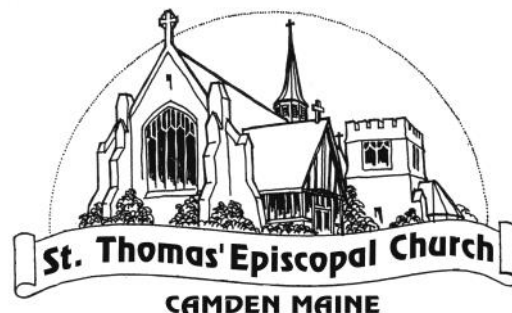


S T . T H O M A S ' Tidings

Sunday, November 19, 2017

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. May this place be like home to you! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar. Members of our prayer ministry are available in the Chapel during Holy Communion to pray with you about any need or thanksgiving.



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Thanksgiving Dinner

It is not too late to let us know you are coming for Thanksgiving dinner this Thursday at 2:00 pm. Use the signup sheet in the Sun Room or call the Parish Office. Volunteers also needed to cook, set tables and clean up on Thursday.

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

The Midcoast Interfaith Alliance will be hosting a Thanksgiving service this afternoon at 4:00 pm. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church is hosting this year. Pastor Wendy Anderson from Nativity Lutheran Church will be the preacher, music will be offered by the First Universalist Church in Rockland, St. Thomas' Choir-- and our Rector will be singing during the offertory. Abby has written a litany of Thanksgiving and we will be joined by the faithful from many of the area churches. Come and give thanks!

Vestry Meeting

The Vestry will be meeting on Tuesday November 28, instead of the usual third Tuesday. Vestry meetings are open to all.

Holiday Next Friday

The Parish Office and church building will be closed next Friday, November 24.

Today's Music

We enter worship today singing one of the best-known hymns in the English language: *O God, our help in ages past*. Isaac Watts (English, 1674-1728) created this

"Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others."

--St. Augustine

Thank you for doing your best for God and neighbor in this 2018 pledge campaign. We are excited about continuing successful ministries, and about new ministries being born. We hope to continue to serve our congregation no matter what stage of life they find themselves in, and we hope to continue to love our community: with messages of hope, hands outstretched, and spirit opening opportunities for education, prayer and caring.

Bless you all.
Lisa+



brilliant paraphrase of the first five verses of today's appointed Psalm 90. Watts was the son of a deacon of a nonconformist church; his father challenged the young Watts "to improve the standard of praise." Isaac Watts is considered the creator of the modern English hymn: until his time the norm was the English office hymn and the metrical paraphrases which came out of the Reformation. He wrote many of his best hymns while in his early twenties before he had even begun his ministerial career. Our *Hymnal* 1982 contains eighteen hymns by Watts including #100, *Joy to the World!*, #380, *From all that dwell below the skies* (a.k.a. *The Doxology*), #474, *When I survey the wondrous cross* and #544, *Jesus shall reign where'er the sun*. All were written over three hundred years ago and are enduringly relevant today! Scholars believe we sing Watts' text today to music by Dr. William Croft (English, 1678-1727), organist of the Chapel Royal and Westminster Abbey and a leading composer of

the day. The tune name, *St. Anne*, most likely comes from Croft's time as organist at St. Anne's, Soho, from 1700-1711. Our hymns bring so much rich history with them!

Rise up, ye saints of God! was first published in 1911 and has made its way into most American hymnals, making it strongly ecumenical. During communion we sing *The Lord will come and not be slow*, a text written by the poet John Milton (English, 1608-1674) paired with a tune by his father, John Milton, Sr. (1563-1647). Since this pairing was not done in either Milton's lifetime, we do not know who splendidly matched them together!

Most of us grew up singing *Come, ye thankful people, come* at Thanksgiving. In The United States, our late November Thanksgiving removes the celebration far from the actual harvest. In other cultures, Harvest festivals occur at the ends of harvests: this might explain why our traditional Thanksgiving hymns come from

other cultures. Henry Alford (English, 1810-1871) wrote the text for this hymn while Vicar of a rural parish (Wyneswold) where the annual Harvest Festival was a major event. The tune is by Sir George Elvey (English, 1816-1893) who was organist at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle for 47 years.

The Choir sings a moving anthem with words and music by the energetic and still-composing American, Jane Manton Marshall (b. 1924). Marshall wrote this to celebrate the 1996 ordination of Helen Betenbaugh to the priesthood. Marshall's text explores what it means, what it costs and what is gained by following Christ's call. The text is unique in its last stanza, which calls us to rest, as Christ rested, in order to be refreshed and renewed.

The prelude is from what I believe to be a successful organ transcription from Sir Edward Elgar's (English, 1857-1934) violin concerto. The postlude is a delightful piece by the English organist and composer, John Travers (1703-1758). Travers was a chorister at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle then organist at St. Paul's and The Chapel Royal. Lots of connections between composers and organists across the centuries!

—Jane Schroeder, Minister of Music

Prayer List

We celebrate those members who birthdays are this week: Jan Gilley (November 23) Susan Conrad (November 25) Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: Marya Allen, Ron, Andrew, Jean Harper, Jane Hards, Joanne Scott, Nancy Soderberg, Missie Stone, Sallie Leighton, Tiffany Andrews, June Dolcater, Stormy Bok, Carolyn Morris, Roxanna, Meredith Peters, Brian Fitzpatrick, Cara, Risa, The Jackson family, Chris.

Assisting at Today's Services

7:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Eucharistic Minister:** Pam Bardon; **Lectors:** Jan Lyle, Edmund Hartt; **Prayers of the People:** Sandy Lyle; **Usher:** Jan Lyle.

9:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** David Manning; **Eucharistic Minister:** Kristian Kibler; **Lectors:** Jan Dolcater, John Mattern; **Prayers of the People:** Br. Donovan Bowley; **Ushers:** Bill Freeman, Roy Gilley

Next Sunday

November 26, 2017

The Last Sunday after Pentecost:

Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalms 95:1-7a

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46

7:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Eucharistic Minister:** JoAnne Ryan; **Lectors:** JoAnne Ryan, Pat Ayers; **Prayers of the People:** Pam Bardon; **Usher:** Edmund Hartt.

9:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** Dean Jackson; **Eucharistic Minister:** Roy Gilley; **Lectors:** Jeff Conrad, Sarah Groman; **Prayers of the People:** Millie Crocker; **Ushers:** Joan Bennett, Phillip Groman

How to reach us

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(We're closed on Monday)

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Calendar

Sunday, November 19

**The 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Stewardship Ingathering**

7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:45 am—Coffee Hour—Parish Hall

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Monday, November 20

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Tuesday, November 21

9:00 am—Xi Gong class (Parish Hall)

6:30 pm—OA meeting—Library

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Wednesday, November 22

**9:30 am—Holy Eucharist and
Healing Service—Chapel**

10:00 am—Fellowship Time
—Sun Room

10:30 am—Bible Study—Sun Room

6:00 pm—VoXX Rehearsal

—Parish Hall, Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving Day

2:00 pm—Thanksgiving Dinner

—Parish Hall

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Friday, November 24

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Parish Hall

Saturday, November 25

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Sunday, November 26

**The Last Sunday after Pentecost:
Christ the King**

7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:45 am—Coffee Hour—Parish Hall

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement