

TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope

(Rom 8:19-25)

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, Priest in Charge and Celebrant
Connie Mayo, Music Director

Pentecost Proper 20
September 22, 2024

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 learn from our past mistakes and be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world, and for all creation.**

The bell is rung three times

Prelude: *Rondeau* Francois Couperin

Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell
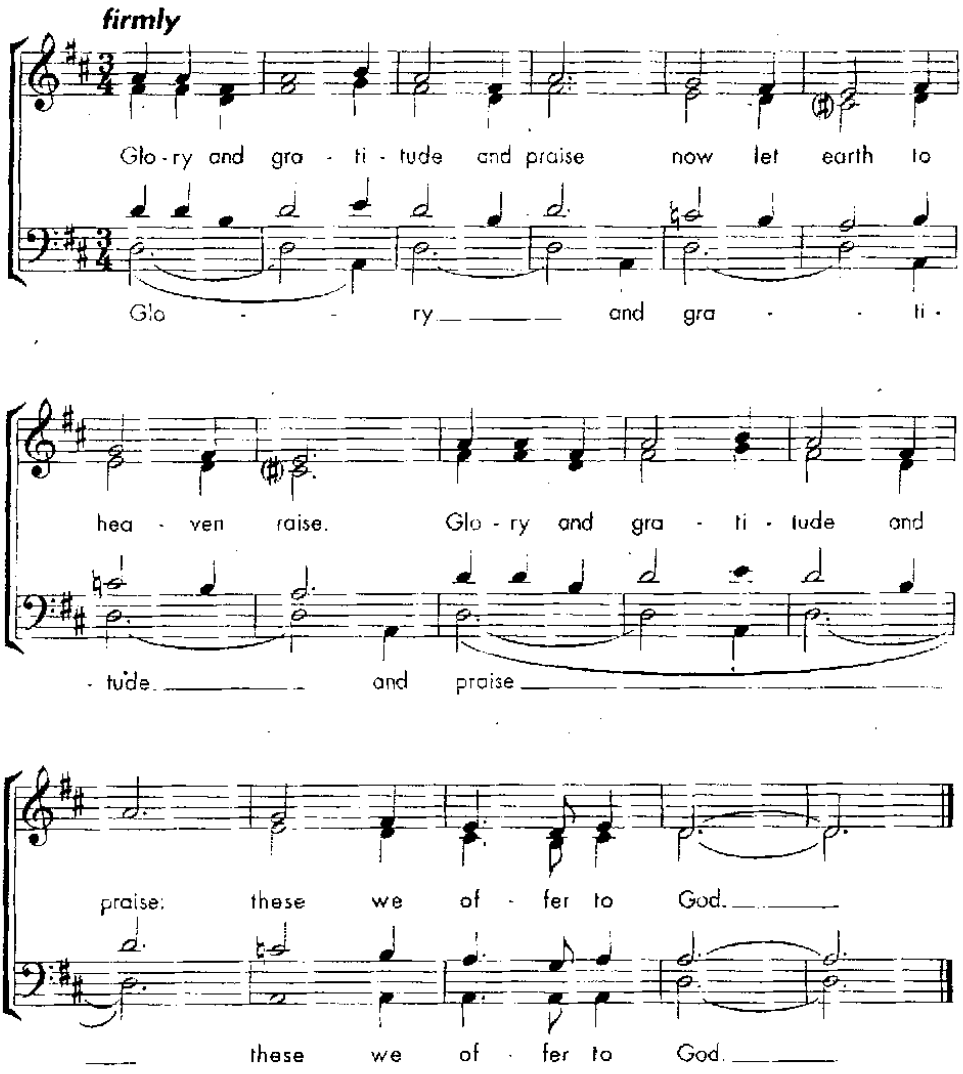
Opening Hymn ELW 838 *Beautiful Savior (in back of bulletin)*

