

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 Reverend Lev Sherman, preaching
Connie Mayo, Music Director

Morning Prayer
Second Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021

Prelude: *Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ* J. S. Bach

A brief silence

Leader: Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. *Joel 2:13*

Confession of Sin

Leader: God begs us to turn from those words, those acts, those obstacles which keep us from being God's people. I invite you to join me as we bring our brokenness to God, who desires to make us whole:

Congregation:
Merciful God,
for too long we travelled our own ways,
for too long have sought to satisfy our hidden desires.
We have trusted the falsehoods of the world,
and relied on that power which would consume our souls.
We have sought healing from impostors,
and rejected the one who was broken for our wholeness.

Have mercy on us, God, whose love overflows our deepest hopes.
Let our hearts be a sanctuary for your spirit;
Let our lives abound in service to others;
let our spirits reflect the one we call our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Silence

Leader: God seeks to pour a new spirit into us: the spirit of hope and joy.
Congregation: **We turn to the one who delivers us from our sins.**
We praise God with cleansed hearts. Amen.

Opening Hymn 455 *O love of God, how strong and true (in back of bulletin)*

The Invitatory

Leader: Our God is full of compassion and mercy:
Congregation: **O come, let us worship.**
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.

First Lesson: Genesis 17.15-22

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live in your sight!" God said, "No, but your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. As for Ishmael, I have heard you; I will bless him and make him fruitful and exceedingly numerous; he shall be the father of twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this season next year." And when he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.
They will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of their salvation.
Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah*

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. *Selah*

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38
Leader: The Gospel according to Mark
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ**
Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."
He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."
Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon The Rev. Lev Sherman

A brief silence

A Creed from the Iona Community

We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth,
whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all
and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust;
and, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others,
to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth
and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness,
to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love,
and in the company of the faithful so to be the church, for the glory of God. Amen.

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

You are invited to exchange the peace

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
O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray that we seek to turn your way, O God. May our Lenten observances bring renewal of spirit and clarity of vision in our service of the Gospel. We pray to the Lord.
Renew our Hearts, O Lord.

Let us pray for political leaders, religious leaders and people of faith everywhere that their efforts and ours to foster global peace and justice be rooted in a change of heart that turns away from violence and seeks the good of the poor, powerless, and defenseless of our world.
Renew our Hearts, O Lord.

Let us pray for all who suffer due to a lack of justice in our world. May they find hope and comfort in Christians' increased actions to improve the common good in this Lenten season.
Renew our Hearts, O Lord.

Let us pray for ourselves, that we might be strengthened to look past the doubts and fears which tempt us to abandon our Lenten efforts to live justly as God's people. We pray to the Lord.
Renew our Hearts, O Lord.

Please offer your own prayers at this time

All are invited to add their own prayers here.

Congregation: **Merciful God, You created us from the dust of the earth,**
and breathed your own life into our very being.
You recreated us in Christ through the waters of Baptism,
that we might share as a people your fullness of life.
During these forty days,
may our fasting strengthen us to seek your justice,
may our prayer lead us to become makers of peace,
and may our sharing quicken the seeds of your Rule,
present in all human hearts, and growing in mystery,
as we await with joyful anticipation, the resurrection of Jesus your Son.
We make this prayer to you in his name. Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn 707 *Take my life, and let it be (in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *Blessed ye who live in faith unswerving* Johannes Brahms

Dismissal

Announcements

You are invited to stay for Virtual Coffee Hour

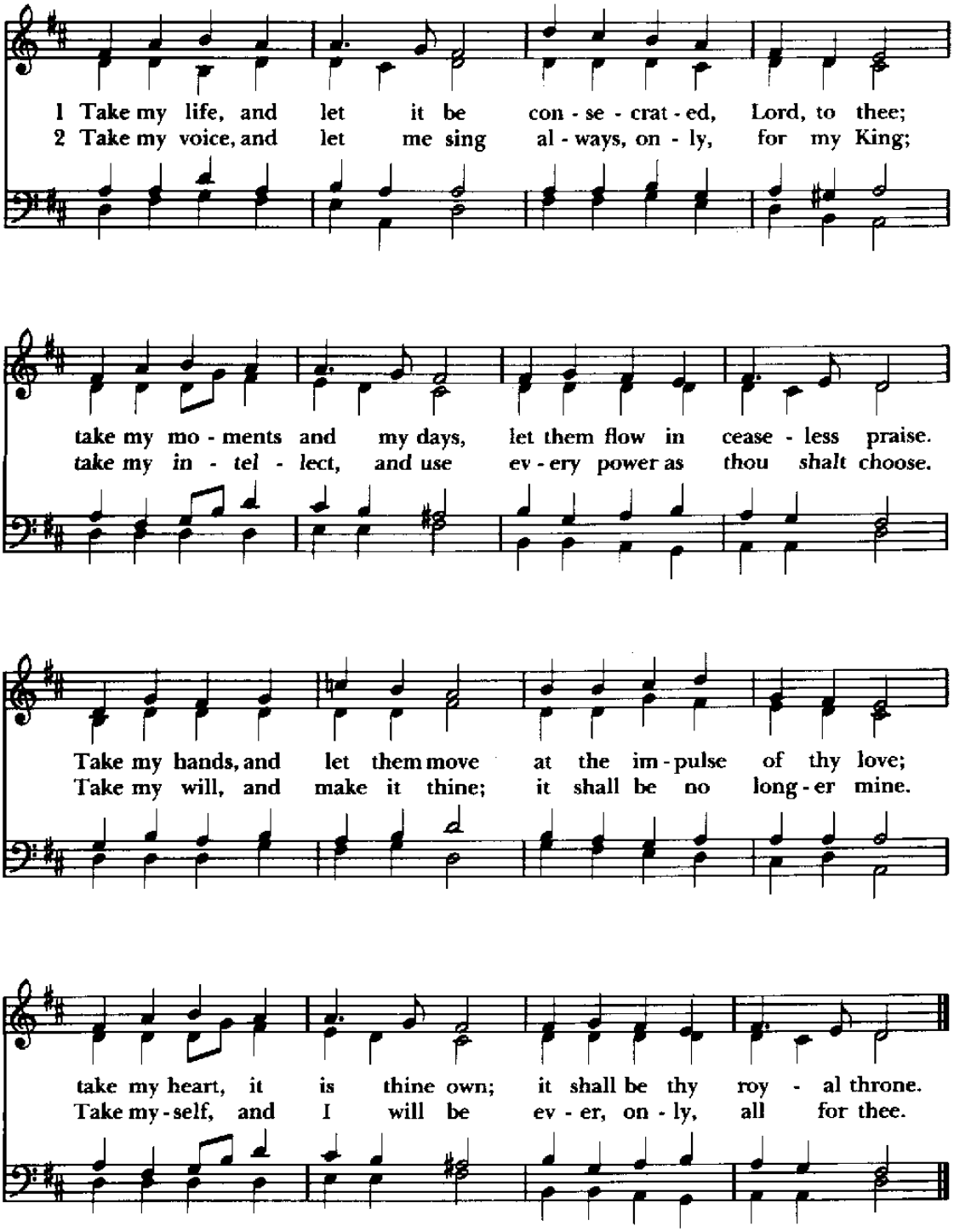
Confession of Sin and Creed (c) The Iona Community from *The Iona Abbey Worship Book*, published by Wild Goose Publications, Iona Community, Glasgow, UK.

455 Jesus Christ our Lord



Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)
Music: *Dunedin*, Vernon Griffiths (b. 1894) LM

707 The Christian Life



Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), alt.
Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

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