

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.

Pastor Elaine Hewes, preaching
Connie Mayo, Music Director

Morning Prayer
Second Sunday after Christmas
January 3, 2021

Prelude: *Three Traditional Carols* Connie Mayo

A brief silence

Leader: O God, we set our hearts on You. You are trustworthy, faithful and the Giver of the gift of peace. Please fill us this Christmas season.

Congregation: **May others see Your peace in us, let them recognize You as Savior. In Jesus' Name, Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Congregation: **Lord of Christmas Peace,**
we have done wrong.
We have tarnished the gift you gave freely.
We have buried you so deeply in our hearts, the world doesn't see you.
We have not followed Christ,
we have ignored your teachings,

we have lived lives of apathy
against your love,
we have built fences and fortresses to push people away,
and we have silenced the screams of those in need.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us from our sin,
Free us from our captivity,
Free us to a life lived in Joy
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Rev. Nathan Decker

Leader: May God forgive us and help us to continue the journey.
As a woman is delivered from the pain of her labor to the joy of cradling her child,
may we be delivered into God's grace.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Opening Hymn 128 *We Three Kings (Verses 1 – 4 in back of the bulletin)*

The Invitatory

Leader: Christ has shown forth his glory:
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: Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 84 *Imagine the Pilgrim group arriving at the Temple complex in Jerusalem*

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
    my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
The sparrow has found her a house
    and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;
by the side of your altars,
    O LORD of hosts,
    my King and my God.
Happy are they who dwell in your house!
    they will always be praising you.
Happy are the people whose strength is in you!
    whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,
    for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
They will climb from height to height,
    and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
    hearken, O God of Jacob.
Behold our defender, O God;
    and look upon the face of your Anointed.
For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room,
    and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
    than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
For the LORD God is both sun and shield;
    he will give grace and glory;
No good thing will the LORD withhold
    from those who walk with integrity.
O LORD of hosts,
    happy are they who put their trust in you!

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12.
Leader: The Gospel according to Matthew
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ**
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

    `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
        are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"
Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon Pastor Elaine Hewes

A brief silence

Affirmation

We believe in God, Creator of all:
The two-legged, the four-legged,
the winged ones, and those that crawl upon the earth and swim in the waters.
We believe in God, One Who Walked with Us:
Our Brother Jesus born in humility,
who lived and died for us and
who will come again to bring us to glory.
We believe in God, Spirit with Us:
Ever present and ever guiding, upholding us and
showing us the principles to live by.
We hear God's voice through the prophets.
Creator, One Who Walked with Us, Spirit with Us, Holy One:
We are named in the waters of baptism as your own,
all of us related, all of us your children.
We watch for signs of your homecoming
and thank you for this sacred circle of life. Amen.

Recognition of birthdays, anniversaries and other significant remembrances in January

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.

Lord's Prayer Chant *(see back of bulletin)*

The Collect of the Day
Leader: O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Leader: We pray that in this new Year 2021 we will all share our gifts generously with others and will make Christ manifest in our lives, within our families, and community, and in our response to the needs of the global family.
God of light and love,
Congregation: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray that "the light of Christ", the light of the star that guided the wise men will "open the eyes of our hearts" to see what we have not seen before.
God of light and love,
Congregation: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray that we have the courage to speak the truth of God's love for all creation and, even more, to live it more clearly than ever before in our own lives and actions.
God of light and love,
Congregation: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Please offer your own prayers at this time

All are invited to add their own prayers here.

