
About Pentecost 1 2023

Trinity Sunday and the beautifully poetic prose of a Creation story lead us into the Season after Pentecost. God lovingly creates all things good – without exception. Human beings are not exceptional, but they are also not exempt. Perhaps we are at our best and most whole when we see our interconnectedness with and as part of God's good creation.

The longest season in the church year gives time to delve into what it means to live as a community of Creation; a community that is continually in the making. Green, the colour of growth and renewal, is the season's colour.

In this first half of the season, we will join the community of Matthew's gospel and be challenged by the stories of Jesus to grow as a community of grace, extravagant compassion, and radical liberation with the courage to disrupt.

We will linger in the book of Genesis and stories of some ancestors of faith – Abraham and Sarah; Isaac and Rebekah; Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; Joseph and his brothers; and finally, Moses and several courageous women.

The people who populate these stories are flawed. They fight amongst one another, plot their way to advantage, do silly things, and make false assumptions; they are vain and fragile; they love, laugh, mourn; they succeed and fail. They are like us! All the while, God is with them. God is beside them despite every ill-thought-through decision or selfish thing they do and in every noble and dignified thing they do.

Growth, struggle, vulnerability, and God's life-giving ways through such situations shape and strengthen community.

This Ordinary Time is not-so-ordinary. Our everyday life with God requires a willingness to disrupt norms and have our lives disrupted by God.

Welcome to this not-so-ordinary time.



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