












CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sundays: 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Holy Eucharist—Rite II Masks optional</p>		<p>Eucharistic Lectionary Year B Office Lectionary Year 2</p>	<p>1 The Apostles Saint Philip and Saint James Belvia Riner Birthday</p> 	<p>2 Susan Peck Birthday Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>3 Jean Chappell Birthday</p>	<p>4 </p>
<p>5 Rogation Sunday Discernment Committee Meeting</p>	<p>6 Philip & Merrill Strange Anniversary</p> 	<p>7 Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>8 David Boardman Birthday</p>	<p>9 Ascension Day Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p> 	<p>10</p>	<p>11 John Chiles, Jr. Birthday</p>
<p>12 The Sunday after Ascension Day Mother's Day Eric Schwind Birthday</p>	<p>13 Bryan & Marla Small Anniversary</p>	<p>14 Kristina Fitzhugh, Russell Martin, Ruth Small Birthdays Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 </p>
<p>19 The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday Vestry Meeting</p> 	<p>20 Macon Smith Birthday</p>	<p>21 Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>22 Ember Day</p>	<p>23 Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>24 Ember Day</p>	<p>25 Ember Day</p>
<p>26 1 Pentecost Trinity Sunday</p> 	<p>27  Memorial DAY</p>	<p>28 Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Church Office is open 9 am to 1 pm</p>	<p>31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p> 	

May 2024 Service Schedule

Altar Guild: Claudia Shiflett, Jo-Anne McCausland
Counters: Kathy Small, Carolyn Smith

May 5 The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday

LEM/Lector 1: Pauline Vismer
Lector 2: Lorrie Pollard
Usher: Floyd Hill
Coffee Host: Anita Cordray

May 12 The Seventh Sunday after Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day

LEM/Lector 1: Penn Bowers
Lector 2: Millie Travis
Usher: Kevin Cordray
Coffee Host: Joel Mills

May 19 The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday

LEM/Lector 1: Pauline Vismer
Lector 2: Ben Armistead
Usher: Millie Travis
Coffee Host:

May 26 The First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday

LEM/Lector 1: Penn Bowers
Lector 2: Sandra Pelletier
Usher: Carolyn Smith
Coffee Host:



Sign up sheets for Coffee Hour and Lawn Mowing for the Church Grounds are available on the counter in the Parish Hall. Please sign up to help! Thank you!



Please sign up for giving altar flowers in thanksgiving or in memory of. The clipboard is available in the church narthex. The cost is \$50 per Sunday. Thank you!

Altar
Flowers



The Messenger

May 2024

Christ Episcopal Church

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Honor Creation

It seems like every year I have the same thought—this is the most beautiful spring I have ever seen. It is a glorious time to live in the Mid-Atlantic. My seminary years in New England made me appreciate the Chesapeake watershed's temperate and verdant springtime—dogwoods, redbuds, ephemerals, and more. In my vernal homesickness during those years, I made sure my classmates knew that a muddy, rainy, chilly April and May did not constitute a real spring.

The fecundity, the ability to grow and bring forth life, that we see all around us in nature resides within us as well. That life creating force flows through our bodies and souls, giving us life and inviting us to work with it in bringing forth more, abundant life. Over and over our scriptures tell us and all living creatures to go forth and multiply—not simply reproduce, but to tend to the life-giving force that unites us all.

We live in a world that has severed the umbilical cord that ties our souls to the soil. The economy as we know it demands that the earth be inert—a resource for production. We justify all sorts of injustices against nature in the name of economic growth. I do not need to rehearse the implications of that delusion—as country folks, you are all aware of a diminished nature.

We hear a lot of talk about creation care in the church these days. I wonder if we might go deeper than that. Instead of “caring” for creation, what if we reimagined ourselves to be in community with it? What if we saw ourselves, as the bible invites us to do, as care-receivers rather than caretakers? This may seem like a radical shift in spiritual imagination, but it is actually a return to biblically based Christian spirituality that honors creation, not as a resource for us, but as the relationship that gives us life.

~ Mark