Leader: God everlasting and ever-near, the coming of your light into our world brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us by the Spirit of your incarnate love to bear witness to the light of Christ in word and in deed. Make of our hearts a manger for the Christ child, and make of our lives a sign of your presence in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Leader: 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

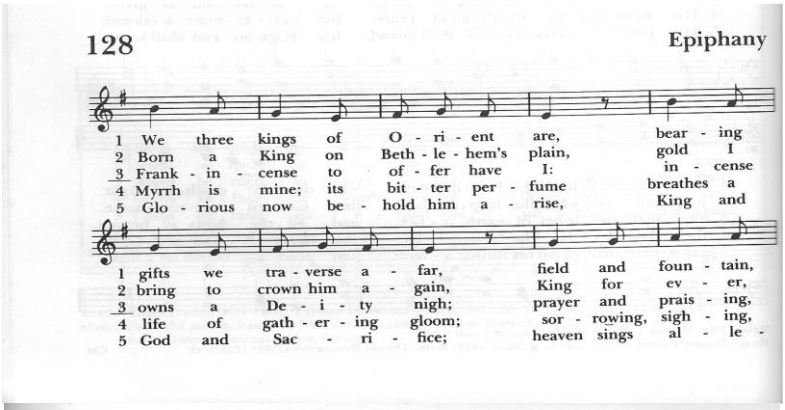
Sending Hymn 124 *What Star is this, with Beams so Bright (Verses 1 - 4 in back of the bulletin)*

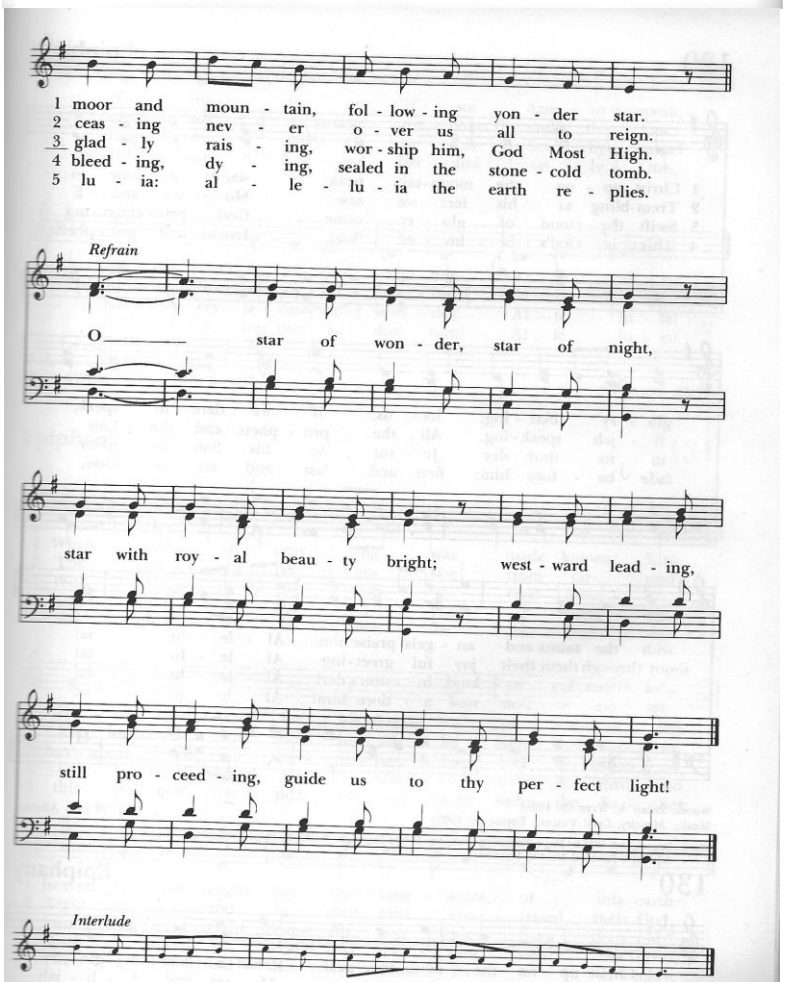
Postlude: *Three Traditional Carols* Dane Family Band

