

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.

Elaine Hewes, Priest in Charge
The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling, Celebrant
Connie Mayo, Music Director

The First Sunday after Epiphany
Proclaiming the Light
January 12, 2025

The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant: We honor the Indigenous people everywhere, particularly the Wabanaki Nations, acknowledging that the land we now occupy is their ancestral home. May we always remember, as do the Wabanaki peoples, that the Earth does not belong to us, rather, we belong to the Earth.
Congregation: **May we find the courage to acknowledge the brutality and violence of our forebears who seized these lands, and may we be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world, and for all creation.**

The bell is rung three times

Prelude: *Herr Christ, der einge Gottessohn* J. S. Bach
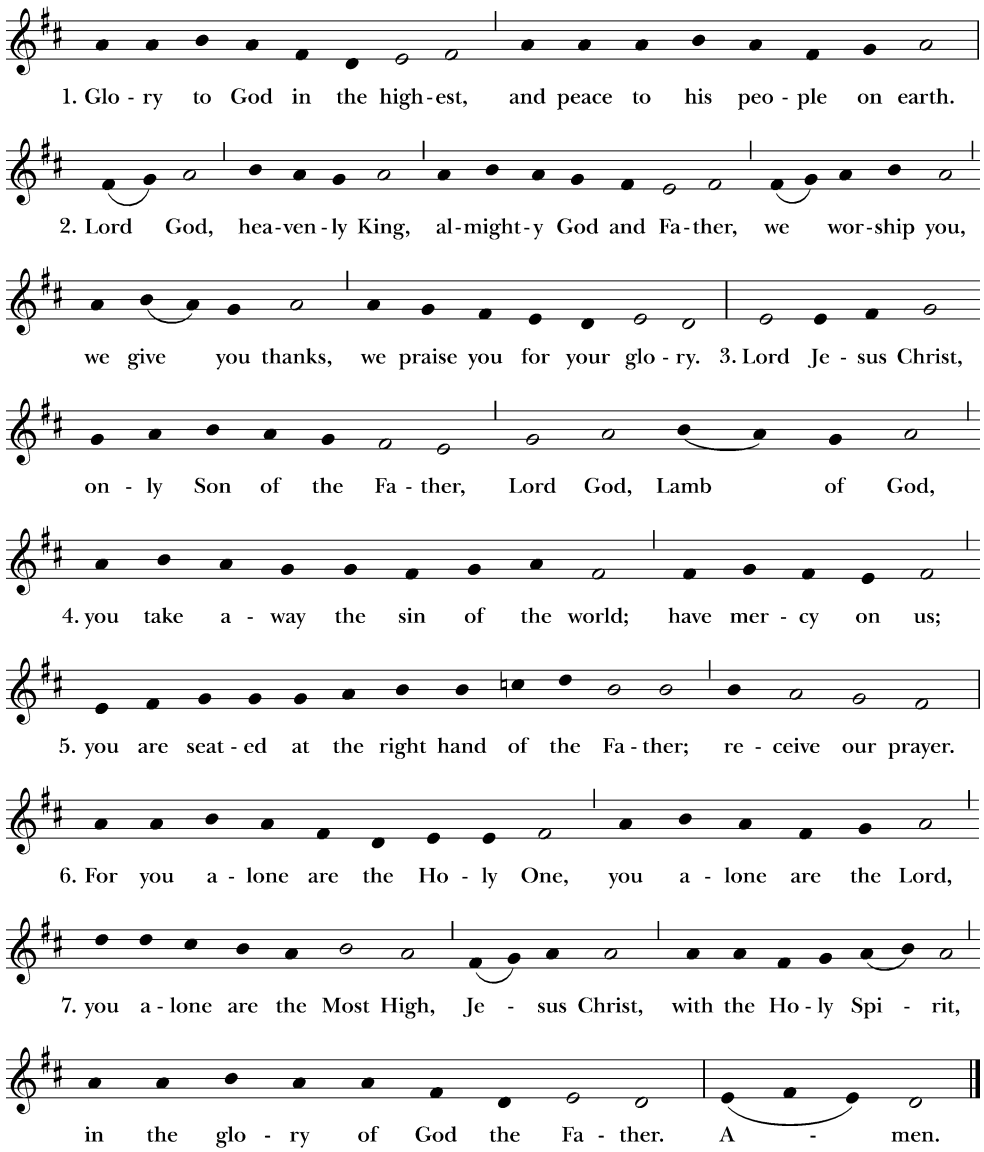
Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell

