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ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

Deer Isle Maine

Pastor Elaine Hewes, Priest in Charge and Celebrant
Connie Mayo, Music Director

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Earth Day
April 21, 2024

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 Gathering of the Community

The service begins with the ringing of the bell three times

Prelude: The King of Love C.S. Lang

Silence is begun and ended with a ring of the bell

Hymn ELW 641 All Are Welcome (*verses 1, 3, and 5 in back of bulletin)*

The Acclamation
Celebrant : Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Congregation: **The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Song of Praise: For the beauty of the earth, verse 1

Sung to the tune of "As with gladness men of old" (Hymntune: *Dix*)

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.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Gracious God, open our eyes that we may see the abundance of your creative love in all that surrounds and sustains us. Enable us to become people of hope and life, who plant the seeds of your earthly garden for the benefit of all. Help us to be gardeners and caregivers for the earth that is home for all life. Fill us with your gentle love, that we may walk tenderly on the earth, cooperating with your intention of abundant love and life.
Congregation: **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Lesson: Acts 4:5-12
The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

`the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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

Canticle 12 (Part II)
Let the earth glorify God
Praise and highly exalt God for ever.
Glorify God. O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth
Praise and highly exalt God for ever.
Glorify God, O springs of water, seas, and streams,
O whales and all that move in the waters.
All birds of the air, glorify God,
Praise and highly exalt God for ever.
Glorify God, O beasts of the wild, and all you flocks and herds.
O men and women everywhere, glorify God.
Praise and highly exalt God for ever.

Second Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24
We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?
Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.
And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.
Hear what the Spirit is saying.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn MHSO 129 God of the Sparrow God of the Whale *(in back of bulletin)*

The Gospel: John 10:11-18
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John
Congregation: **Glory to you, O Christ.**
Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it

up again. I have received this command from my Father."
Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.
Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Elaine Hewes

Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Welcome of Emily Hawkins

Celebrant: I invite us all to affirm the life into which we have been baptized.
Do you renounce all the forces of evil that corrupt and destroy the world and challenge the reign of God?
Congregation: **We renounce them.**
Celebrant: Do you renounce all forces within you that draw you from the passionate love of God?
Congregation: **We renounce them.**
Celebrant: Do you turn to and put your trust in Jesus Christ as the one who proclaims the Reign of God?
Congregation: **We do.**
Celebrant: Do you put your trust in the God who is for us, alongside us, and within us?
Congregation: **We do.**
Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?
Congregation: **We will, with God's help.**
Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
Congregation: **We will, with God's help.**
Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God proclaimed by Jesus?
Congregation: **We will, with God's help.**
Celebrant: Will you seek and serve the Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
Congregation: **We will, with God's help.**
Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
Congregation: **We will, with God's help.**
Celebrant: Oh Lord, open our hearts to your grace and truth, fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit. teach us to bear witness to your love in the way of Jesus, and bring us at last to the fullness of your peace and glory. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Emily Hawkins, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you.
Congregation: **Amen.**

Prayers of the People for Earth Day
In this Easter season, we pray for the church, the earth, the world, those in need, and all the members of God's family.
We give thanks and praise O God of creation, for the grandeur of all that you have made,
We thank you, God.

From squandering resources, abusing our companion species, and polluting the habitat we share,
Good Lord, deliver us.

Creator God, take our feet off the path of destruction. Help us to treasure, conserve, and restore the resources of the Earth.
Strengthen us, O Spirit.

We pray for all who are victims of war and for refugees who live with violence and uncertainty.
May we open our hearts to deeper compassion, awareness, and connection with those who live with threat and danger.

We pray for all who work tirelessly that justice may come, for renewed energy in their struggle and for discernment when the path of peace is hard to see.

May we have the courage to say, I stand for peace.

We pray for guidance and a listening heart, that we may be ready in this Easter season to embrace your promise of rebirth.
May we be strengthened by your Spirit as we go on to do your work.

We remember those who have died and blessed us with their presence.
Assure us of your Easter promise, O God, and keep us united with them in your everlasting love.

Members of the congregation are invited to add their own prayers and thanksgivings at this time.

Leader: Do any of you on Zoom wish to add prayers and thanksgivings?

