

Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 44, No. 40

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Week of November 15, 2020



News & Events

Services Move Indoors this Sunday

We are set to move services inside to our Nave this Sunday, November 15. *These will be at new times:* 9:15-10:00 a.m. (band led) and 11:15 a.m.-noon (choir and organ led). To avoid having an unsafe number attending during the Covid pandemic, registration is required to attend a service. We will have separate sign-up lists for each service at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship. (Starting each Monday at 9:00 a.m., you can register for the following Sunday.) We will limit attendance to 150 at each service. Everyone is required to wear a mask, and we will observe social distancing in seating. Ushers will actively assist you, showing you to an appropriate pew.

We will livestream both services, at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, Facebook Live, or YouTube to access our stream.

We will hold three adult classes this Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Attendance will be limited, and registration is required to attend an adult class. Sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship.

See page 2 for a partial list of FAQs, and visit AdventBirmingham.org/Worship for the complete list.



A Word from Wes Sharp

The last recorded words of John Wesley, the great preacher and evangelist, were, "The best of all is God is with us." This famous 18th-century evangelist traveled on horseback more than 250,000 miles, preaching more than 40,000 sermons to those who had an ear to hear and even to those who did not.

In the first chapter of Job, we read how Job was barraged with consecutive messages announcing events that stripped him of his livestock, servants, and beloved children. Amazingly, we see Job react to these tragedies with these words, "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." God records that "in all this, Job did not sin or charge God with wrong." Wow, what a testimony!

As I recount the events of this past year, I realize so much of our "normal life" has been stripped away. For some, it has been a welcome, albeit unexpected, break in the chaotic routine of our 21st-century lives,

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

- John 12:24

but for others it has come close to being a "Job-like" experience. As with Job, God's dealings with us are sometimes difficult to understand, yet his ultimate purpose is to restore us to a living heart-to-heart experience of who he is. God may do this through the loss of things we love, but like the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies, renewed life comes bursting forth. We see in Job 42:10, "And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends. And the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before."

What might God be "putting to death" in your life during these troubled and trying times so that resurrection life may be experienced in coming days? May we echo the those words with John Wesley, "The best of all is God is with us."

- Wes

This Sunday: November 15, 2020

We will hold indoor worship services in the Nave at 9:15 a.m. (band-led music) and 11:15 a.m. (choir and organ-led music). *(Please note new service times.)* Registering is necessary; sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship. Dean Pearson will preach this Sunday. We will livestream both services, at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, Facebook Live, or YouTube to access our livestream.

Adult Education:

Adult classes will be held at 10:00 a.m. Registering in advance is necessary at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship. Recordings of classes will be available at AdventBirmingham.org/Audio.

- The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *Things I've Learned During Covid-19 About the Advent* – Dean Pearson
- To Be Known by God: Finding Ourselves in Galatians (Chapter Room) – *Galatians 1:1-12* – Gil Kracke
- A Pre-Advent Meditation: Who Are We and What Are We Getting Ready For? (Living Room) – *Part 1 of 2* – Carolyn Lankford

Children's & Youth Education:

Sunday School for 3K through 3rd graders will be held at the church during the 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services for those who have signed up. Fourth and 5th grade will meet in the Menendez's yard (3508 Mountain Lane, 35213), 10:15-11:00 a.m., and 6th grade will meet in the Malone's yard (105 Crestwood Drive, 35213), 10:15-11:00 a.m. *(Please note new times.)* Children's Sunday School video lessons continue to be available online each week at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship.

Junior High youth will meet at the Flowers' (230 Richmar Drive, 35213), 11:00-11:45 a.m. Senior High will meet in Cameron's backyard (3821 Buckingham Lane, 35243), 10:15-11:00 a.m. *(Note new time.)*



GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!



worship

Indoor Sunday Worship at the Advent

Some FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

When are the services?

As we move back into our Nave on Sunday mornings for in-person worship during Covid, we will gather for two morning services. The first service (which will be led by our band) will begin at 9:15 a.m., lasting 45 minutes. The second service (which will be led by our choir and organ) will begin at 11:15 a.m., also lasting 45 minutes.

Will attendance be limited?

Yes – we will limit attendance at each service to 150.

Do I need to sign up?

Yes – please register at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship. We will have separate sign-up lists for each service to avoid having an unsafe number of people coming, and so we can email everyone who registers with last-minute information, if necessary. We will also have adult education classes between the services. Please sign-up for those at AdventBirmingham.org/Worship as well.

When can I register?

Registration for the services and adult classes will open every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. for the upcoming Sunday.

What about social distancing?

Households may sit together, of course. If you are coming as a larger, extended family, please be aware that we may need to arrange your family into two pews, so that appropriate distances between households can be maintained throughout the Nave.

