

Dear Ones,

Sunday is Pentecost! My favorite feast of the church year. It's the one that we have all to ourselves—there is no secular equivalent. So no Pentecost cards or candy. No red decorations invading the stores as soon as the Easter bunny has finished her rounds.

This year, Fr. Jim Christoph will take the pulpit for this feast day, and I am eager to hear what he shares with us. I hope you will join us. Remember to wear red!

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

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Acts 2:1-21 * Psalm 104: 25-35, 37 * 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 * John 20: 19-23

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Jen Lehr 5/28, Marg Means 5/30

CREATION CARE TIPS

Many and Great are Thy Works, O God, Maker of Earth and Sky; thy hands have set the heavens with stars; thy fingers spread the mountains and plains. Lo, at thy word the waters were formed; deep seas obey thy voice.

– American Folk Hymn, v. 1, # 385 in The Hymnal 1982

Some weeks, the environmental news is so stressful to read that it's difficult to find an upbeat subject to write about. When that happens, I've found that being outdoors on this precious Earth that God created can help me refocus.

The other thing that helps me turn my thinking from dismay to hope, when thousands of acres are burning and El Nino is going to be stronger this year, is hearing – in my mind or in church – some of our beautiful hymns.

Here are verses from some of those hymns that inspire and keep me grounded, along with their numbers in The Hymnal 1982, so you can read – or even sing – each verse of each of them:

424, v. 1

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For his gifts to every nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in Earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

416, vs. 1 & 2

For the beauty of the Earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies...
Refrain: Christ our God to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise. For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light, Refrain

400, vs. 2 – 4

Great rushing winds and breezes soft, you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,

Refrain: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia alleluia, alleluia!

Swift flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your Lord to hear. Alleluia, alleluia! Fire, so intense and fiercely bright, you give to us both warmth and light. *Refrain*

Dear Mother Earth, you day by day unfold your blessings on our way, O praise him, Alleluia! All flowers and fruits that in you grow, let them his glory also show. *Refrain*

412, v. 2

Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorms, sing to the Lord a new song! Flowers and trees, loud rustling dry leaves, sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain: [God] has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise [God] with a new song!

This hymn has special meaning for me, because the last two verses describe our family: Two science teachers (and I worked in a lab); a daughter who had varsity letters in track, cross country, and wrestling; a son who had a couple garage bands (and two CDs); and each of us searching every day for knowledge, truth, and wisdom.

There. I've shared some of my cache of inspirations for when the world seems to be whirling faster than it should or feels like it's wobbling on its axis. What grounds you or gives you hope when you see thousands of acres burning, or read that El Nino will be stronger this year, or learn of a new invasive species that's threatening our local habitat?

– Patty Watts, Christ Church Earth Keeper

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

CALENDAR

SUN:	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:15 AM	Eucharist/In-person and online
WED:	9:00 AM	Eucharist/Bible Study
THU:	9:00 AM	Christ Church Book Group/Zoom
	7:15 PM	Zoom Compline

SUMMARY OF VESTRY MINUTES

Vestry Meeting 5/12/2026

Bishop Brown met with the vestry and opened the meeting with prayer.

Jen Lehr and a team of volunteers have been hard at work on the gardens. Jen Lehr and Liz have made a list of other maintenance projects – a signup sheet will be on the bulletin board.

The treasurer reports that pledge income is close to what was projected. A CD will be maturing on May 21st and will be placed in the checking account.

Rosemary Laban will be attending the stewardship workshop with Nancy.

Nancy Mering will oversee the committee on sabbatical planning. Bishop Brown suggested we ask people how they think things will run during Nancy's sabbatical and how this opportunity is good for Christ Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK IS PENTECOST—wear red! Fr. Jim Christoph will be guest preacher.

Spring Cleaning A list of maintenance jobs which need your help is or soon will be posted on the bulletin board across from the office. Contact Jen Lehr to see how you can help—and many thanks to those who have already been hard at work.

Sabbatical Planning Committee Nancy will be on sabbatical from August 17 to November 17. During those months, lay leadership teams will be assuring each area of our common life is addressed. Which team will you be on? Worship? Outreach? Fellowship? Pastoral Care? Stewardship? Communications? Let us know!

Altar Guild There will be an altar guild meeting Sunday, June 7, after church.

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:

Next week:

Lector 1:	Br. Matthias	Allison Long
Psalmist:	Thelma Cunningham	Kaylo Mulandi
Lector 2:	Fran Martin	Jenna Mulandi
Acolyte:	Evie Lehr	Doug Wall
Euch. Minister:	Jim Christoph	Tom Knight
Usher:	David Mering	Janet Harvey
Altar Guild:	Michelle Christoph	Michelle Christoph
Coffee Hour:	Bruce & Patty Watts	Rosemary Laban
Counter:	Carolyn Tanner	Marg Means
Closer:	Jen Lehr	Jason Long