Leader: Christ our life,
You are alive
to every unhealed hurt
to every deadened place
to every damaged heart.
Congregation: **By the power of your Spirit,**
help us to be Easter people
in this, our Good Friday world.

Adapted from "Resurrection Prayer," a poem by Rev. Kathy Calloway

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

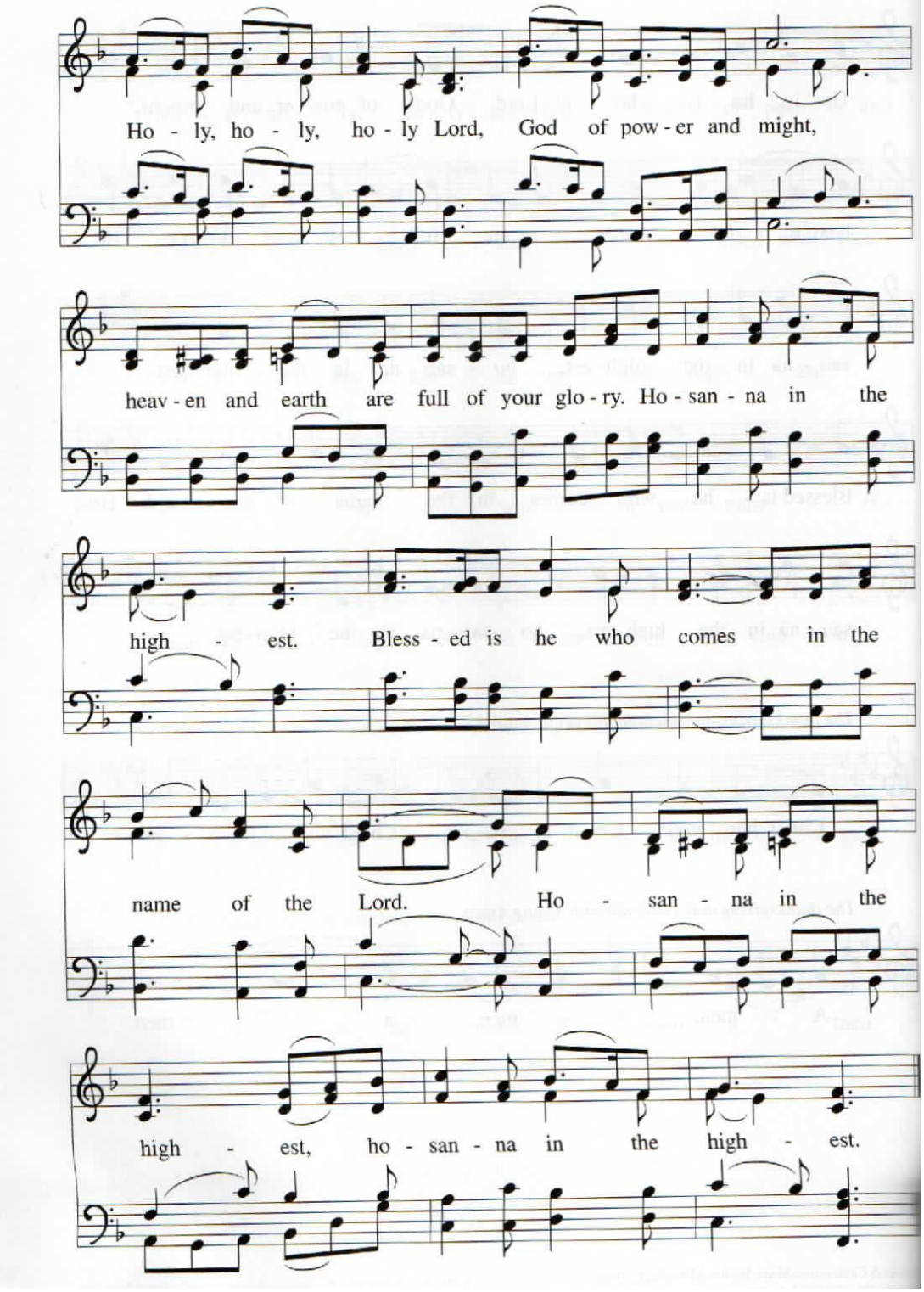
Offertory Hymn LEVAS 141 Shall we gather at the river *(in back of bulletin)*

Eucharistic Prayer *Enriching our Worship #3*
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: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we sing with joy:

Sanctus ELW 193 *(see next page)*



From ELW 193: Music: Per Harling, b. 1948

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of

your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said,

"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Congregation: **Dying, you destroyed our death.**
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Congregation: **Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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.**

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.

