

THE IMAGERY OF PENTECOST: As with the liturgy of the Blessing of the Waters at Epiphany, the proclamation at Pentecost is that all creation is renewed and restored by the life-giving breath of God: "In the Lord's epiphany all creation becomes good again, indeed "very good," the way that God himself made it and proclaimed it to be in the beginning when "the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters" (Gen 1:2) and when the "Breath of Life" was breathing in all humanity and in everything that God made (Gen 1:30; 2:7)." On Pentecost the Breath of God on the waters is focused on renewing the People of God: John 20: 21,22: "Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."" And from today's gospel: "He who believes in me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive."

In the same way that water is pictured as a great outpouring, a flood of goodness, the Breath of God is in image the mighty wind that blew into the room where the disciples were waiting at Jesus' command. The activity of God is imaged also as fire: the light of renewal is a fire, catching the timid disciples up into the glory of God himself. As God appeared to Moses as a burning bush, we become part of that fire, witnessing to his Presence in our time and place.

May's Last Sunday offering benefits the United Thank Offering. The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute the 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion

Diaper Bank Update: In April, the Diaper Bank donated 392 diapers, 128 to individual families, and 264 to Covenant Soup Kitchen, thanks to your generosity. We are in need of diapers (sizes four to six) and cash donations, which will be used to buy diapers in sizes not donated to the Bank. Thanks in advance! In May, we distributed 250 diapers (and wipes) to three individual families, 498 to WAIM, and 231 to Storrs Congregational Church Food Pantry. Good month!





