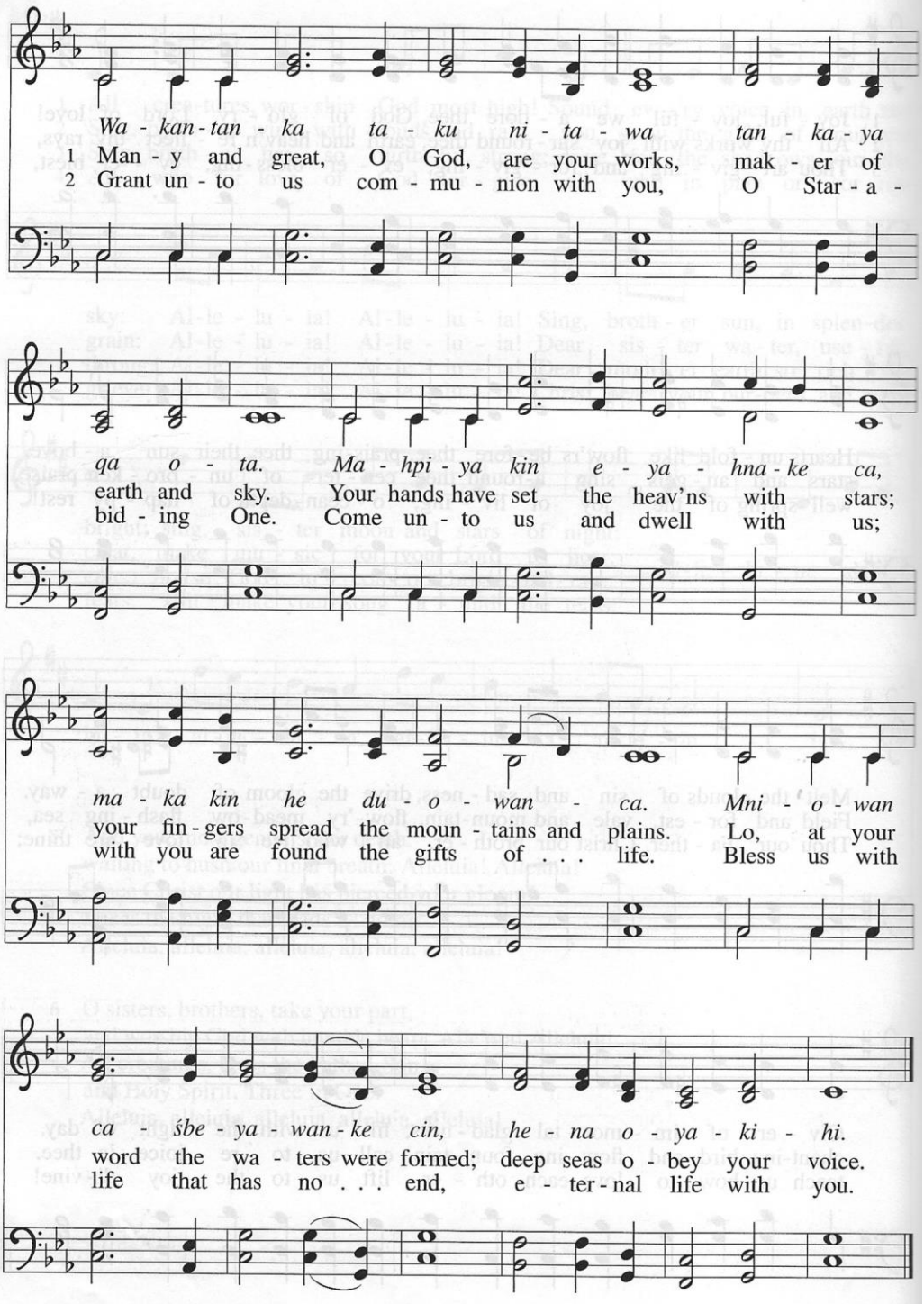
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PRAISE, THANKSGIVING

837 Many and Great, O God

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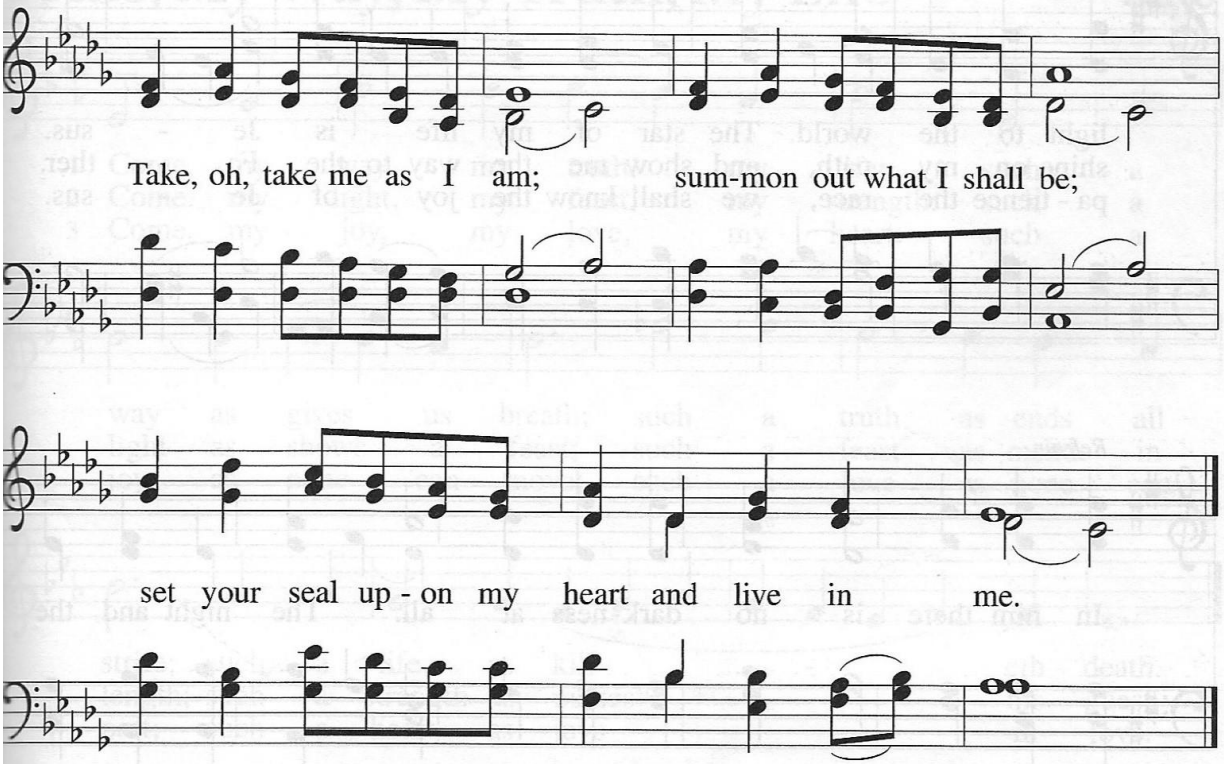


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Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am 814



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: John L. Bell
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TAKE ME AS I AM
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