

Adventurer

Lent

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 47, No. 8

The Last Sunday After the Epiphany

Week of February 19, 2023



News & Events

ASH WEDNESDAY AT THE ADVENT

Ash Wednesday Is February 22

Worship Schedule:

- 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes; Advent Episcopal School Choral Ensemble sings
- 12:05 p.m. Lenten Preaching Series and Lenten Lunches begin
- 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes; Service livestreamed; Cathedral Choir sings; Nursery open for ages 5 and under

Canon Gardner will preach at the 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. services.

Lenten Preaching and Lunches to Begin Ash Wednesday

Glenda Curry, Bishop of Alabama, will kick off the Lenten Preaching Series on Ash Wednesday at 12:05 p.m. Erick Sorensen, a podcaster and writer with 1517, will preach Thursday and Friday, February 23 and 24. Lenten Lunches will be served from 12:05-1:00 p.m. See pages 2 and 3 for details.



A Word from Michael Weeks

Celebrity pastors are not a new phenomenon. Recent advances in technology have allowed pastors to get more exposure and further reach, but the holding up of one person over another has been around for ages. We see it all through history, even throughout God's word to us in the Old Testament.

It is this phenomenon that Paul addresses in the third chapter of his first letter to the Corinthians. He begins this chapter by rebuking the saints in Corinth for being unspiritual (3:1). He must address them as people of the *flesh*, and as those who are worldly. The reason for this is that they have been falling into the trap of the celebrity pastor. They have been arguing over whose church is better, maybe even seeing their pastor as being on a different spiritual level. Some were saying the church that Paul leads is the best, others saying that the church that Apollos leads is far superior! Can you even imagine?

Paul sets about correcting their view of what a pastor is, stating that he and Apollos are nothing special. They are merely servants of God, through whom the Corinthians heard and believed the gospel. Instead of holding up Paul, who first came to them to preach the gospel, or holding up Apollos who encouraged them to continue in the faith, they should be holding up God. It is he that gives the growth.

We so easily fall into this trap. I follow Luther, or I follow Calvin. I follow Zahl, or I follow Keller. It is true that all these men have had a significant impact on God's people. However, they are merely human. They are no closer to God than anyone who has the Spirit of God dwelling in them by faith in Jesus Christ.

By the grace of God, our salvation is not based on which pastor we follow. And yet, God graciously uses those pastors, as his fellow workers, to produce good fruit in us, God's field. I pray that God would use us to build his church, just as he used Paul and Apollos.

- Michael

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.

- 1 Corinthians 3:5-6

This Sunday:

February 19, 2023

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Dean Smalley

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Nave. Preacher: Dean Smalley

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Refectory. Preacher: Canon DeHart

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Dean Smalley

5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Preacher: Canon DeHart

We will livestream the 9:00 Nave, 11:00, and 5:00 services.

Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Live, Facebook Live, or YouTube to access our stream.

Adult Education (10:15-10:50 a.m.):

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *Nature and Grace: What the Bible Says and Why It Matters* – Jason Wallace

Lessons from Paul's Pen Pal (Living Room) – *Titus 3* – Michael Weeks

The Sermon on the Mount (Lower School Library) – *Faith as Trust (Matthew 6 and 7)* – Jay Gardner

Children's & Youth Education:

Our 3s and 4s classes meet at 9:00 a.m. Children in Kindergarten-3rd grade and 6th-grade confirmands start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal to meet teachers in Clingman Commons. Children in 4th grade, 5th grade, and youth have classes between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. See Sunday's service bulletin for details.

The Nursery opens for our Infants, Toddlers, and 2s classes at 8:45 a.m. The Nursery is open for ages 6 weeks-5 years during the 11:00 service.



GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!



worship

Lenten Preaching Series

We hope you will join us regularly for our Preaching Series. The service runs from 12:05-12:30 p.m. each weekday of Lent except Good Friday. Join us in-person as much as you are able, but when you can't we hope you will join us for the livestream ([Advent Birmingham.org/Live](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Live)) or listen later on our audio pages (Audio.AdventBirmingham.org). Visit AdventBirmingham.org/Lent to see the full preacher schedule.

Lenten Preachers this Week

Bishop Curry to Open Series on Ash Wednesday

Glenda Curry was invested as the 12th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama in January 2021. She had been consecrated as Bishop Coadjutor in June 2020. Prior to her election as bishop, she served as Rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in Homewood, Alabama. Ordained in 2002, she was Rector of Epiphany Episcopal Church in Leeds, Alabama, until her move to All Saints in 2004.



