



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water

EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

Deer Isle Maine

Pastor Elaine Hewes, Pastor in Charge and Celebrant

Connie Mayo, Choir Director

Scott Cleveland, Guest Musician

Fifth Sunday of the Season of Creation

The Feast of St. Francis

Pentecost Proper 22

October 4, 2026

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.**

Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell.

Prelude: *Moderato in C*

J. S. Bach

Opening Hymn: 686 *Come Thou Font (in back of bulletin)*

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. And God called them good.

Congregation: **Come, Holy Spirit, and cleanse the waters.**

Celebrant: In the Jordan River the high and mighty King Naaman was cleansed of his leprosy.

Congregation: **Come, Holy Spirit, and wash away all that keeps us from being the people you call us to be.**

Celebrant: Jesus cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me... Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

Congregation: **Come, Holy Spirit, and heal your people.**

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for your love in all creation, and especially for your gift of water to sustain and cleanse all life. We offer our thanks for the waters that bring beauty to all that we enjoy, the wild places, the bush, the mountains, the coast, and the sea. And so we immerse ourselves in these waters from these many places.

We fill the font with living water

Song of Praise: For the Beauty of the Earth *(sing)*

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,

for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Christ, our God, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

The Collects of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All-loving and everliving God, you are always more ready to give than we are to receive: Pour upon us your abundance of contentment with simple, faithful living; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever

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: The Book of Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

A

B

Jerome Webster Mcachen
(b. 1930)

The heavens declare the glory of God, *
 and the firmament shows his handiwork. ||
 One day tells its tale to a nother, *
 and one night imparts knowledge to a nother.

Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard. ||
Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
 it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
 it rejoices like a champion to run its course. ||
 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
 and runs about to the end of it a gain; *
 nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent. ||
The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
 the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous alto-gether. ||
 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
 sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant en-lightened, *
and in keeping them there is great re-ward. ||
Who can tell how often he of-fends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; *
 let them not get dominion over me; ||
 then shall I be whole and sound, *
 and innocent of a great of-fense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart *
be acceptable in your sight, ||
O LORD, my strength *
and my re-deemer.

Second Lesson: Letter to the Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: ELW 814 *Take O Take me as I Am* Sing Three Times (*in back of bulletin*)

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

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

Congregation: **Glory be to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Elaine Hewes

Silence

Profession of Faith

We put our 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.

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, its waters, 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.

Congregation: **Lord hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all bishops, ministers, and spiritual leaders, especially our Presiding Bishop, Sean, and our
Bishop, Thomas, and all priests and deacons who serve our churches.

Congregation: **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.

Congregation: **Lord hear our prayer.**

Leader: In this Season of Creation, make us mindful of the gift of living waters in our rivers and streams, our
oceans and lakes, that we might offer our thanksgiving for its power to sustain all life.

Congregation: **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.

Congregation: **Lord hear our prayer.**

Leader: Show us how to respect and appreciate all earth's creatures, the birds, the bears, the bees and the
butterflies.

Congregation: **Lord hear our prayer.**

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, and for those struggling with
addiction, joblessness or loneliness, that they may know the power of your transforming love.

Congregation: **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.

Congregation: **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?

Leader: 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 we encounter. In the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and advocate, who lives and reigns 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

Holy and merciful God,

we confess that we have failed to honor you

by failing to respect our kinship with all your creatures.

We have walked heavily on your earth,

overused and wasted its resources, and

taken for granted its beauty and abundance.

Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.

Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend,

with grateful and compassionate hearts,

through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

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.**

We remember those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or other significant events in October

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: 593 *Lord, make us servants of your peace (in back of bulletin)*

Eucharistic Prayer

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: Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God, whose Spirit moves over the deep. We thank you for the gift of water — the waters on the Earth, and under the Earth, the waters above us, and within us. You have filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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. 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 your 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.

The Blessing

Sending Hymn: 679 *Surely it is God Who saves me (in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *Allegro in C minor*

J. S. Bach

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace, as people of God made Christ's own through the waters of baptism and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Congregation: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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Opening sentences adapted from *Season of Creation Celebration Guide*, 2026.

Prayers of the People written by The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling

CALENDAR

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

Monday, October 5	4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, October 7	10:00 a.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (in person) 10:30 a.m. Part 2 of a three part series entitled <i>Using our own Stories to be Advocates for Peace and Justice</i> offered by The Rev. Alice Hildebrand
Thursday, October 8	7:00 p.m. "Courage is Contagious" - An evening with Bishop Mariann Budde, Merrill Auditorium in Portland
Saturday, October 10	9:00 a.m. Women's Breakfast at Stonecutters Kitchen
Sunday, October 11	10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Emily Blair Stribling presiding. 5:00 p.m. Celtic Evensong, Anne Scarff, reflector

Looking Ahead

Tuesday, October 13	5:30 p.m. Legacy Evening and Potluck (<i>See Navigator for details</i>)
Friday, October 30--	
Thursday, November 5	8:30 a.m. -5:30 p.m. WindowDressers Community Build

GPS (Giving Our Priorities Shape)

Caring for Creation

(A prayer taken from the Season of Creation Celebration of Living Waters Guide 2026)

Convert our hearts, O God.