Opening Hymn 116 *"I come," the great Redeemer cries (in back of bulletin)*

Opening Acclamation
Celebrant: God of proclamation and epiphany,
Congregation: **May we hear the words of the prophets**
to help us discern the possibilities of a different way for the world.

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Glory to God: *Gloria in excelsis The Hymnal 1982, Service Music,* #277



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

The Collect of the Day
Celebrant: May God be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Lord of the desert river,
you search our depths

and call us by name:
may your flame-born Spirit
open the heavens
that we might recognize you
in the one born of earth,
Jesus Christ, the gift of Peace.
Congregation: **Amen.**

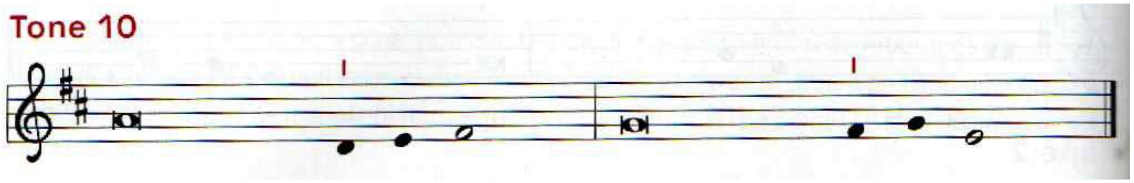
From: Prayers For An Inclusive Church by Steven Shakespeare Canterbury Press

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth--
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 29



Ascribe to the Lord, O I heaven-ly beings, ‖ ascribe to the Lord I glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the I glory of his name; ‖ worship the Lord in I ho-ly splendor.

The voice of the Lord is I over the waters; ‖

the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over I might-y waters.

The voice of the Lord is I pow-er-ful; ‖ the voice of the Lord is I full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord I breaks the cedars; ‖ the Lord breaks the I cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon I skip like a calf, ‖ and Sirion like a I young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth I flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord I shakes the wilderness; ‖ the Lord shakes the I wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the I for-est bare; ‖

and in his temple I all say, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned I over the flood; ‖ the Lord sits enthroned as I king for-ever.

May the Lord give strength I to his people! ‖ May the Lord bless his I people with peace!

Second Lesson: Book of Acts 8:14-17
When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 121 *Christ, when for us you were baptized (in back of bulletin)*

The Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke
Congregation: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased. "
Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling

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

Affirmation *Anonymous Latin American writer*

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the
power of the gospel, born in Bethlehem.
I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a small village,
of whose coming shepherds saw the sign,
and for whom there was no room at the inn.
I believe in the one whose life changed
the course of history, over whom the
rulers of the earth had no power,
and who was not understood by the proud.
I believe in the one to whom the oppressed,
the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind,
the injured gave welcome and thanksgiving.
I believe in the one who – with love –
changed the heart of the proud and
with his life showed that it is better to
serve than to be served.
I believe in peace, which is not the absence of war,
but justice among all people and nations
and love among all.
I believe in reconciliation, forgiveness, and the
transforming power of the gospel.
I believe that Christmas is strength and power,
and that this world can change if with
humility and faith we kneel before the manger.
I pray for the courage to do so. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: God of light and life, arise and shine in our hearts as we offer our prayers to you in hope and faith.

Leader: Grant to us, the Body of Christ, wisdom to discern the presence of God in our midst.

Congregation: **Give us courage to follow wherever You lead us.**

Leader: Let the light of truth and justice shine forth across our nation.

