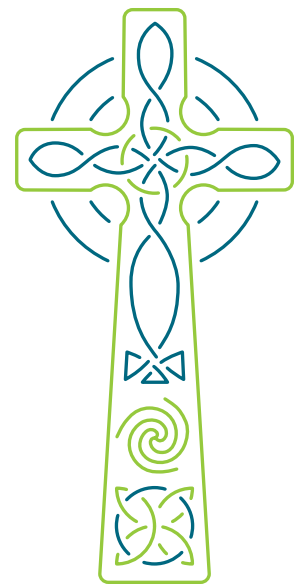


THE
Celtic Way
WITH FACULTY MINISTRY

DIGITAL PILGRIMAGE JOURNAL



Orientation



Introduction — ●●●

Peregrinatio in the Celtic tradition is a rooted wandering. As followers of Jesus left their homes, journeying from place to place as God led them, they chose into perpetual exile. God was the root of their wandering. Similar to the call of Abraham to leave his homeland, these Celtic pilgrims went out—some on foot, others in small boats on the sea—to share the story of the Triune God.

Entering our time of pilgrimage, you may not be leaving your home to trek to unknown lands, but it's likely that part of your story involves wandering. Maybe you've had to leave what is known and head into something that is unknown. Perhaps, you've felt the loss of control as plans for the future are uncertain. As you meet some of these ancient wanderers—Patrick, Brigid, Brendan, Kevin, and Columba—throughout this series of walks, our hope is that you experience a taste of what it is like to wander with the same God who wrote their stories and brought them into his bigger story.

Over our time together, we hope you won't simply learn information about some interesting religious figures and the culture from which they came, but that you'll see how their stories within the arc of God's story can speak to each of us today.

How to Use This Journal — ●●●

When embarking on pilgrimage, it is helpful to record and reflect on the places and people that you encounter, and, in particular, how God meets you along the way. This journal provides space to guide you in reflecting on each session: before, during, and after your walks. You are invited to play with this journal and use as much or as little as you find helpful. It is an interactive PDF, so you can use your device to type directly into it, or you are welcome to print out the pages in order to be able to hand write, draw, or color. The interactive boxes you may see on screen will *not* show up when you print the journal.

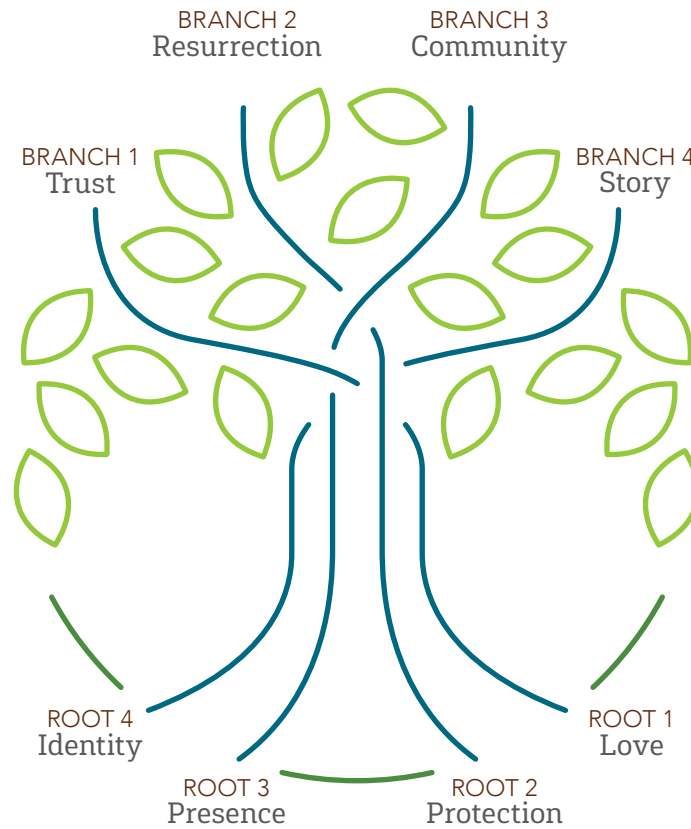
For each session, you will find a set of pages that highlight key elements of the walks, including background information about the saint, place, and spiritual practices mentioned in the audioguide. These pages also include the psalm and other scripture readings from the walk, along with reflective questions and space to record field notes. In the early Celtic tradition of manuscript copying, you are invited to illuminate the psalm and/or choose one verse from it, taking time to reflect on the words as you add color and other artistic elements to the printed page.

After every set of two walks, you will find an Optional Debrief section with activities and reflections to process the past year (more info on next page).

In the Appendix, you will find additional resources to accompany you along the Celtic Way.

Tree of Life — ...

As we look at the stories of Celtic Christians who embraced pilgrimage as a way of life, we are going to explore how they found their roots in the love, protection, and presence of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They were also rooted in their identity: who God called them to be. These roots led to lives that branched out into surrendered following, fruit of resurrection, community, and people whose healed stories are woven into God's larger story.



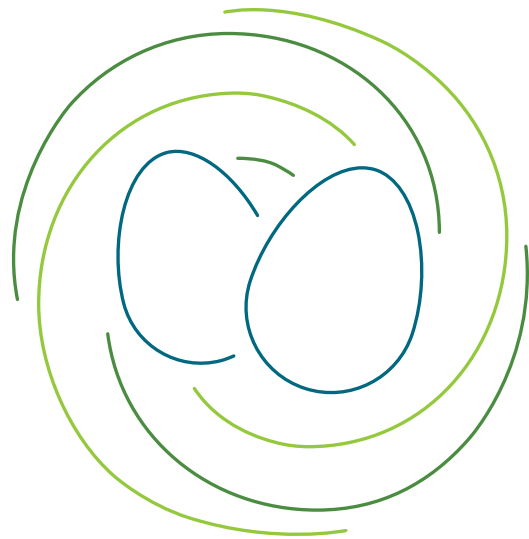
Where We're Going — ...





Community

BRANCH 3



Visio Divina



Kevin

HIS CARE FOR THE BLACKBIRDS

Kevin lived in tension with his desire for solitude and his leadership responsibilities in the vibrant community he founded. Legend says that while he was deep in prayer, a blackbird roosted in his outstretched palm. His life of worship and solidarity compelled him to endure the discomfort and inconvenience of that posture until new life emerged.

Glendalough



VISIO DIVINA REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Take a few deep breaths. Let your eyes move through the painting. What catches your eye? Focus on that portion of the work and sit with it for a minute.

Breathe in and out and let your body and mind slow down. Invite the Lord to speak to you about what you see.

What feelings does this painting evoke?

How do you see the interplay between solitude and community working together here?

What do you notice about the ways the Spirit is at work in this scene?

How is your time in solitude with God critical to the call to steward your life in love toward others?

Pause now and ask, "God, what do you want to give me today that can bless others?"



Field Notes

We invite you to experience the Celtic Way with your whole self. When we tune into our breath and all of our senses, we can become more present to our bodies, our surroundings, and to God. Use the space below to write or draw anything that you would like to remember about your walk. For example, what did you see, hear, smell, touch, taste?





M Matthew 13:31-32

³¹ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

L Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—

holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him,

from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones

but has lifted up the humble.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things

but has sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,

remembering to be merciful

⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever,

just as he promised our ancestors.”