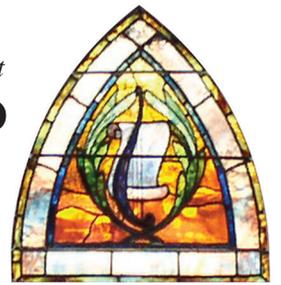


# Adventurer

Lent

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 44, No. 14

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Week of April 5, 2020



## News & Events

### Holy Week Worship Via Livestream

#### Palm Sunday, April 5

9:00 a.m.: Livestream worship  
Mark Gignilliat preaches

#### Monday-Wednesday, April 6-8

12:05 p.m.: Livestream Lenten Preaching  
Wes Hill preaches

#### Maundy Thursday, April 9

12:05 p.m.: Livestream Lenten Preaching  
Murray Lee preaches

6:00 p.m.: Livestream worship  
Michael Weeks preaches

#### Good Friday, April 10

12 noon: Livestream Liturgy for Good Friday  
Dean Pearson preaches

Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Live) to access these events, which will also be streamed on Facebook Live and Twitter.

### “What’s Up Next”: A Webinar for Parents

On the first three Monday evenings of April, Cameron Cole and Rebecca Lankford will offer a seminar to help parents prepare for adolescence before their kids are teenagers. Each session will take place via the Zoom video app at 8:00 p.m. The first session on April 6 is “Busyness: The Over-Scheduling of Teenagers.” Links will be accessible via social media and [AdventBirmingham.org](https://AdventBirmingham.org).



## A Word from Canon Hicks

Throughout this ordeal, I’ve been thinking a lot about the necessary physicality of our faith in the midst of all our disembodied connection – livestreamed services, Zoom meetings, FaceTime, social media. I’ve felt a tension in the pastoral decisions I and others are making with regards to all this.

Early on in the church’s life, not long after Jesus ascended into heaven, Christians were confronted with the physicality of faith. There were some, the Gnostics, who argued that the spiritual was all that mattered, that the physical life was just a husk to shed on the path to becoming our true, best, non-physical selves. Christians reflected on this and ultimately labeled it heresy. What was the deciding factor? It was the doctrine of Christ. It was that Jesus became *incarnate*. Once God took on flesh, he put his eternal stamp of validation on what he’d already made pretty clear at creation: the *whole* human being (body included) was “very good” (Genesis 1:31).

**And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I will; be clean.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.**

- Matthew 8:3

This all means that bodies matter. Physical connections matter.

It got me thinking all the more, in this time, how important it is – even amidst all the necessary distancing and precautions required – to *touch* people and to be in one another’s physical presence. Certainly we can’t do everything we once could for the time being. But I’ve made it a habit in these days to pay a bit more attention to the physical when I’m with the people I know and love – eye contact, a hand on the shoulder, a hug, a leaning in. I do think that there’s an impoverishment, a specific kind of aloneness, that can settle in when we’re all connecting in disembodied ways. I think of Jesus who didn’t shrink back from a leper, and not only healed him with his words, but “touched him” (Matthew 8:3).

Love through touch – *physical*, embodied love – is deeply human, and deeply Christian. I’m thinking about the people who are quarantined alone, who grow needier by the day for this kind of Christian love. Join me in praying for them. Maybe God, in this time, is calling some of us to transcend a few of these barriers.

- Zac

## This Sunday: April 5, 2020

We again will worship via livestream this Sunday, April 5, as we continue not gathering at the church. Please join us for Palm Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m., when Mark Gignilliat will preach. The Dean’s Class will follow immediately afterward. Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Live), Facebook Live, or Twitter to access our livestream.

### Adult Education: 10:10 - 10:50 a.m.

The Dean’s Class will be available via livestream this Sunday. Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Live).

Recordings of past classes are available on our website at [AdventBirmingham.org/Audio](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Audio).

### Lectionary:

Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Psalm 31:9-16; Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

### Children’s & Youth Education:

Two resources are now available for families with children. Family Sunday School lessons are posted online every week, and the Advent Christian Academy offers 30-minute lesson plans that align with the Advent’s newly released Bible Benchmarks curriculum. Junior and Senior High Youth will gather every Sunday via Zoom for Christian education. Links to all may be found online at [AdventBirmingham.org/Coronavirus](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Coronavirus).

*The 9:00 a.m. service is broadcast live on [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://AdventBirmingham.org/Live).  
Sermon and class recordings are available at [AdventBirmingham.org](https://AdventBirmingham.org).*

## diocesan staff

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan, Bishop of Alabama

## advent staff

The Very Rev. Andrew C. Pearson, Jr., Dean and Rector

The Rev. Canon R. Craig Smalley, Canon Pastor and Day School Chaplain

The Rev. Canon Matthew C. Schneider, Canon for Parish Life and Evangelism

The Rev. Canon Zac Hicks, Canon for Liturgy and Worship

The Rev. Katherine P. Jacob, Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Michael Weeks, Assisting Clergy

## A Note on Financial Support

Your financial support makes gospel ministry possible. Church staff will continue to process mailed checks, and information about digital giving options may be found at [AdventBirmingham.org/Give](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Give).



## Sign Up for Parish-Wide Emails

We urge all Adventers to sign up to receive parish-wide emails. You can do this by signing up to get the *Adventurer* by email, which will also register you to receive the parish-wide emails. (Doing this will not cause you to stop receiving the printed version of the newsletter, unless you so request.) This is the best way for us to reach the most people with timely news. Find the link to sign up at [AdventBirmingham.org/Coronavirus](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Coronavirus).



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## calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 5 Palm Sunday Livestream Worship - <a href="http://AdventBirmingham.org/Live">AdventBirmingham.org/Live</a> - 9:00 a.m. Dean's Class will follow.	6 Livestream Lenten Preaching - Wes Hill - 12:05 p.m.	7 Livestream Lenten Preaching - Wes Hill - 12:05 p.m.	8 Livestream Lenten Preaching - Wes Hill - 12:05 p.m.	9 Maundy Thursday Livestream Lenten Preaching - Murray Lee - 12:05 p.m. Livestream Maundy Thursday Service - 6:00 p.m.	10 Good Friday Livestream Liturgy for Good Friday - 12:00 noon	11
Apr 12 Easter Day Livestream Worship - <a href="http://AdventBirmingham.org/Live">AdventBirmingham.org/Live</a> - 9:00 a.m.	13	14	15	16	17	18

Anyone desiring to seek God in prayer may still reach out to the Advent House Prayer Ministry. Gatherings at the Advent House have been temporarily suspended; however, prayer intercessors are continuing to pray for people for God's presence and intervention in their lives for the healing of illness, anxiety, fear, sorrow, and hardship. Please contact Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622 or [Kathy@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Kathy@CathedralAdvent.com).