Congregation: **May we create a place of peace and welcome for all.**

Leader: Be with us today and every day.

Congregation: **May your light show forth in our lives.**

Leader: Instill in us awe and thankfulness for the majesty of your created world.

Congregation: **Kindle in our hearts a sense of urgency to be better stewards of creation.**

Leader: Grant healing to those who suffer from anxiety and depression, from disease and from all manner of things that affect our body, mind and spirit.

Congregation: **Let all your people know wholeness, wellness, and peace.**

Leader: Grant to the faithful departed peace and rest in your eternal love.

Congregation: **Bless the dying with peace and the grieving with comfort.**

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: God of radiant light, your love illumines our hopes before we know them, and our needs before we ask. Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

Congregation:

God of Light,
we confess that we have gone astray and have left Your light.
We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune.
We follow the dim lights that call us
to be more religious by following rules.
We follow the fading light of personal salvation
rather than seeking the true Light
of Your love for all the world.
Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus,
who commanded us to love one another.
Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion and justice,
in which the Mystery of Your Love is revealed.
In the name of Jesus the Messiah, we pray. Amen.

Celebrant: Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, hear this good news:
God's mercy is wider than our transgressions.
God's love is deeper than our fear.
God's longing for our wholeness is stronger than our resistance.
We have been freed by grace to be God's people in the world.
Let our lives reflect the light entrusted to us,
in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: **Amen.**