Prior to her call to ordained ministry, Bishop Curry worked at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's nursing school before she became Dean of Nursing at Troy University. She served as President of Troy's Montgomery campus from 1992-1999, becoming Alabama's first female president of a four-year public university. She and her husband William have two adult children.

1517's Erick Sorensen to Preach Thursday and Friday

Erick Sorensen handles Church Partnerships in the Relations and Development department at 1517. Residing in Rancho Cucamonga, California, he is also a podcaster and writer. A graduate of Biola University with a degree in Organizational Leadership, he earned his M.Div. degree from the Lutheran Brethren Seminary. He served as a pastor in Fontana, California; Staten Island, New York; and Roxbury, New Jersey. In 2015 he planted Epiphany Lutheran Church in New York City.



In addition to his pastoral ministry and relations and development work, Mr. Sorensen is host of the *Law & Gospel Devotional*, and co-host of the *30 Minutes in the New Testament* and *Field Guide to the Bible* podcasts. He is co-author with Daniel Emery Price of *Scandalous Stories: A Sort of Commentary on Parables*.

Lectionary this Sunday, February 19

Psalm 2 or 99
Exodus 24:12-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Lenten Lunches Begin Ash Wednesday

Lenten Lunches will be served from 12:05-1:00 p.m. every weekday of Lent except Good Friday. Look forward to your favorite hot entrees every Tuesday and Thursday. Savor a hearty soup or stew each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Count on the Advent's signature pimento cheese, chicken salad, bing cherry salad, classic tomato aspic and specially made desserts daily. Feed your soul with outstanding preaching and your body with a delicious lunch at a reasonable price, prepared and served by Advent members. All proceeds will benefit Pathways, helping at-risk women and children in our community find their way out of homelessness.

Shuttle Bus to Run Tuesdays and Thursdays

Don't miss the bus! Your "Advent Uber" will be available to shuttle you from Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church (3405 Brookwood Road, 35223) to Lenten Preaching and Lunches, beginning February 23. The bus will leave Mountain Brook Presbyterian at 11:30 a.m., and you'll be back by 1:30 p.m. Leave the parking and driving to us!

Nursery Provided Thursdays

During Lent we will provide a nursery for children ages 6 weeks-4K on Thursdays from 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Registration is not necessary.

Parking During Lent

During Lent the Advent's parking lot at the corner of Sixth Avenue North and Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard (21st Street) is especially hard-pressed. We must accommodate volunteers making deliveries for Lenten Lunches and other short-term visitors to the church and school. We also must maintain access for emergency vehicles and adequate space to get the shuttle bus in and out.

You can help! Please do not block any parking spaces, entrances, or exits at any time.

Parking is available at reasonable rates at meters and at a number of lots and decks within a block of the Advent. Thank you for your cooperation.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Youth Ministry

Jr. High and Sr. High: We will have no Sunday-night activities this Sunday, February 19.

Sr. High: Mark your calendars for the Senior High summer retreat Thursday-Saturday, June 1-3, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. More details and registration to come soon!

For information about our Youth Ministry, contact Will Fagan (Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com).



serving & outreach

Lenten Lunches

We Need a Few More Volunteers

The Lenten Lunches team has a few spots for which we need volunteers. Could you help Monday morning in the kitchen, or on the Express Line at 12:15 p.m. for an hour? Or Thursday or Friday in the Refectory from noon to 1:00 p.m.?

We look forward to spending time with you! Please contact Shannon Lisenby (SBLisenby@gmail.com, 205-586-6186) to sign up or find out more.



education

Inquirers' Class Series

Interested in Membership? Join Us Beginning March 5

The six-week Inquirers' Class series is an adult education course that will give you an idea of what the Advent believes and why we believe it. It is open to anyone but is designed particularly for newcomers and adults considering Confirmation, which is scheduled for Sunday, May 21.

Our next series will begin on Sunday, March 5, 10:15-10:50 a.m. in the Diocesan Conference Room (entrance near the middle of the garden). For more information, contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-443-8562).