Announcements

Dismissal

You are invited to stay for Virtual Coffee Hour



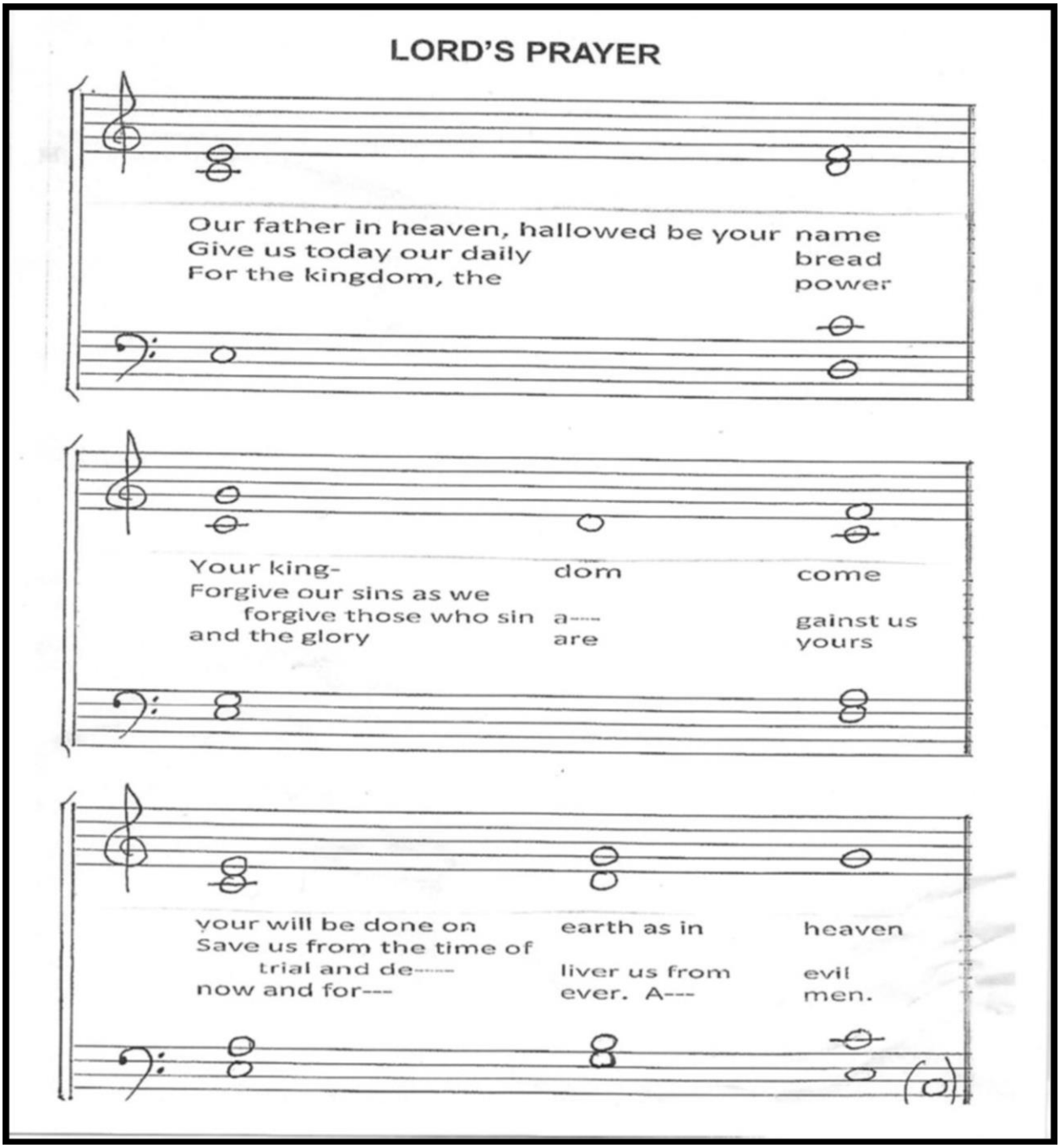


The stanzas may be sung by three soloists: 1 and 5 by the ensemble; 2-4 by individuals; and the refrain by all.

Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt.
Music: *Three Kings of Orient,* John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891)

88. 446 with Refrain

LORD'S PRAYER



124 Epiphany



Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt.
Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, Revised

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