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
God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation,
and through this meal
you have united us with Christ and your whole creation.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.

And fill us with your Spirit that we might
proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing
Go now as those who have met with Christ
in the morning of this day.

Go now as those whose hearts burned within them,
as the Scriptures were explained on the road to Emmaus.

Go now as those
who have been touched by resurrection.

And may the blessing of God be upon you,
body, mind and spirit, as you leave this place,

Congregation: **Amen.**

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

Postlude: The Rejoicing G. F. Handel

Announcements

Dismissal

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Concluding Collect to the Prayers of the People written by The Rev. Kathy Calloway "Resurrection Prayer" from *In Love with the Life of Life* ©Iona Community/Wild Goose Publications. Use with permission. www.ionabooks.com.

GIVING OUR PRIORITIES SHAPE (GPS) ACTION ITEM

Caring for Creation

How can we be "gardeners and caregivers for the earth that is home for all life"?
How can we "treasure, conserve and restore" the resources of our Mother Earth?

For starters, in celebration of Earth Day and for the sake of our beautiful little part of the world, **please consider helping with roadside clean-up efforts next weekend, April 27 and 28.** St. Brendan has historically cleaned from the Reach Road to the Island Nursing Home. You can choose any time next weekend that's convenient for you, but we ask that no one works alone. So partner-up with someone, wear boots and gloves, and dive in! There will be garbage bags on the front porch of the church. We often have crews going out to clean up after Sunday worship. So feel especially encouraged to join in the fun then if it fits into your schedule.

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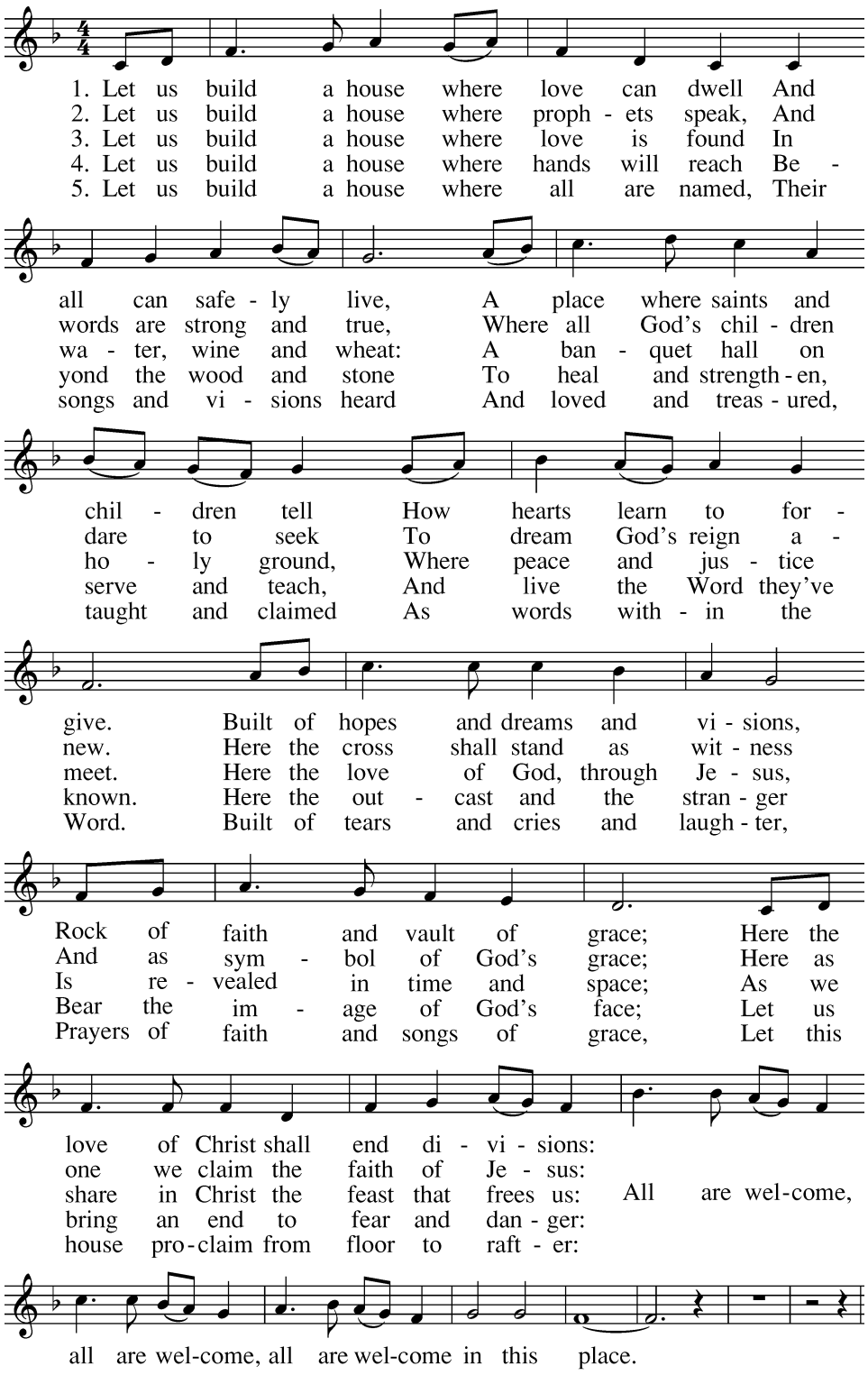
All services and meetings will be held both in-person and via Zoom unless otherwise designated.