Opening Sentences
Celebrant: Blessed be the One who creates all things.
Congregation: **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Song of Praise:

Glory and gratitude

Words: John L. Bell & Graham Maule
Music: John L. Bell



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The Collect of the Day
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.
O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Congregation: **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: Proverbs 8.22-36 Wisdom's Part in Creation
The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.
When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race. "And now, my children, listen to me:
happy are those who keep my ways.
Hear instruction and be wise,
and do not neglect it.
Happy is the one who listens to me,
watching daily at my gates,
waiting beside my doors.
For whoever finds me finds life
and obtains favor from the Lord;
but those who miss me injure themselves;
all who hate me love death."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1
Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Second Lesson: Letter of James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.
Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.
Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 554 *Simple Gifts (sing twice, in back of bulletin)*

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Congregation: **Glory be to you, O Christ.**
Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."
Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Elaine Hewes

Silence

Profession of Faith
We believe 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 believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
all of creation will be gathered into the fullness of God's love. Amen.

Prayers of the People
Leader: Creator God, hear the prayers of our hearts as we strive to care for the earth 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.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all bishops, ministers, and spiritual leaders, especially we pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Presiding Bishop Elect, Sean, and our Bishop, Thomas; and all priests and deacons who serve our churches.
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.
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.
Lord, hear our prayer.

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

Leader: Show us how to respect and appreciate the earth, its oceans, mountains, trees, and all its creatures, the birds and the bears, the bees and the butterflies.
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.
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?

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 whom 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

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

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
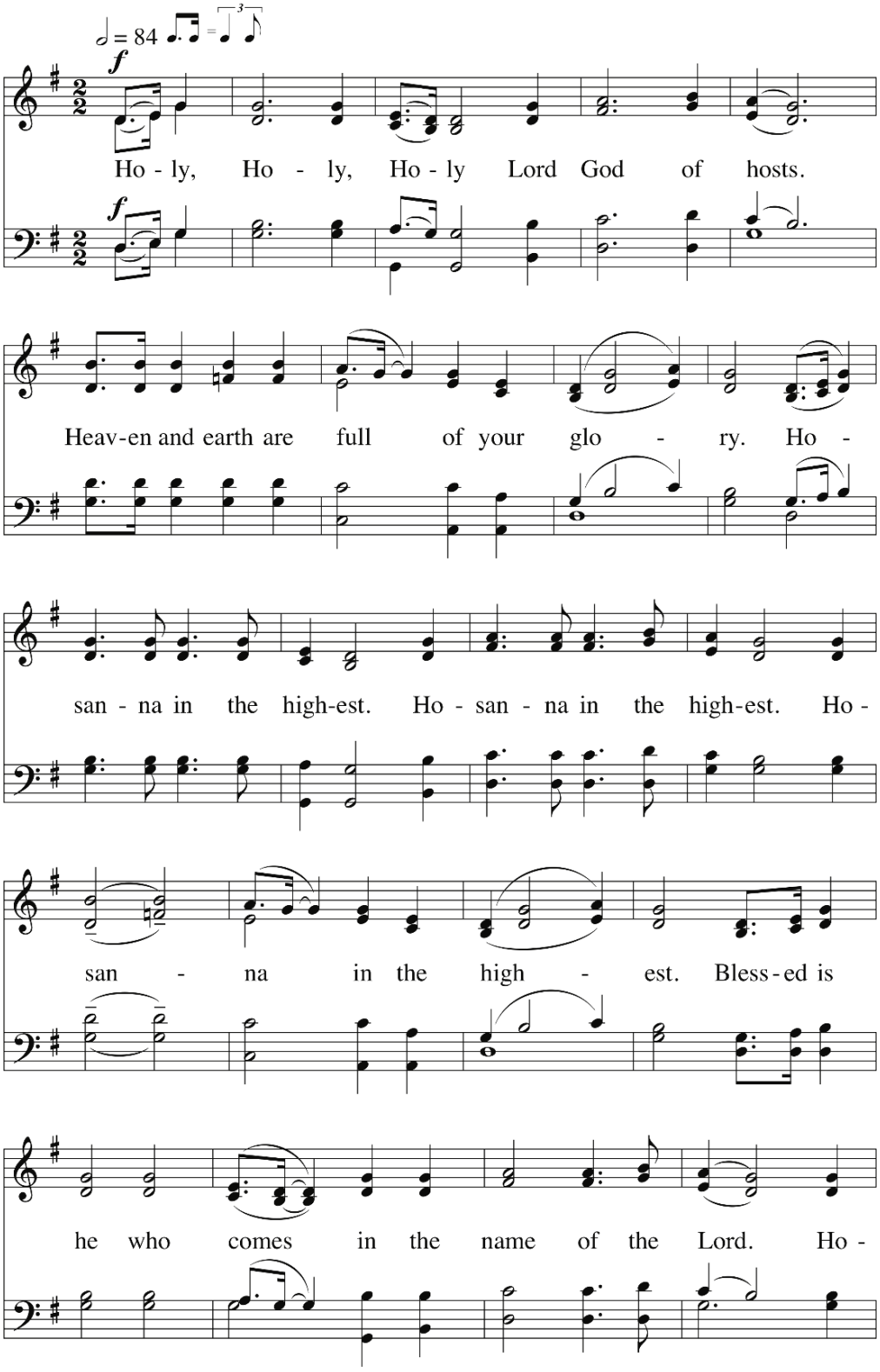
Offertory Hymn ELW 781 *Children of the Heavenly Father (in back of bulletin)*

