

KTF 2025 February 27

Dear Ones,

Yesterday in Bible study, I advised the participants to get their Alleluias out now—because Lent is only a week away!

A friend of mine who is clergy in a different denomination but worships in an Episcopal Church makes the point every year that our “ban” on the Alleluia during Sunday worship in Lent makes no sense. He’s not wrong. If the Sundays in Lent aren’t counted as part of the 40 days, and every Sunday is “a little Easter,” then it really makes no sense to refrain from saying it on Sundays. We allow ourselves a reprieve from our Lenten disciplines on Sundays, so why do we hold back our Alleluias!?

And yet we do. Why? Tradition, I suppose. They are appropriately suppressed on the weekdays of Lent. Most of us only worship together on Sundays, so I guess it’s a way to practice it together. I know it makes me appreciate them more when they come back. That first Alleluia of Easter feels like a breath of fresh air.

And did you know that if there is a funeral in Lent, we still say the Alleluias in the Burial liturgy?

I think we need all the Alleluias we can get right now, so I am not going to be the Liturgical Police this year. If you say it, you say it. I might give you a little “ssh!” but please know I’m not really upset. If you do say it, then I urge you to say it boldly!

In the meantime....*keep the faith*,
Nancy+

THIS SUNDAY’S READINGS

Exodus 34:29-35 * Psalm 99 * 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 * Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Carolee Garcia (3/5)

PARISHIONER’S NEWS

Wed, March 5 3:00 - 3:30 PM McLaughlin Garden Winter Lecture Series #1: My Ecological Garden-Design Adventures

Rebecca Long is the Coordinator of Horticulture Training Programs for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. She collaborates with experts from the University of Maine and beyond to create educational programs for gardeners and the horticulture industry.

Learn about building a pollinator friendly, climate resilient, beautiful, and functional garden through the lens of Rebecca’s adventures in creating her own garden. Rebecca will cover elements of ecological garden design, creation, and maintenance and tell you about her own successes and failures.

CREATION CARE TIPS

Once is Not Enough

No, this is not a review of Jacqueline Susann’s half-century old book, especially since that was slightly scandalous when first released. Just a message about recycling...again. After all, again and again is what recycling is all about!

Have you ever wondered where the Creation Care themes come from? Last Saturday we enjoyed an old-fashioned church supper. As we were leaving we saw this sign over a cardboard box with various papers inside:

=== Once Is Not Enough ===

=== Recycle Here ===

Well, that inspired another "Rabbit Hole Trip." Is it time to review what can and can't be recycled at your town's facility? For Norway and South Paris, the disappointing answer is that you won't find up-to-date information at the Norway Paris Solid Waste Inc. website.

All too often there's a pickup truck at the compactor hopper when we arrive, and the driver is unloading black plastic bags. The website says there's a \$25 fine for non-compliance of the ONLY CLEAR BAGS rule. The website also has a notation that plastics numbered 1, 3, 5, and 7 cannot be recycled. And # 4 and # 6 aren't mentioned at all. OOPS. That changed last year! Plastics # 1 and 3-7 can all be tossed into one bin. But #2 plastics have to be separated into clear and colored.

According to Greenpeace, only about 5 % of recyclable plastic is recycled in the US. Perhaps it's time to ask someone in charge to clarify what can and can't be dropped off at the transfer station and recycling center. Maybe then, our towns will boost that number from 5 % to 10 or even 20 %! Watch this space for updates about current requirements and restrictions.

– Patty Watts, Christ Church Earth Keeper

Hurt not the earth—neither the sea—nor the trees. Revelation 7:3

CALENDAR

SUN: 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Eucharist/In-person and online
TUE: 5:30 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Chapel Kids Theater presentation
WED: 9:30 AM Ash Wednesday Liturgy: Imposition of Ashes, Holy Eucharist
WED: 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Liturgy: Imposition of Ashes, Holy Eucharist
WED: 10 – 3 Imposition of Ashes available to walk-ins
THU: 9:00 AM Christ Church Book Group/Zoom
7:15 PM Zoom Compline
SUN: 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Eucharist/In-person and online—Sandy preaching

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Chapel Kids Theater presentation, March 4, 5:30. Join us for a fun Mardi Gras event this year, with just a hint of Purim thrown in! We need donations to pay for the ingredients, cooks (Peter Hammond has volunteered but he'll need help), set up and clean up teams... There will be some fun activities for the kids leading up to their performance of the story of Esther. (See Sandy's note below)

The Chapel Kids will be presenting a play about Queen Esther at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4th. These three roles require adult participation: 1) Ms. Trembath – a kindly but stern teacher; 2) Mordecai – a wise, middle aged man; 3) Haman – a pompous advisor to the king. Please rest assured that, if you volunteer to participate in the play, you are NOT required to memorize your part. Dressing up in an appropriate costume is not required but, hey, it could be a lot of fun. Speaking of costumes.... The play takes place in a palace in ancient

Persia. We are looking for costume items – robes, tiaras, crowns, togas, guards' shields and helmets, etc. If you have anything that might be useful, please let us know ASAP.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5. The Ash Wednesday liturgy at 9 AM and Noon includes Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist. Imposition of Ashes is also available to any walk-ins from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Daily Lenten Meditation (email). If you would like to receive Nancy's daily Lenten meditation/reflection email, please let her know. Rumor has it Jenna, Jen and Allison may also be reading Benjamin Cremer's Lenten devotional, *When Love Gets the Last Word*. Speak to any of them about details.

Safe Church Certification If you are one of the people who is safe church certified, it's time to renew! Speak to Nancy for more information.

For ongoing and up-to-date information about diocesan activities and news, as well as news from other congregations, sign up for **the DioLog**. <https://episcopalmaine.org/newsletter/>

MINISTRIES LIST

This week:

Lector 1:	Fran Martin
Psalmist:	Peter Bickford
Lector 2:	Jason Long
Acolyte:	Malaikah Mulandi
Euch. Minister:	Mary Bickford
Chapel Shepherd:	Sandy W & Sue Glines
Usher:	Tom Knight
Altar Guild:	Patty Watts
Coffee Hour:	Rosemary Laban
Counter:	Peter Bickford
Closer:	Peter Bickford

Next week:

Lector 1:	Jill Cunningham
Psalmist:	Sue Emerson
Lector 2:	Rosemary Laban
Acolyte:	Bella Long
Euch. Minister:	Sue Emerson
Chapel Shepherd:	Patt Watts &...
Usher:	Jen Lehr
Altar Guild:	Patty Watts
Coffee Hour:	Patty & Bruce W
Counter:	Tom Knight
Closer:	Jen Lehr