Where we have treated water as a commodity,
teach us to receive it as a sacred gift.

Where we have consumed without thought,
teach us simplicity.(from

Where we have used water without reverence,
teach us to protect it as a gift
entrusted to every generation

and to honor water as a source of life for all.

Where we have been silent and tolerant of injustice
make us courageous protectors of rivers, defenders of seas,
and companions to those who suffer water injustice
until justice and mercy flows like the river of life.

Come, thou fount of every blessing *The Hymnal 1982, #686*

1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly

heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a

ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to

flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and

on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

814

The musical score is written for a soprano and bass voice duo. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a soprano staff and a bass staff. The second system also has a soprano staff and a bass staff. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: 'Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.'

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

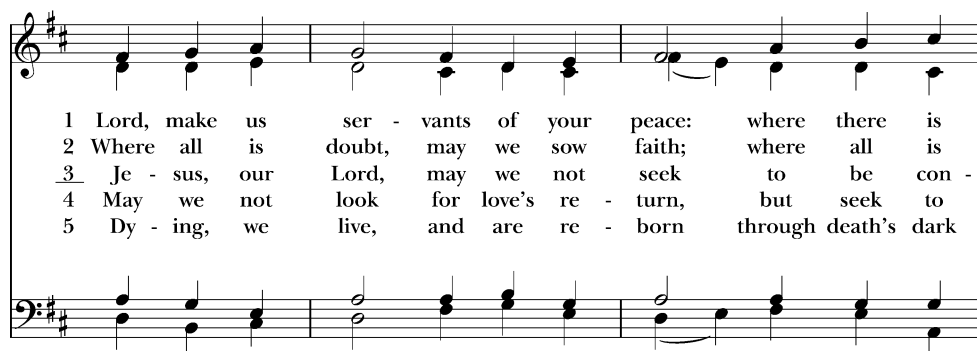
Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: John L. Bell

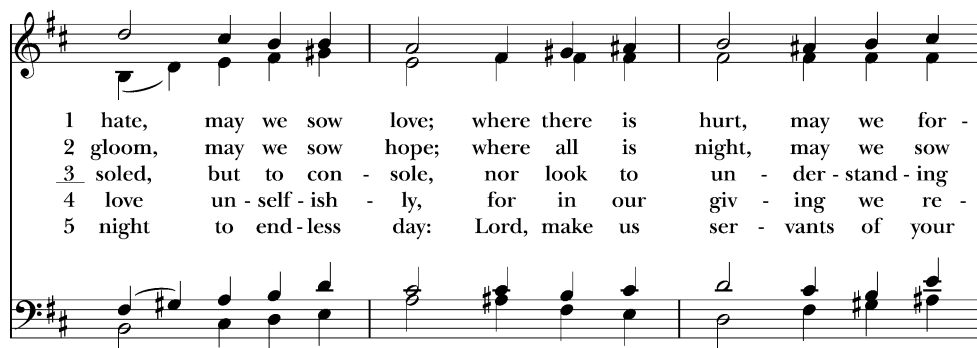
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TAKE ME AS I AM
7774

Lord, make us servants of your peace *The Hymnal 1982, #593*



1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division on Cassell Ltd. Music: *Dickinson College*, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979). Copyright © 1962, Theodore Presser Co. used by permission of the publisher.

Surely it is God who saves me *The Hymnal 1982, #679*

1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed

fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his

help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with

va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the

liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*. Copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Thomas Merton*, Ray. W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 Ray W. Urwin.

These are our **values** at St. Brendan the Navigator Episcopal Church.
We will:

Welcome others with **respect** and **compassion**;

Listen to others with **trust** and **appreciation**;

Seek God's goodness in each person;

Strive for **consensus** and work **collaboratively**;

Join in acts of **loving kindness**;

Share our faith joyfully across the generations;

Engage as many of our **parishioners** as possible, **year-round**,
in our common life and ministries;

Learn from our past and look to the future with **hope**.

The Prayer of St. Brendan

Lord, we will trust You,
 help us to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown.
Give us the faith to leave old ways and
 break fresh ground with You.
Christ of the mysteries,
 we trust You to be stronger than each storm within us.
We will trust in the darkness and
 know that our times are in Your hand.
Tune our spirit to the music of heaven,
 and somehow, make our obedience count for You.

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.