What will seating be like?

Ushers will be actively assisting you, showing you to an appropriate pew. Every other pew will be closed, marked with a card providing that clear instruction. To maintain proper distance among our pews, you (and your household) will be seated by approaching an open and suitable pew from any aisle.

What about masks?

Everyone is required to wear a mask. Those who are leading the services will not wear a mask when they are speaking.

What is the plan for children?

Children 3K through 3rd grade will continue to have Sunday School during each of our services. The process will remain the same as it has been. Families with children these ages should register for one of the services first (excluding your 3K through 3rd grade children), and then register for the Sunday School which will happen during that service. Information and sign-up links for Sunday School will be sent each week from our Children's Ministry on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Older children will remain with their parents throughout the service, as will infants and toddlers – we will not have a nursery.

How should we enter and exit the Nave?

Individuals and families that are not first taking 3K through 3rd Grade children to children's check-in should enter and exit the Nave through the double-doors that open onto the 20th Street steps at the rear of the Nave. Those who are taking children to their Sunday School should enter through the Porte Cochere doors for the children's check-in. After taking their children to their class, parents should proceed through Clingman Commons and the passageway



spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministry

Mary Splawn to Speak November 18



Above: Mary Splawn with her husband Wayne and children (l-r) Webb, Mae, and Eleanor Grace

The Rev. Mary Splawn will speak at our second Women's Ministry Fall Speaker Event on Wednesday, November 18, at 10:00 a.m. in the Nave at the church. (Bring your own carefully enclosed beverage.) *Note: We will not have the session originally scheduled for 7:00 a.m. at Cranmer House.*

Mary is Minister of Connections at Mountain Brook Baptist Church, where she provides leadership for the varied women's ministry programs and helps new members connect with service and discipleship opportunities. She holds an M.Div. degree from Beeson Divinity School. Her husband Wayne also serves on the ministry staff at Mountain Brook Baptist.

To register for this talk, please email the Women's Ministry Office (Carolyn@CathedralAdvent.com).

towards the Nave. Someone from our Welcome Team will then direct you through the garden to the 20th Street steps. Please help us avoid bottlenecks and clusters as you enter and exit our buildings.

What about the service that I've been watching online? Will we keep doing that?

Absolutely. We will livestream both services. Anyone who cannot be there may go to AdventBirmingham.org/Live at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. to watch. Watching online will remain a good or the only option for many in our congregation, especially given our restrictions on numbers.

What other precautions will we be taking?

Unfortunately, we will not have coffee, water, or other refreshments available before or between services. We hope everyone will greet one another warmly, but without handshakes, hugs, or other contact.

Please visit AdventBirmingham.org/Worship for the complete list of FAQs.



making music

Concert Series

The Pilgrim's Progress: Music of Vaughan Williams November 19

In celebration of the Advent's parish-wide reading of John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*, members of our Music Ministry will perform music of Ralph Vaughan Williams inspired by the book. The concert will be presented virtually and streamed on Thursday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m. on [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://www.adventbirmingham.org/live). If you miss the performance, it will be available on our website archive following the event.

From his own opera entitled *The Pilgrim's Progress*, Vaughan Williams extracted seven songs to create a song cycle that sets an assortment of texts from Scripture, Bunyan, and others. Cathedral Choir members Kathryn Overturf, mezzo-soprano (*top right*), and Randall Mayo, bass (*bottom right*), will perform six of these songs, accompanied by Frederick Teardo on piano. In addition, the Cathedral Choir will offer a performance of Vaughan Williams' *Valiant-for-truth*, a moving choral setting of an excerpt from Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*.



Midday Music

String Quartet to Perform November 20

Members of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra will present music for String Quartet by Mozart and Rachmaninoff at our next Midday Music concert on Friday, November 20, at 12:30 p.m. The performers will be ASO Concertmaster Daniel Szasz, violin (*top right*); Serghei Tanas, violin (*middle right*); Zakaria Enikeev, viola (*bottom right*); and Warren Samples, cello (*below*).

We are pleased to be able to open this concert to a limited public audience in the Nave. To sign up, please visit [AdventBirmingham.org/News](https://www.adventbirmingham.org/news). The concert will also be livestreamed on [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](https://www.adventbirmingham.org/live) and associated digital platforms, and will be made available for later listening at any time. Please do not miss this free, 30-minute program of beautiful music performed by these outstanding musicians.



education

Children's Sunday School

Classes at Church to Be Held Indoors this Sunday

Sunday School for children ages 3K through 3rd grade will be held indoors beginning this Sunday, November 15. We will offer classes during the 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. We will not hold children's classes during the adult education hour between services. We ask that parents sign up using the links emailed by our Children's Ministry. Children's Sunday School will be in the Day School Gym, Assembly Hall, and Lower School Library. Check-in will be in the corridor inside the Porte Cochere doors.

