

September 18, 2025

Dear Ones,

As you read this, I am on my way to New York City—for the first time ever! I will be seeing a Broadway show, attending a Mets game, exploring the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, riding the Staten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty. The college friend I am meeting up with lived in the city for several years, and is a very competent tour guide. I will be back on Sunday for our morning service at Christ Church and for Bethel House Church in the afternoon. I am sure I will have plenty of photos to share.

Please say a prayer for me for safe travel, effective pain management (no blisters!), and an enjoyable time catching up with my dear friend.

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

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Amos 8:4-7 * Psalm 113 * 1 Timothy 2:1-7 * Luke 16:1-13

CREATION CARE TIPS

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord, God, made them all. --- Cecil Francis Alexander

The Lord, God, made them all. But Why??? Most of the time I can find an answer to that question. Frogs lay hundreds, if not thousands of eggs each spring, because trout and other freshwater critters find caviar, even frog caviar, to be delicious. Or maybe just basic breakfast, like oatmeal. And turkeys lay around six eggs in the spring, because foxes and coyotes can shorten a poult's (that's code for turkey chicks) lifespan. It's all part of the life cycles of creation. After all, all animals need to eat.

But there are some animals that I just can't fathom why they were put on this Earth. Mosquitoes -- Some species carry malaria; others carry West Nile virus, and Eastern Equine encephalitis.

Another animal that is on the list? The hammerhead worm. Although it doesn't look much like a carpenter's hammer, it does look like a hammerhead shark. Like so many invasive species, this came into the US from Asia, with cargo.

If you see a hammerhead worm in your garden, DO NOT cut it with your shovel. Put it in a bag, wrap it in as many layers as you need to for your own sanity and FREEZE IT. Then call the County Extension Office to report it.

This species has not yet been reported in Maine. You could be the first person to spot one.

– 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
3:00 PM Bethel House Church
WED: 9:00 AM Eucharist/Bible Study
THU: 9:00 AM Christ Church Book Group/Zoom
7:15 PM Zoom Compline

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Animal Blessing St. Francis Day, October 4 will be here before we know it! Past attempts to do a sort of “open house” animal blessing have had minimal response. We have had some interest in gathering at one of the farms in our congregation, but before I ask someone to make their space available to us, I need to know how many people would show up. I am also always willing to have us bring our pets to church on Sunday for a blessing—that’s how Pippin first started coming to church! Let me know. Nancy+

School Supplies In past years we have collected school supplies in the late summer, to be given to one of the local schools. We can do that again, but I suggest we extend our collection time into the fall so that they have a ‘second harvest’ just as the things donated for beginning of the year have run out.

Bishopswood Fund We would like to build this fund back up. Please consider donating toward this fund. Checks should be made out to Christ Church with “Bishopswood Fund” in the memo line.

Nametags Please wear your nametag while you’re here. You can leave it in the basket outside Nancy’s office as you leave and Linda will return it to the board.

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

	<u>This week:</u>	<u>Next week:</u>
Lector 1:	Allison Long	Jenna Mulandi
Psalmist:	Jason Long	Kyalo Mulandi
Lector 2:	Thelma Cunningham	Jill Cunningham
Acolyte:	Malaikah Mulandi	Evie Lehr
Euch. Minister:	Tom Knight	Peter Bickford
Shepherd:	David Mering	Jen Lehr
Usher:	Peter Bickford	Tom Knight
Altar Guild:	Mary Bickford	Mary B & Michelle C
Coffee Hour:	Jenna Mulandi	Fran M & Kathy L
Counter:	David Mering	Tom Knight
Closer:	Peter Bickford	Nancy Mering