The Peace
Leader: 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

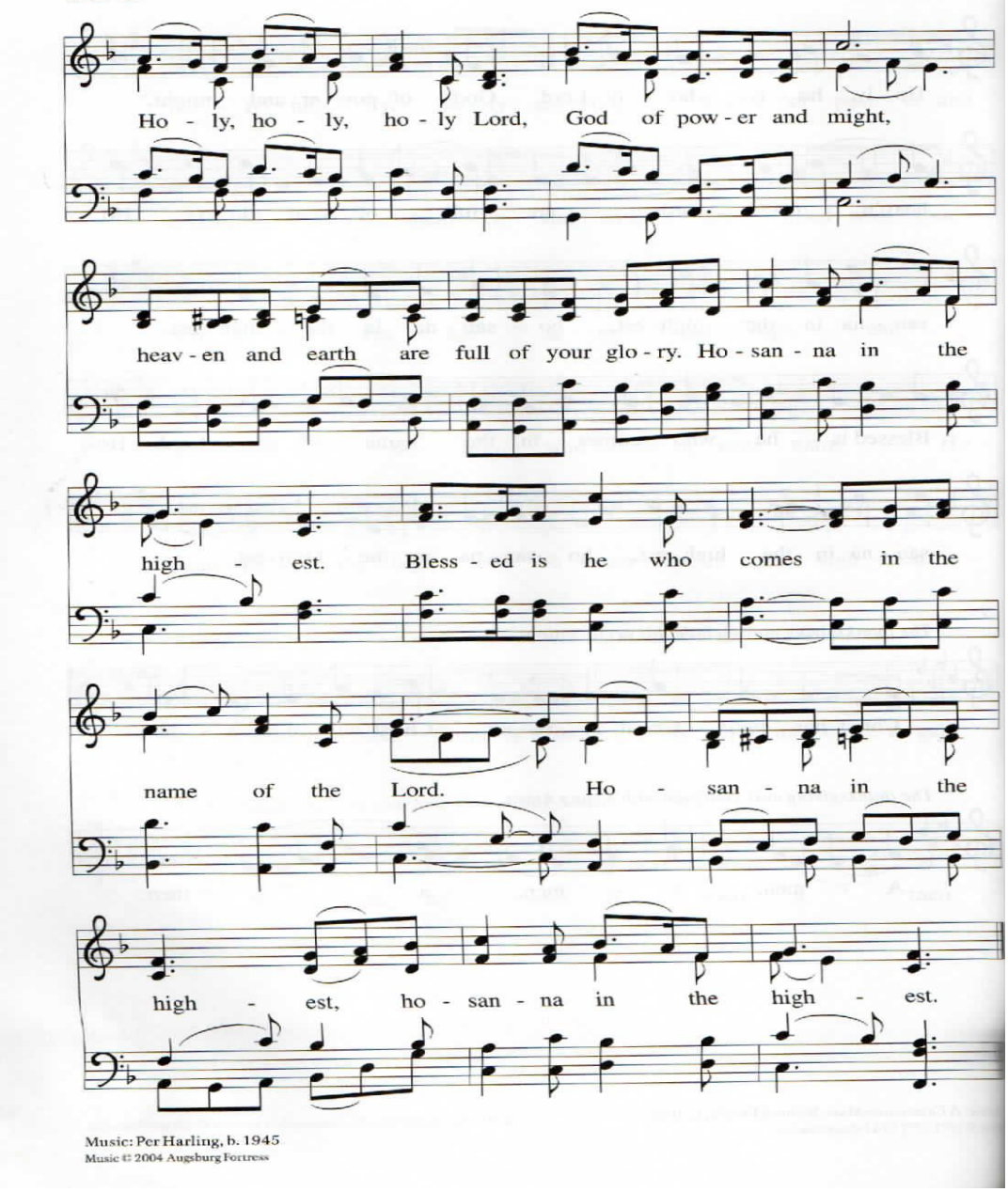
<u>The Holy Eucharist</u>

Offertory Hymn Levas ll 134 *Take me to the water (in back of bulletin)*

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.**

We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high,
for in the communion of your love
Christ comes close to us and we come close to Christ.
Therefore with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea, and sky, we sing to you.
With the angels of light who envelop us,
with all the saints before and beside us,
with brothers and sisters, east and west,
we sing to you.
And with our loved ones, separate from us now,
who yet in this mystery are close to us,
we join in the song of your unending greatness:

Sanctus ELW 193 *(next page)*



Blessed is our brother Jesus,
who walks with us the road of our world's suffering,
and who is known to us in the breaking of bread.
On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread
and having blessed it he broke the bread
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
This is my body, given to you.
In the same way he took wine
and having given thanks for it, he poured it out
and gave the cup to his disciples, saying,

This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood.
Take this and share it.

Congregation: **Hear us, O Christ,**
and breathe your Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine.
May they become for us your body, vibrant with your life.
May they heal, renew, and make us whole.
And as the bread and wine
which we now eat and drink are changed into us,
may we be changed again into you,
bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh,
loving and caring in the world. Amen.

Gathered into one body by the Holy Spirit, let us all pray the prayer our Lord taught us to pray:
Congregation:

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
We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Celebrant: In recognition with those who are worshiping with us remotely we pray.
Celebrant and Congregation: **Gathered in the name of Jesus, whether here or on Zoom, we are 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
Celebrant: In thanksgiving for the gifts of grace and mercy that have nourished us at this table, we pray for the courage to bear these gifts to the world, remembering the life to which Jesus calls us.

When the song of the angels is stilled,

When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:

Congregation: **To find the lost,**
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music in the heart.

The Work of Christmas by Howard Thurman

The Blessing

Sending Hymn 704 *O thou who camest from above (verses 1-3, in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *Gavotte* Samuel Wesley

Announcements

Dismissal

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Prayers of the People adapted from *"Hear our Prayer, Prayers of the People for the RCL"*
Prayer of Confession written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell http://rev-o-lution.org Used by permission.

Giving our Priorities Shape (GPS) Action

Love in Action

We heard a couple of weeks ago from the Gospel of John, "And the Word became Flesh and dwelt among us..." Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe wrote in his Christmas message, "Our hurting and divided world is desperate for the Incarnation."

Please contemplate this week how we, the community of St Brendan, can engage in our broken world, can proclaim God's Incarnation by our actions and work to alleviate suffering, injustice, and loneliness.

