



# The Incarnation Word

May 2026

We love and serve the Lord by loving and serving others.

No matter your political leanings, there's plenty to be anxious about in our community, our nation, and the world. Feeling overwhelmed? I found comfort in this prayer by the Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber:



Dear God,

Not sure if you've noticed, but the world feels pretty unhinged at the moment. Reading the news makes me feel powerless, angry, and terrified. And because I don't want to feel like that all the time, I sort of zone out on TV and Instagram, which makes me feel better...for a minute. Then I just feel worse, because life is rare and precious and we only get so many hours, and I just spent 1.2 of them scrolling videos an algorithm picked out just for me, because apparently I'm both more predictable and more manipulable than I like to think.

So, I won't ask for you to fix the world to suit me because better people than I have tried those prayers and they don't

work, so could you maybe just help me be in this world without letting it hollow me out quite so much?

And if you're not going to just fix this mess (which, again, I assume you're not), then could you help me to see where you ARE knitting together what I've unraveled, where you ARE ushering in reconciliation between people who have disappointed each other again, where you ARE quietly loving us into tomorrow?

And please let me know what I can do down here, even if it's small. (And make it obvious please, because I tend to miss the subtle stuff).

Like what kindness I can offer that might not fix the world, but at least help another person survive this day on *your* Earth? And forgive me for not noticing how often other people are doing the same for me, because I'm too busy freaking out.

And if it's not too much to ask, a few more good TV shows soon?

Amen.

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## Buildings and Grounds

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### Parish Work Day

A huge thanks to the crew who cleaned out closets, trimmed shrubs, tamed the monkey grass and kudzu, planted lilies, and cleaned the kitchen:



John Gelok  
Jenny Gettys  
Cynthia Glidden  
Scott Glidden  
Brad Hughey  
Joette Johnson  
Angharad Torres  
Asher Torres  
Ben Torres  
Cora Torres

Please thank them for beautifying the grounds for all of us.

### Roof

Our roof is starting to show signs of wear and tear, so it's time for us to start



planning for its replacement. We're getting an estimate so we know about how much money we'll need when the time comes and we already have some funds set aside in a money market account to get us started. To contribute to that fund, simply put "roof" in the memo line of your check or select "roof" in the drop-down menu in our online giving.

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## Hospitality

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### Tres de Mayo Sunday, May 3rd at 11:45am

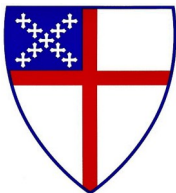
In celebration of our Mexican members, we'll gather in Jenny's back yard after the 10:30 service for a covered-dish fiesta. We'll have a Mexican feast, lawn games, and even a piñata! Make sure you bring a lawn chair and whatever

beverage (adult or otherwise) you'd like. It'll be fun to get together just to chat and have fun!



# — Christian Education —

## Adult Ed - Episcopalians 101 Sundays at 9:30



Confirmation is the sacrament through which one becomes an official member of the Episcopal Church. Are you interested in joining Incarnation?

Or maybe want to learn more about the Episcopal faith before deciding? Or just want to better understand why we do what we do? Plan on joining us for these fun and informative classes! This month's topics will be:

### May 3 - Holy Eucharist

In what way is Jesus present in the bread and wine? What do we receive in Communion?



### May 10 - Episcopal Polity

What's a Diocese? What does a Bishop do? We'll look at how our denomination is organized and who's in charge.

### May 17 - Baptism and Confirmation

Why do we baptize babies instead of adults? And what does God do at our

Confirmation?



### May 24 - Other Sacraments

Why get married by a priest instead of a judge? And is burial a sacrament?

## Godly Play Sundays at 9:30

This month our children turn their attention to Jesus' continued presence with us. The stories are:

### May 10 - The Good Shepherd and World Communion



I wonder if you've ever come close to the table where the Good Shepherd feeds the people of

the world? I wonder where that table could really be?

### May 17 - Ascension

I wonder how the disciples felt when Jesus told them God would give them



the special gift of the Holy Spirit? I wonder what they will do with that gift?

## Education for Ministry Beginning in September

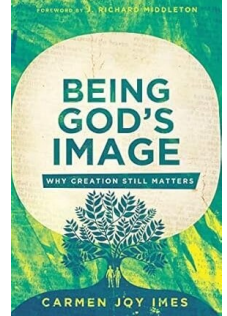
EfM is a 4-year course through the seminary at Sewanee that studies the Old and New Testaments, Church History, and Theology. More than that, it's a small group in which to wrestle with the difficult questions of our faith, to explore how our faith informs our lives, and to find our own ministries. Would you be interested in joining this fall? Talk to Jenny+! Or anyone else who's taken EfM! We'll tell you all about it.