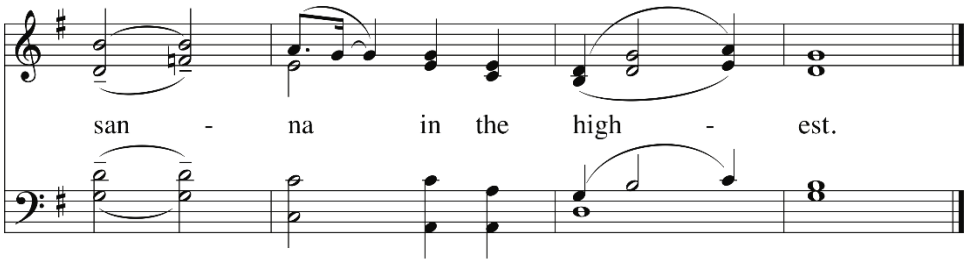
Eucharistic Prayer
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
Congregation: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders.
We have not cared for your creation and the world you so love in the ways you intend. And so the earth mourns.
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 *(next page)*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: Based on *Ol' Time Religion, Welcome Table: A Mass of Spirituals*, Kim R. Harris, M. Roger Holland II, © 2012, GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant continues: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
Again, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks. He gave it for all to drink saying, "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Drink this in remembrance of me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:
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 our 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 your passion for justice and your love for all of creation so we might bear your healing presence to the world.
Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy. 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: Let us now pray together:
Holy One, our only Home,
hallowed be your name.
May your day dawn,
your will be done,
here as in heaven.
Feed us today,
and forgive us as we forgive each other.
Do not forsake us at the test,
but deliver us from evil.
For the glory, the power,

and the mercy are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

Celebrant: In recognition of and in solidarity with those who are worshiping with us remotely this morning, we pray:
Celebrant and Congregation: **In union with the faithful gathered at every altar of the Church where the bread and wine are offered, and in union with those who are with us today by the internet, we offer praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life. We believe that Jesus is present in the Breaking of the Bread, the Holy Sacrament of Communion and in ways more numerous and mysterious than we can imagine. We embrace you, Jesus, with all our hearts, souls and minds. Nothing can separate us from you, nor are we separated from one another.**

Those gathered at St. Brendan receive the bread and wine.