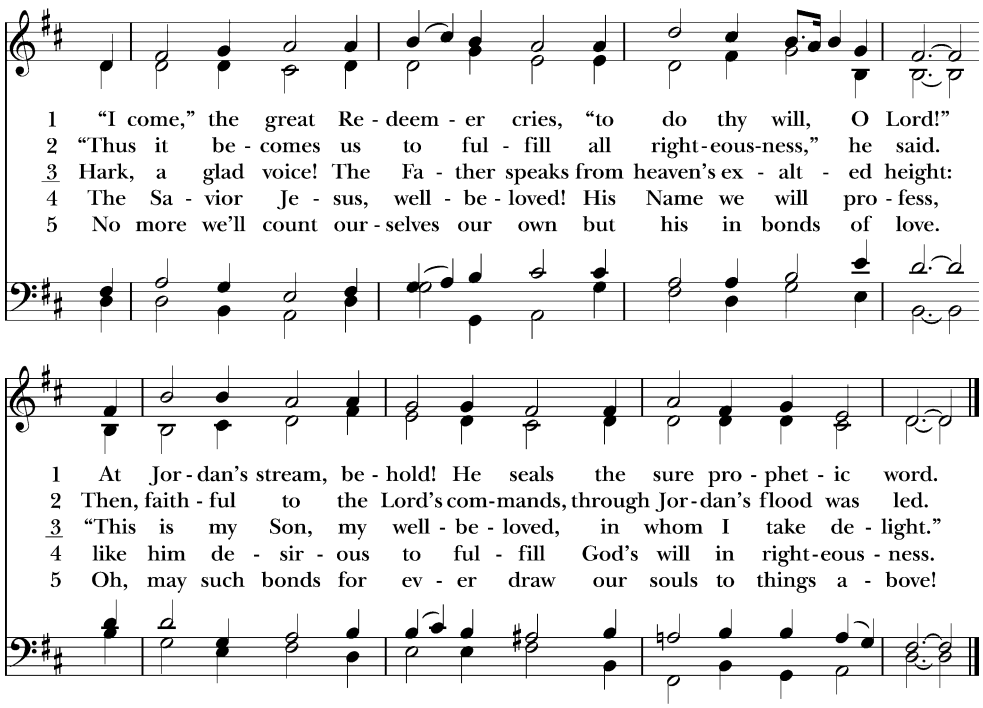
Read Bishop Sean's Christmas message and consider registering for the January 14 Maine Council of Churches' first of a series of online "town hall" discussions on the theme "Here We Are. Send Us!" Links for these can be found in the Navigator.

CALENDAR

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

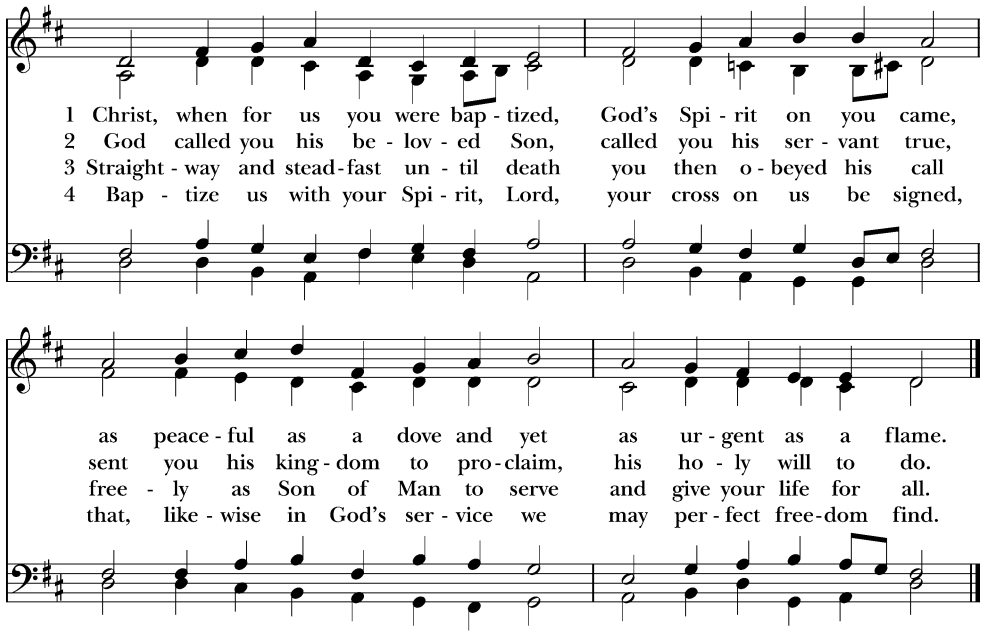
Sunday, January 12	5:00 p.m. Community Ham Dinner at Deer Isle-Sunset Congregational Church
Monday, January 13	4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, January 15	8:30 a.m. Vestry meeting 10:00 a.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (in-person) 10:30 a.m. Bible Study with Dr. Pam Shellberg on Luke 4:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal
Saturday, January 18	8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Stonecutters Kitchen
Sunday, January 19	10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Pastor Elaine Hewes presiding 11:15 a.m. Coffee and Tea with Pastor E.