## Being God's Image Beginning in June

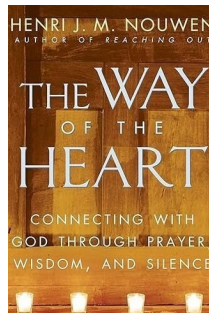
This summer we'll continue to follow our bishop's reading plan by studying *Being*

*God's Image: Why Creation Still Matters* by Carmen Joy Imes. Amidst the many voices clamoring to shape our understanding of humanity, the Bible reveals important truths related to our human identity and vocation that are critical to the flourishing of all of creation.



Every human being is created as God's image, which explores the implications of our kinship relationship with God and considers what it means for our work, our gender relations, our care for creation, and our eternal destiny. Get the book and plan to join us on Sundays at 9:30.

## The Way of the Heart Beginning in September



This fall the adults will take up the book *The Way of the Heart: Connecting with God through Prayer, Wisdom, and Silence* by Henri Nouwen. Plan to join us.

## Suggestion Box



By now you've probably seen our suggestion box in the narthex and know we are eager to hear your ideas and feedback. But we've discovered a problem. Sometimes your suggestions are things that haven't worked before. And sometimes we have further questions about what you're suggesting. But when you don't sign your suggestion, we can't discuss it with you. So if you've already submitted a suggestion, please re-submit it on the new forms on the box. We look forward to talking with you about some great ideas!

## Visitor Bags

A few weeks ago, some friends of Jenny's visited Incarnation. Even though Cynthia was out of town, they were welcomed with Incarnation's usual warmth and kindness, and they



received Visitor Bags. We give them out but rarely get feedback on their impact. Well, one visitor said he'd never felt so welcome at a church he visited (and he visits new churches often). He said the information and cookie mix were amazing. He wants to invite a friend to come with him to Incarnation so he can take his friend's cookie mix for himself! We're so grateful to Becky Zinko who has agreed to take on the important ministry of making sure we always have Welcome Bags available for visitors.

## Handicapped Parking

As our congregation ages, we have more and more parishioners who have difficulty walking distances from their cars to the sanctuary. As you're choosing your parking spot on Sundays, please be aware of those less mobile than you and leave the spots closest to the walkway for them. For the very able-bodied, the lot across the street at the museum is an easy alternative that leaves more close spots for those less mobile. Thanks!



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## Outreach

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### Bread from Heaven

#### Post Office Food Drive

Saturday, May 9

11:00-1:30



We are one of the recipients of the food collected by the Post Office on this day. If you have a truck or car that holds a lot, we'll need to be at the back of the Post Office between 11:00

and 1:00 or even later to receive the food they've gathered. We'll bring it back to the church, where we'll need volunteers to check the expiration dates and sort and crate it. Let Scott or Jenny know if you can help - this will be a major source of food for us!

Thursday, May 14

10:00 Set Up and Unload Produce

Saturday, May 16

8:30 Serve our Shoppers

Please keep our hungry friends in mind when you're shopping for your family. We're especially low on canned proteins like tuna or chicken, and spaghetti sauce. Your financial donations help us purchase food to fill in the gaps.



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## Pastoral Care

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### Vases



On weeks that the altar flowers aren't purchased by someone, they just sit in the empty sanctuary until they're replaced with fresh

ones. Pastoral Care wants to share them with a hospital or nursing home so they can bring cheer to others. Do you have extra vases at home? We need them! And if you'd like to deliver flowers once a month or so, let Nancy Fowler know.

# Pastoral Care

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## Birthdays

May 3                      Joette Johnson  
May 9                      Tonja Blackwell  
May 23                     Asher Torres  
                                    Mike Langer  
May 30                     Ed Harkins



## Anniversaries

May 7                      Charlie and Becky Zinko  
May 15                     John and Sudie Gelok  
May 29                     Scott and Cynthia Glidden



## Prayer List

### Parish Prayer List:

Brad Hughey's bees who are sick

### Those with Long-Term Needs:

Gail Barzee

Lauren Bridges  
Kristie Camp  
Tom Cooper  
Billy Corbett  
Michael Darnell  
Hope Greene  
Todd Kaderabek  
Deloris Livingston  
Garrett Moss  
Pat Murray  
Lucia Nagel  
Gary Pope, Sr.  
Greg Power  
Jane Russell  
Dever and Carolyn Smith  
Ken Smith  
Olin Whitener  
Linda Wilkins

### Those Expecting Children:

Brian & Chassidy Paysour  
Thames and Ty Higginbotham  
Rory and Abby Marett

### The Deceased:

June Oman, friend of Ben Torres  
Jim Kaderabek, family of Jenny Gettys  
Phil Whiteside, friend of Morgan Johnson  
Diane Byers, aunt of Jenny Gettys

# Worship

## Pentecost Sunday Sunday, May 24

On this day we read from the book of Acts:

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



We mark this occasion as well as the gift of the Holy Spirit here for all of us, in a variety of way. Children will be invited to join the procession waving Pentecost sticks trailing ribbon streamers in the colors of tongues of flame. The banner at the front of the church will show flames as well. And the color of the day will be red, the color of the Holy Spirit and so also the color typical for Confirmations and Ordinations, when we ask the Holy Spirit to empower people for their ministry. It's a stunning contrast to the white we've seen all Easter season.