Class for 4th and 5th grade will continue to meet in the Menendez's yard, and 6th grade will continue to meet in the Malone's yard, both 10:15-11:00 a.m. (*Please note new time.*)

Contact Tara Davis (Tara@CathedralAdvent.com) with questions.

Parish-Wide Reading

The Pilgrim's Progress this Week: Devious Travelers Confront Christian

Who are these travelers? Let's find out! This upcoming week's reading is chapters 12 and 13 in the *Crossway* edition and pages 140 (last paragraph) through 164 (first paragraph) in the *Desiring God* edition. The suggested Bible passages to read beforehand are 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 and 1 Peter 5:6-11. After you finish your reading, go to [AdventBirmingham.org/Pilgrim](https://www.adventbirmingham.org/pilgrim) to view the short video summary by Dean Pearson.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Youth Ministry

Youth Dinners this Sunday

Junior High youth will gather for dinner this Sunday, November 15, 5:58-7:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). We supply the food, students bring their masks. Register at [AdventBirmingham.org/News](https://www.adventbirmingham.org/news). Contact Tucker Fleming (Tucker@CathedralAdvent.com) for details.

Senior High youth are invited to Master's Night in November. Come dressed for the green at our next Family Dinner this Sunday, November 15, 6:57-8:15 p.m. at Cranmer House. Masks required. Register at [AdventBirmingham.org/News](https://www.adventbirmingham.org/news). Questions? Contact Rebecca (Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com).

Advent Bowl 2020: Tradition Continues November 29

All 7th-12th graders are invited to compete in the Advent Bowl, our two-hand touch football tournament on Sunday, November 29, 2:00-4:00 p.m. at a location to be announced. Contact Rebecca Lankford (Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

diocesan staff

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan, Bishop of Alabama
 The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry, Bishop Coadjutor 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

The Rev. Wes Sharp, Clergy Associate

Tuesday-Morning Praise Service Moving Indoors

Our Tuesday-morning service will be held in the Nave starting November 17. In addition to the move, we're changing the start time to 8:00 a.m., in hopes that those who are working or dropping off kids at school can join. This 30-minute service offers us a midweek opportunity to reflect on God's word, pray for the needs of our city, and have fellowship with people from all walks of life. Social distancing protocol and masks are required for health and safety.

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Joan Thomas: (Endowment Fund) by Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Clayton, Jr.

Lucille "Sis" Hare Levin: (Pastoral Care) by the Family of Sis Levin

Carolyn Wade: (Endowment Fund) by Mr. and Mrs. William Slaughter

David Lawrence Faulkner: (Endowment Fund) by Betsy and Jack Allison



Cathedral Church of the Advent
 2017 6th Avenue North
 Birmingham, AL 35203-2701

Periodical Postage Paid
 Birmingham, AL

Published weekly (except bi-weekly June 15-August 15) USPS 055150 for no subscription fee by the Cathedral Church of the Advent, 2017 6th Ave North, Birmingham, AL 35203-2701.

Periodical postage paid at Birmingham, AL POSTMASTER: Send changes to THE ADVENTURER OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, 2017 6th Ave North, Birmingham, AL 35203-2701.

calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 15 Indoor Worship - Nave - 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Adult Education - 10:00 a.m. Jr. High Dinner at 5:58 p.m.; Sr. High Dinner at 6:57 p.m. - Cranmer House	16	17 Praise Service - Nave - 8:00 a.m.	18 Women's Speaker Event with Mary Splawn - Nave - 10:00 a.m. Bookstore Open - 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	19 Concert Series: <i>The Pilgrim's Progress</i> - AdventBirmingham.org/Live - 7:00 p.m.	20 Midday Music - Nave and AdventBirmingham.org/Live - 12:30 p.m.	21
Nov 22 Indoor Worship - Nave - 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Adult Education - 10:00 a.m.	23	24 Praise Service - Nave - 8:00 a.m.	25 Bookstore Open - 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	26 Thanksgiving Day Church Office closed	27 Church Office closed	28

Bookstore Open on Sundays Starting this Sunday: The Advent Bookstore will be open on Sundays from 8:30-11:30 a.m., starting November 15 when we move services into the Nave. The store will be open every Sunday as long as services are held indoors.

Lectionary this Sunday, November 15: Psalm 123 or Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12; Judges 4:1-7 or Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

A Note on Financial Support: Your financial support makes gospel ministry possible. Church staff continue to process mailed checks, and information about digital giving options may be found at AdventBirmingham.org/Give.