“I come,” the great Redeemer cries *The Hymnal 1982*, #116
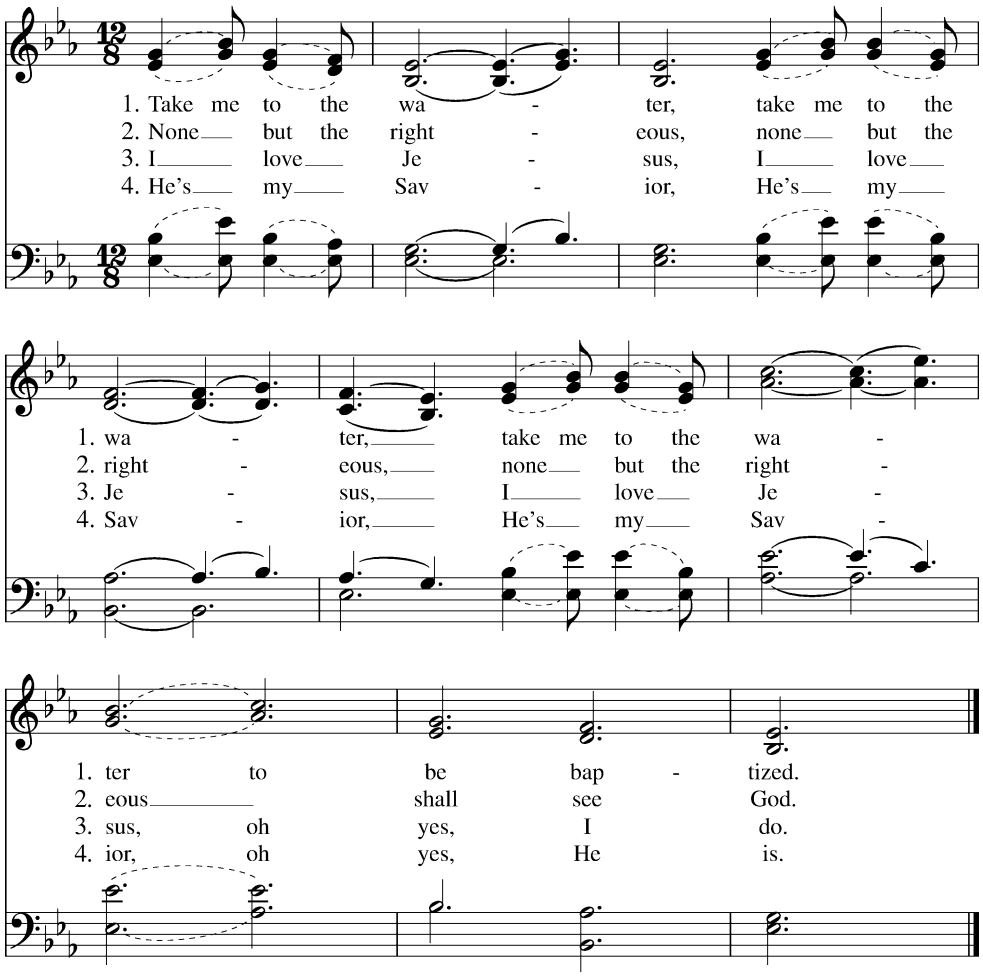


Words: *Christian Hymnbook*, 1865, alt. Music: *This Endris Nyght*, English melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).
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Christ, when for us you were baptized *The Hymnal 1982,* #121
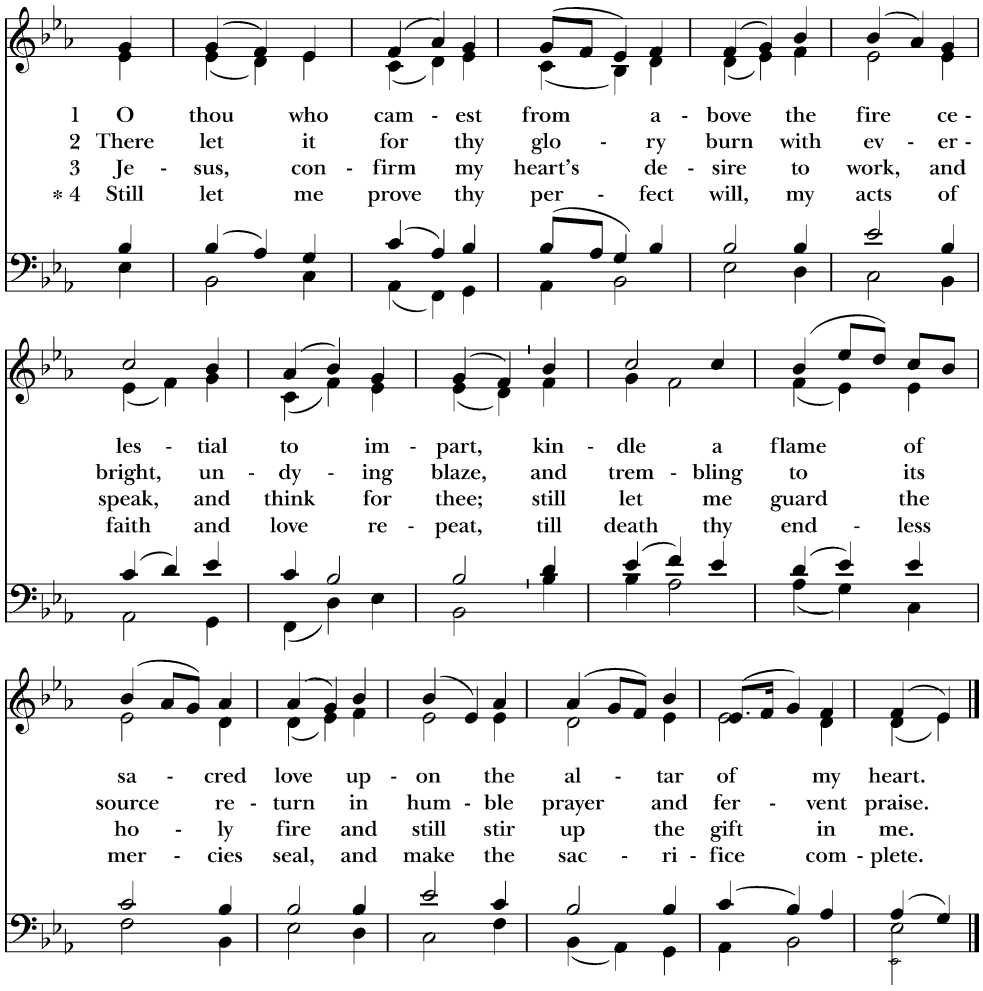


Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Caithness*, melody from *The Psalmes of David in Prose and Meeter*, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

Take Me to the Water *Lift Every Voice and Sing II,* #134



Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Arr. Copyright © 1992 Horace Clarence Boyer.

O thou who camest from above *The Hymnal 1982,* #704



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Hereford*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876).