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 meal may work in us
and renew the face of the earth.
May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
that reflect God's glory in creation.

Blessing

Sending Hymn ELW 740 *God of the Sparrow (in back of bulletin)*

Postlude: *Waltz* Franz Shubert

Announcements

Dismissal

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"A Liturgy for Creation" adapted from *Season of Creation: An Ecumenical Celebration*, assembled by Rev. John Elliott Lein and Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas for Creation Season 2024. Used with permission and authorized by the Episcopal Diocese of Maine.

CALENDAR

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

Monday, September 23	8:30 a.m. Simmering Pot 4:30p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, September 25	10:00 a.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (in person) 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal
Sunday, September 29	10:00 a.m. Healing Service and Holy Eucharist with Pastor Elaine Hewes presiding.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, October 13	5:00 p.m. Celtic Eventide
Saturday, October 19	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Community Blessing of the Animals hosted by the Congregational Church
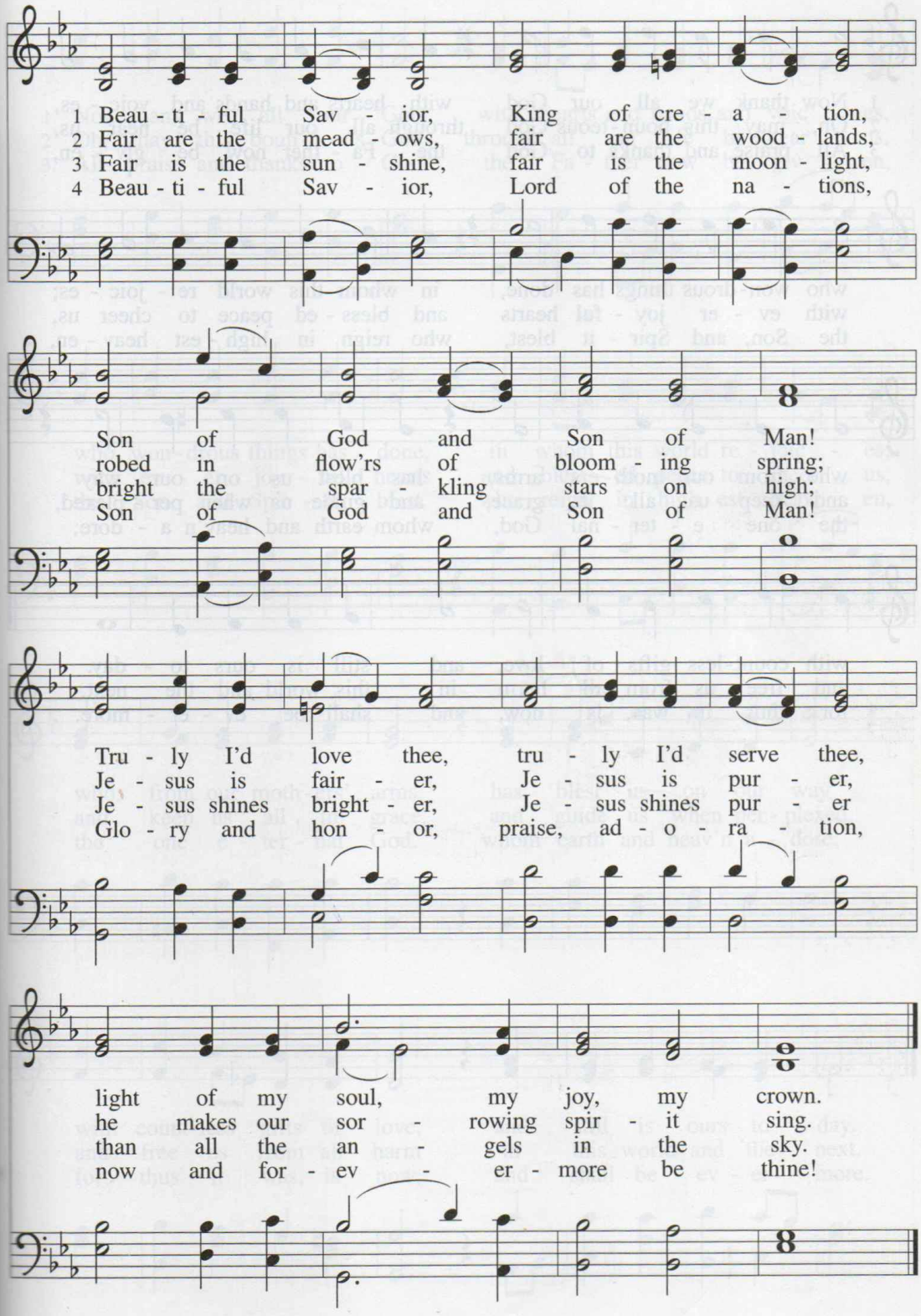
GPS (Giving our Priorities Shape) Action