Monday, April 22	8:30 a.m. Simmering Pot
	10:30 a.m. Kindness Rock painting session – Everyone is welcome!
	4:30 p.m. Meditation/Silent Prayer (Zoom)
Wednesday, April 24	8:30 a.m. Vestry meeting
	10:00 a.m. In-person Meditation/Silent Prayer
	10:30 a.m. Bible Study
	4:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal
Friday, April 26 – April 28	Deer Isle Stonington Roadside Clean-up
Sunday, April 28	10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with The Rev. Jennifer Reece presiding

Looking Ahead

Friday, May 3	4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Empty Bowl Supper at St. Brendan

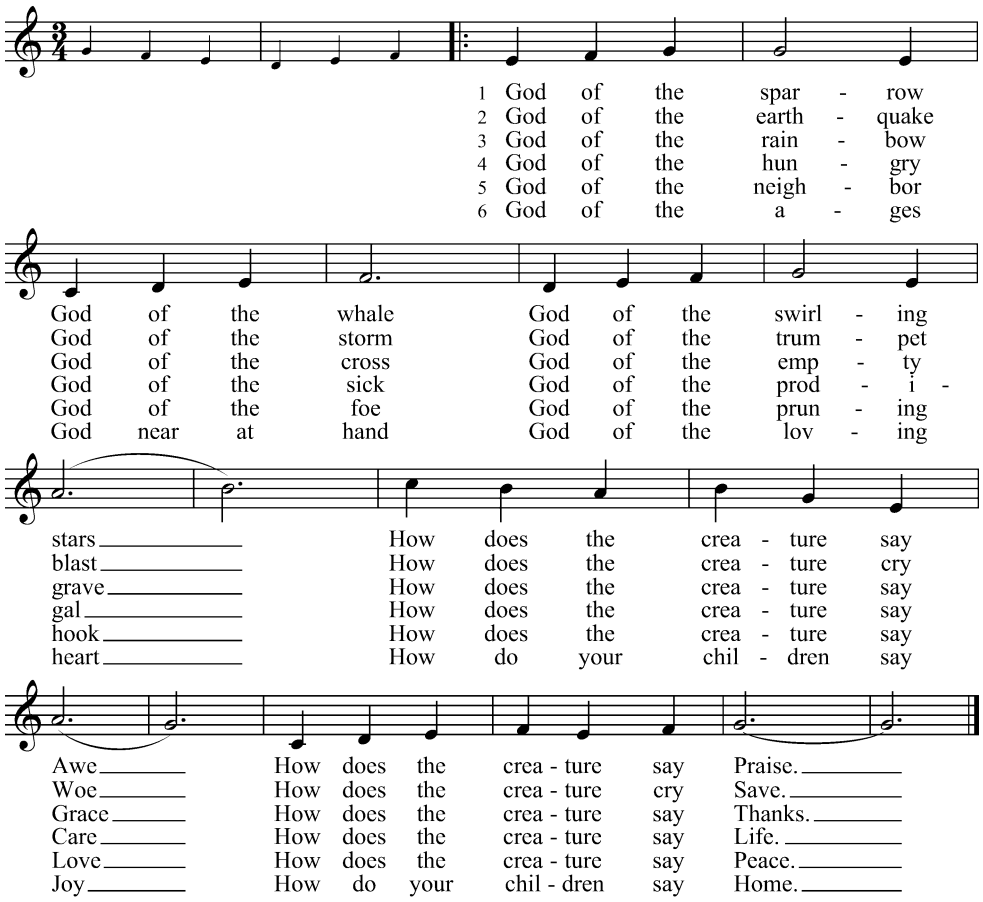
ELW 641 All are Welcome



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Tune: TWO OAKS, 9 6 8 6 8 7 10 with refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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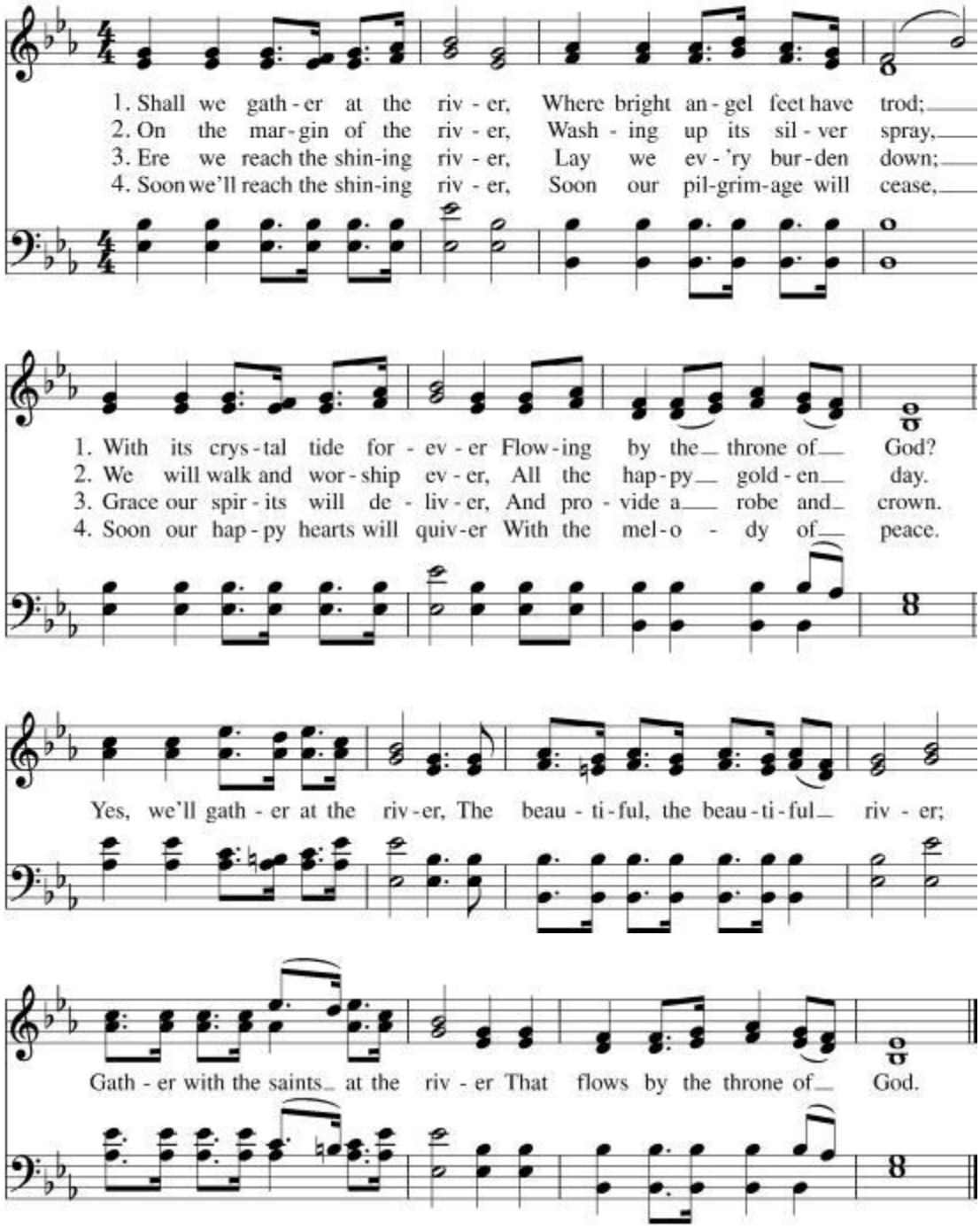
God of the sparrow God of the whale

