

Adventurer

Easter

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 44, No. 18

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Week of May 3, 2020



News & Events

Evensong Service to Stream May 7

We will hold a service of Choral Evensong via streaming video on Thursday, May 7, at 5:30 p.m. Evensong is the sung version of the Anglican Evening Prayer service. An ensemble of Cathedral Choir members will sing on May 7, and Canon Smalley will preach.

Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, Facebook Live, Twitter, or YouTube to access our stream. A recording of the service will be available for viewing on our various platforms after the initial airing.

Communications Leadership Update

Effective May 1, Will Sledge is now Director of Communications and Technology. Will takes over for Christa Cordova, who will transition out of the Advent on May 29. Will's responsibilities will include leadership of the Advent Communications Team, management of digital and other technical tools, and communications strategy. Spencer Leffel and Chris Maxwell will continue working with Will as they lead the Advent's publications, graphic design, and email communication strategies, among other projects. Please join us in congratulating Will on his promotion and thanking Christa for her ministry. Reach out to this team at Communications@CathedralAdvent.com.



A Word from Canon Smalley

In addition to being our gifted editor, Spencer Leffel is a patient man. It's about time that I share this publicly and confess that I know from experience.

I mention patience by way of introduction as I imagine for many, your patience may be wearing thin. Even the most patient now feel a weariness in waiting, and perhaps you ask the question, how long O Lord?! Who are we to ask, right? But we do.

This is the question Habakkuk asks God in the short, three-chapter book of prophecy that bears his name. One could call it a question, but really it is an unvarnished complaint in the dialogue between Habakkuk and God.

The book literally begins, "O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear?" You may find yourself warming to the prophets for the first time.

Habakkuk questions God, asking why he seemingly sits on his hands when every-

thing is falling apart in the world. Even as he complains and makes accusation, though, he cannot contain his belief that God will respond, that God's character is good. "I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint."

You may wonder how, or if, God will respond to this insubordination, and the very next verse gives the answer: "And the Lord answered me...." The Lord answered, the Lord answers.

To be fair, he is told to wait for it, that the vision and response that God would give will surely come, though it may seem slow. Dialogue, complaint, and grappling with God are not condemned but rewarded, and I hold that out for us. Indignation trumps indifference any day. It may seem like a cop out to say that it is on God's time, but, well, it is.

Habakkuk's grappling ends with assurance and praise, and that is my prayer for us as I pray that we will similarly contend with God and the vision he will give. - Craig

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places.

- Habakkuk 3:18-19

This Sunday: May 3, 2020

Please join us for worship via streaming video this Sunday, May 3, at 9:00 a.m. Mark Gignilliat will preach. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, Facebook Live, Twitter, or YouTube to access our stream. To download a service bulletin, go to AdventBirmingham.org/Worship. We continue not gathering at the church. Bishop Sloan has extended the suspension of face-to-face worship through May 17.

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

The Dean's Class will be available via streaming video. This Sunday Dean Pearson will be joined by Tucker Fleming for a Q&A featuring questions from our 6th grade Confirmation class. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live.

Lectionary:

Psalms 23; Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

Sign Up for Parish-Wide Emails:

Find the link to sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Coronavirus.

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 gather every Sunday via Zoom for Christian education following the 9:00 a.m. service. Links to all may be found online at AdventBirmingham.org.

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

transitions:

Birth: Francesca "Frannie" Elise Sandlin, daughter of Hunter and Morgan, on April 16

Death: Buford "Bill" Lee Wilson, on April 19

Confirmation Service Postponed

The Confirmation service scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, has been postponed. This service was for both our 6th grade confirmands and adults wishing to be confirmed. Bishop Sloan has extended the suspension of face-to-face worship through May 17.

We will publish rescheduling information when it becomes available.

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Robert MacElvain: (Mission and Outreach) by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Y. Menendez

William "Brother" Pritchard, Jr.: (Pastoral Care) by Mrs. Frank H. Bromberg, Jr.; Ricky and Nancy Bromberg; Jimmie and Louise Wright

Frazier Christy: (Garden Fund) by John and Liz Carraway



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 3 Streaming Worship - AdventBirmingham.org/Live - 9:00 a.m. Dean's Class will follow	4 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	5 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	6 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m. Online Disciple-Maker Training - 1:00 p.m.	7 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m. Streaming Choral Evensong Service - AdventBirmingham.org/Live - 5:30 p.m.	8 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	9
May 10 Streaming Worship - AdventBirmingham.org/Live - 9:00 a.m. Dean's Class will follow	11 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	12 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	13 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m. Online Disciple-Maker Training - 1:00 p.m.	14 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	15 Facebook Live Prayers - 9:00 a.m.	16

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.

Advent House Prayer Ministry: 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 God's presence and intervention in people's lives for the healing of illness, anxiety, fear, sorrow, and hardship. Please contact Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622 or Kathy@CathedralAdvent.com. *Philippians 4:4-7*