

Dear Ones,

On Trinity Sunday in lectionary year A (the year we're in now), the first reading is the creation story from Genesis 1. The very loooooong creation story, going through each day. It's a lot to ask of one lector. I had planned to have our Chapel Kids tackle in, but there was some question about which ones would be in church on Sunday so I have expanded my idea to include adults. That means I need some volunteer readers!

The first creation story is one of my favorite passages of Scripture. I'll say more about that on Sunday, but at the core of it is the assertion that creation is fundamentally *good* and God cares deeply about it. We can—and do—mess it up. But it doesn't make it of any less value to the Divine Source of all that exists.

I'll stop there or I'll end up writing out my whole sermon! Join us on Sunday at 10:15 to hear more. (Invite a friend!)

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

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a \* Psalm 8 \* 2nd Corinthians 13:11-13 \* Matthew 28:16-20

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Bella Long 5/31, John Habecker 5/31, Eric Moore 6/1

**CREATION CARE TIPS**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!      – Musings on Psalm 104: 25-37

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom (more wisdom than humans can imagine!) you have made them all; the Earth is full of your creatures (even the yucky slimy ones, and the ones that make us shiver and sweat in fright). Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both great and small (and tinier than the psalmist could have guessed, since he did not have a microscope). All of them look to you to give them food in due season. You give it to them; they gather it (I've never thought of an eagle or a lion "gathering" food); you open your hand and they are filled with good things. You send forth your spirit, and they are created, and so you renew the face of the Earth (doesn't this sound like extinction and new species are more than just happenstance?). I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being (that means all my life). Bless the Lord, O my soul. Hallelujah! (That's my most favorite word of all! Okay, maybe it's tied for first place with another "God word": Love.)

How great are the things God has made! The Leviathan – that huge mammal that swims like a fish but needs to stay close to the surface of the oceans to breathe, as we do. Did you know that whales are the largest animals that have ever lived on the Earth? Bruce's twin sent him a picture from the Oregon coast over the weekend. Gary captioned it "A sea monster." We discovered that it was the carcass of a 40-foot male gray whale that had been struck by a boat, suffered internal injuries, and washed ashore in April. Why was it left there to decompose? Well first, it's illegal to touch a dead whale unless you are part of the official team, sent to study how and why it died (in which case you are hazmat suited up). The carcass can harbor diseases, and it's probably too large to remove. But beyond that, it provides food for myriad creatures, completing the circle of life. Just as God planned. And who are we to interfere?

*"You send forth the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the Earth. Protect all living things, bring forth clean water and abundant food, and grant us wonder as we contemplate all you have made. Merciful God, receive our prayer."*  
Pentecost Prayers of the People, from *Sundays and Seasons*

– 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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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** Have you been thinking about how you want to be intentionally involved in the life of Christ Church during Nancy's sabbatical? Speak to a vestry member—and be prepared if you don't come to one of us, we will be coming to you!

**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

	<b><u>This week:</u></b>	<b><u>Next week:</u></b>
Lector 1:	Team Effort	Bruce Watts
Psalmist:	Rosemary Laban	Jill Cunningham
Lector 2:	Nancy Mering	Michelle Christoph
Acolyte:	Patty Watts	Bella Long
Euch. Minister:	Jim Christoph	Mary Bickford
Usher:	Peter Hammond	Peter Bickford
Altar Guild:	Patty Watts	Patty Watts
Coffee Hour:	Nancy Mering	Fran Martin
Counter:	Peter Hammond	Peter Hammond
Closer:	Carlyn Kroitzsh	Jen Lehr