My Heart Sings Out, #**129**
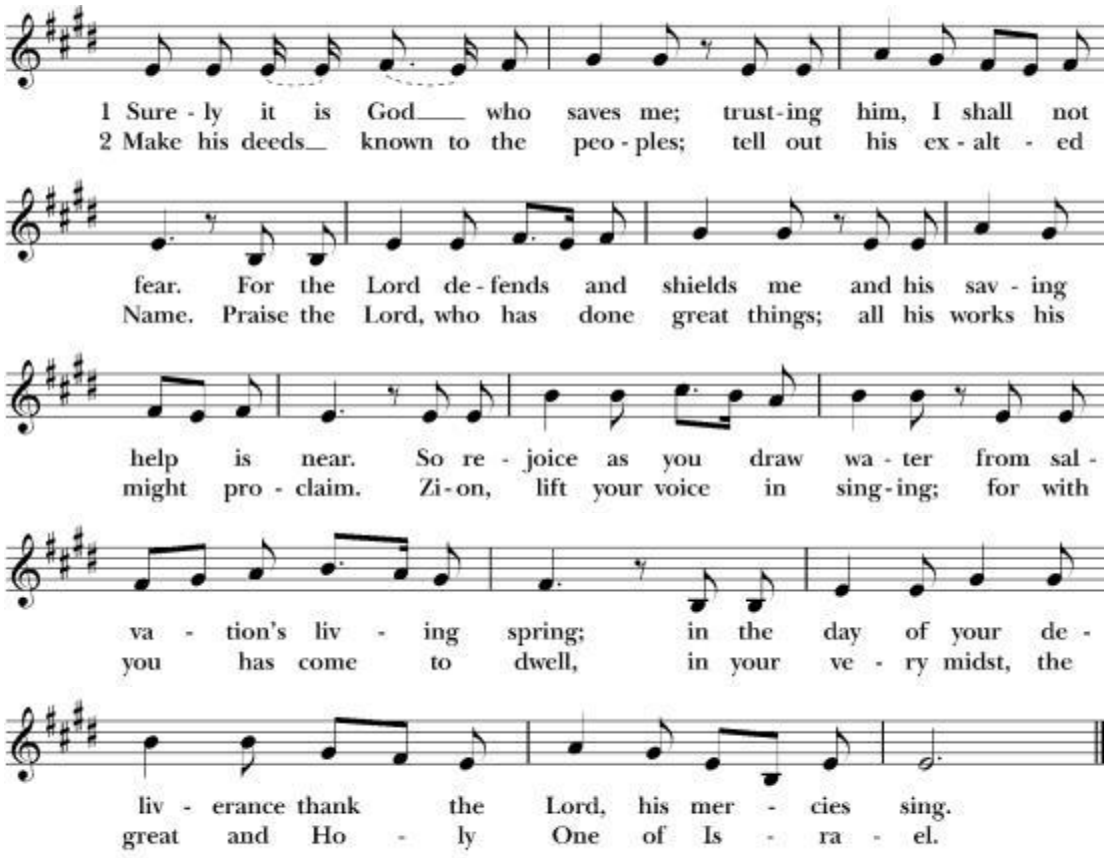


Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda (b. 1919)
Music: Carl F. Schalk (b. 1929)
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LEVAS 141 Shall we gather at the river



Text: Robert Lowry (1826-1899)
Music: Robert Lowry

Hymn 679 Surely it is God who saves me



Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*
Music: *Thomas Merton,* Ray W. Urwin