Date	May 3 5th Easter 10:30
Altar Guild	Sudie Gelok
Coffee Hr.	None
Godly Play	None
Greeters	Morgan and Julia Johnson
Verger	Scott Glidden
Dig Greet	Cora Torres
Camera	Max Hyde
Crucifer	Angharad Torres
Euch Min	Cynthia Glidden
1st Lector	Julia Johnson
2nd Lector	Morgan Johnson
Nursery	Jasmine Dorsett
Chapel	Morgan Johnson
Interces.	Scott Glidden
Counters	Ed Hoffman Scott Glidden
Flowers	John Lee
Pew Racks	Mimi McCully

We go on to read:

At this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

To commemorate this, we'll have members of the congregation reading a sentence of the passage in many different languages all at once. Can you read a sentence in another language? Let Scott know!



We'll give you the sentence already translated and ready for you to read it!

## Trinity Sunday Sunday, May 31

With the Holy Spirit's arrival at Pentecost, we now know all three parts of the Holy Trinity and so we celebrate the feast of Trinity Sunday. We laud God as Creator (God the Father), Redeemer (God the Son), and Sanctifier (God the Holy Spirit). We give thanks for the fullness of God's presence in the world and in our lives.



## May Readings

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
May 3 5th Easter	Acts 7:55-60	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 10 6th Easter	Acts 17:22-31	Psalm 66:7-18	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
May 17 7th Easter	Acts 1:6-14	Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
May 24 Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:25-35, 37	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	John 20:19-23
May 31 Trinity Sunday	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 8	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20

# — April Servers —

Date	May 10 6th Easter 10:30	May 17 7th Easter 10:30	May 24 Pentecost 10:30	May 31 Trinity Sunday 10:30
Altar Guild	Marty Marett	Dawn Bridges Jennie Hamrick	Joette Johnson Niccie Dearing Lucia Nagel	Sudie Gelok Marty Marett
Coffee Hr.	Marty Marett	Robin Childers	Joette Johnson	Sudie Gelok
Godly Play	Cora Torres Jasmine Dorsett	Scott Glidden Cynthia Glidden	None	None
Greeters	Jackie and Ed Hoffman	Jennie Hamrick Charlie Zinko	Ed and Lynne Harkins	Ben and Angharad Torres
Verger	Cynthia Glidden	Ellie Bird	Angharad Torres	Robin Childers
Dig Greet	Angharad Torres	Niccie Dearing	Ben Torres	Morgan Johnson
Camera	Asher Torres	Morgan Johnson	Cora Torres	Ellie Bird
Crucifer	Jasmine Dorsett	Ellie Bird	Asher Torres	Jasmine Dorsett
Euch Min	Cora Torres	Robin Childers	Cynthia Glidden	Niccie Dearing
1st Lector	Joette Johnson	Noah Lindemann	Angharad Torres	John Gelok
2nd Lector	Jen Spencer	Gena Poovey	Ben Torres	John Lee
Nursery	Marty Marett	Available	Available	Cora Torres
Chapel	Cora Torres	Jasmine Dorsett	Angharad Torres	Niccie Dearing
Interces.	Cynthia Glidden	Jackie Hoffman	Ellie Bird	Jasmine Dorsett
Counters	Ellie Bird Robin Childers	John Gelok Charlie Zinko	Ed Harkins Ben Torres	Joette Johnson Nancy Fowler
Flowers	Available	Torres	None	Glidden
Pew Racks	Asher Torres	Julia Johnson	Ben Torres	Angharad Torres

# May Calendar



Sunday	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
26 <b>4th Easter</b> 8:30 HE Rite II 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:30 HE Rite II	27	28 11:30 EfM	29	30	1	2
3 <b>5th Easter</b> 8:30 HE Rite II 9:30 Adult Ed. 10:30 HE Rite II 11:45 Tres de Mayo Picnic	4	5 11:30 EfM	6 9:00 Worship Committee	7	8	9 11-1:30 Post Office Food Pickup & Sorting
10 <b>6th Easter</b> 8:30 HE Rite II 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:30 HE Rite II 11:45 Vestry	11	12 11:30 EfM	13 10:00 DOK	14 10:00 BfH Set-Up	15	16 8:30-12:00 Bread fr. Heaven
17 <b>7th Easter</b> 8:30 HE Rite II 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:30 HE Rite II	18	19 11:30 EfM	20	21	22	23
24 <b>Pentecost</b> 8:30 HE Rite II 9:30 Adult Ed. 10:30 HE Rite II	25	26 11:30 EfM	27	28	29	30
31 <b>Trinity Sunday</b> 8:30 HE Rite II 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 HE Rite II	1	2 11:30 EfM	3 9:00 Worship Committee	4	5	6