Care for Creation

The Episcopal Diocese of Maine celebrates a Season of Creation every year from September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Season of Creation, to October 4, the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi.

How can we be better stewards of God's Creation? We are invited to take action this week , joining hundreds of thousands of countries, individuals and institutions, by endorsing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative in an urgent effort to reverse the climate emergency that we read about and experience on a daily basis. Learn more by going to this link: https://fossilfueltreaty.org/#endorse.
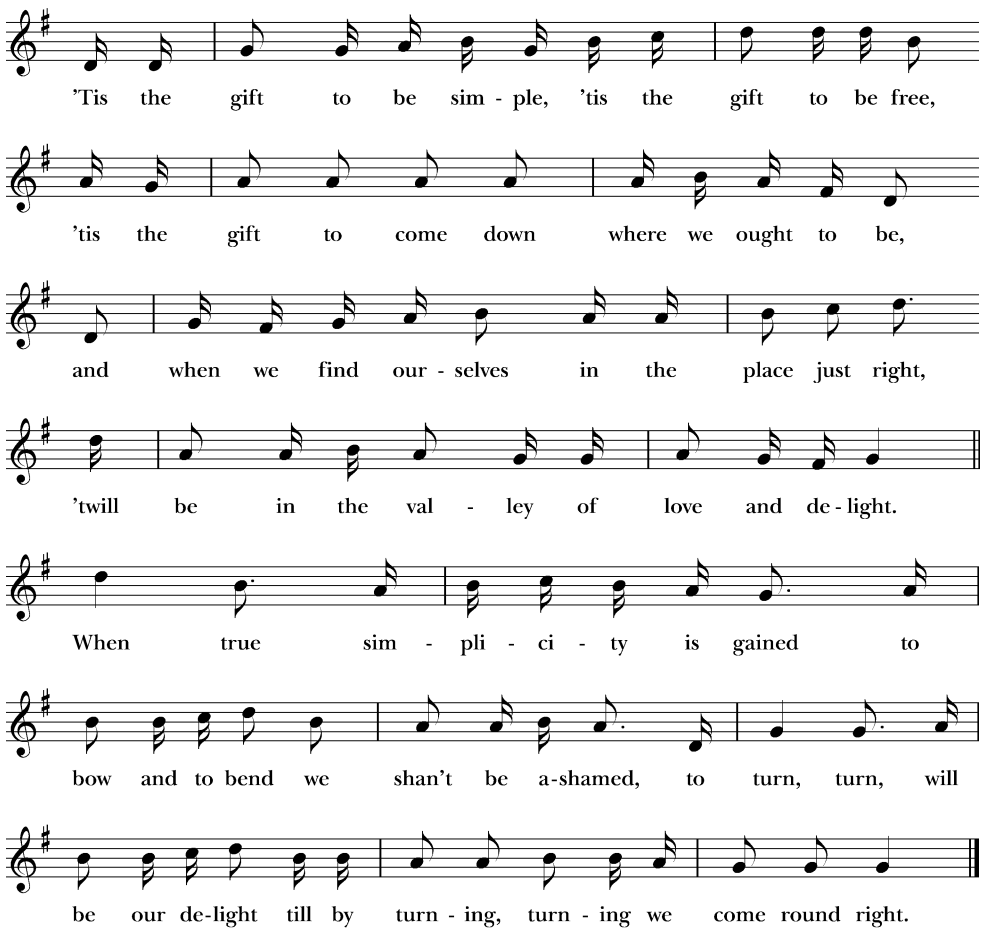
Beautiful Savior 838



Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU
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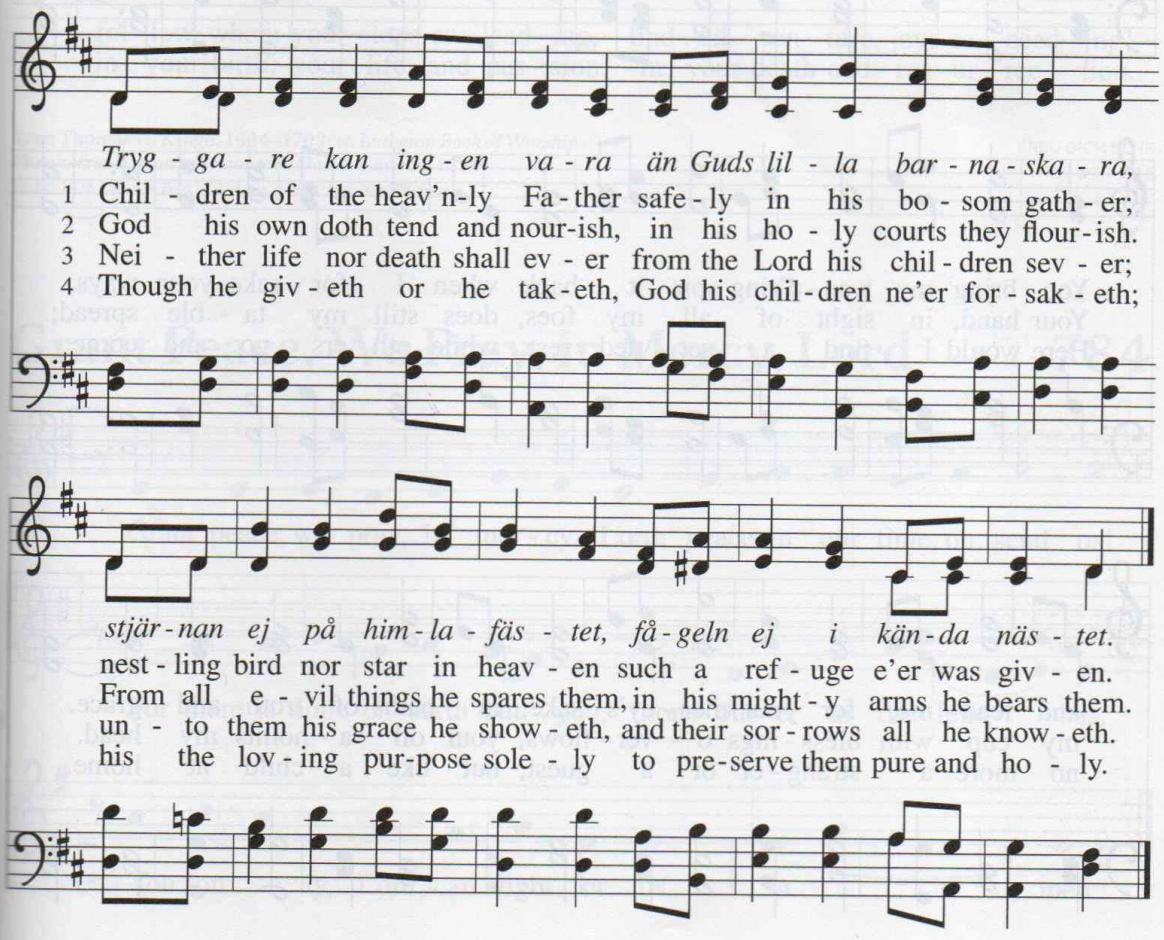
'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free *The Hymnal 1982,* #554



Words: Shaker song, 18th cent. Music: *Simple Gifts*, Joseph Brackett (1797-1822); acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922).

Children of the Heavenly Father
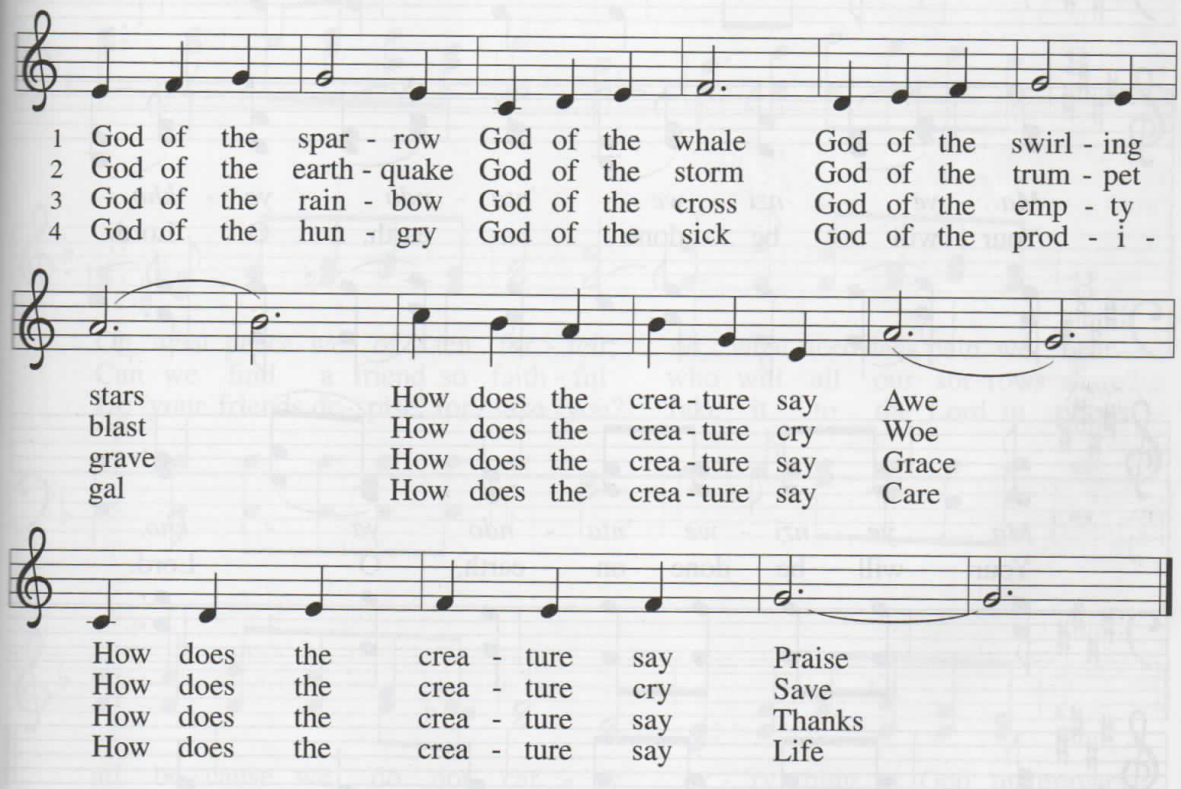
Tryggare kan ingen vara 781



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
Music: Swedish folk tune
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America

TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA
LM

God of the Sparrow 740



5 God of the neighbor God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

6 God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
Music: Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House
Music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

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