Advent House Prayer Ministry

Intercessory Prayer Continues at Advent House

Hear my cry, O God,
listen to my prayer,
from the ends of the earth I call to you
when my heart is faint.
Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I,
for you have been my refuge,
a strong tower against the enemy. - Psalm 61:1-3



The Advent House Prayer Ministry welcomes you to come for prayer whatever your need may be – whether you are seeking God's intervention in your life for healing of a relationship or healing of a physical ailment, guidance when looking for direction, or comfort in a time of grief or hardship. This ministry of prayer is totally dependent upon the redemptive, restorative, life-giving power of Jesus Christ.

Please contact Kathy Logue (205-410-4622, Kathy@CathedralAdvent.com) if you would like to schedule a prayer appointment at Advent House (2317 Arlington Avenue South, 35205).



bookstore

Lenten Notes from the Advent Bookstore

We have several books and events of interest coming up:

- On February 26, Jim Palmer will teach a Sunday-morning class on T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets*. We have copies of an attractive, inexpensive edition in our store.
- With Tim Keller's blessing, Collin Hansen has written a biography – *Timothy Keller: His Spiritual and Intellectual Formation*. We have several copies in the store (less expensive than Amazon!), and will be hosting an evening with Collin on his new book on Monday, February 27, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Cranmer House.
- When Simeon Zahl is with us as a Lenten preacher, we will also be hosting an evening with Simeon at Cranmer House: Monday, March 6, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. We have paperback copies of Simeon's latest book, *The Holy Spirit and Christian Experience*.
- Gretchen Ronnevik, author of *Ragged: Spiritual Disciplines for the Spiritually Exhausted*, will be speaking to our women on the book's theme on Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m. at Cranmer House.
- We are delighted to welcome Will Willimon again. The author of many books, we look forward to an evening with Will on Thursday, March 23, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Cranmer House. He will use his *Sinning Like a Christian: A New Look at the Seven Deadly Sins* as the starting point for the evening.
- We also have titles by other Lenten preachers: *Scandalous Stories: A Sort of Commentary on Parables* (Erick Sorensen), *Washed and Waiting* and *Spiritual Friendship* (Wes Hill), *Law and Gospel: A Theology for Sinners and Saints* (Ethan Richardson), and *The Word of the Cross: Reading Paul* (Jono Linebaugh).

Happy reading, and we look forward to seeing you often during Lent! Contact the store for more information on these books (205-323-2959, Bookstore@CathedralAdvent.com).



spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministries

Save the Date!

On Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m. at Cranmer House, Lenten preacher Gretchen Ronnevik will speak to the women of the Advent. Her topic will be *Spiritual Disciplines for the Spiritually Exhausted*. Gretchen is the mother of six children, creator of *Gospel Mentoring*, a training program for intergenerational discipleship, and co-host of *Freely Given*, a podcast on living free in Christ. A popular speaker, Gretchen has published articles at 1517, The Gospel Coalition, and Women's Ministry Toolbox. Watch for registration information coming soon. You don't want to miss this!

diocesan staff

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry, Bishop of Alabama

The Rt. Rev. Brian Prior, Assisting Bishop of Alabama

advent staff

The Very Rev. R. Craig Smalley, Dean and Rector

The Rev. Dr. Michael Weeks, Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Wes Sharp, Clergy Associate

The Rev. Canon Ben DeHart, Canon for Parish Life

The Rev. Canon Jay Gardner, Canon Pastor

transitions:

Birth: John Williams Mills, son of Taylor and Elliott, on January 18

Baptism: James Wallace Wright, III, son of Jay and Emily, on February 5

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Janet Hill: (Endowment Fund) by Milton Harsh

Alpha Lee Goings: (Garden Fund) by Betsy and Jack Allison and Family

Patricia Camp Faulkner: (Garden Fund) by Betsy and Jack Allison and Family

Benjamin S. Carroll: (Endowment Fund) by Elizabeth and Tom Broughton • (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Jack and Elizabeth Sharman

Katherine Phillips Jacob: (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Pat Blinn; Billy and Allison Pritchard

John Schuler: (Endowment Fund) by Bob and Mary Frances Bailey

In Honor of David and Alison Green: (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Charlie and Liz Scribner



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 19 Regular worship schedule	20	21	22 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion at 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. Lenten Preaching - Glenda Curry - 12:05 p.m.	23 Lenten Preaching - Erick Sorensen - 12:05 p.m.	24 Lenten Preaching - Erick Sorensen - 12:05 p.m.	25
Feb 26 Regular worship schedule Jr. High Youth Group - Cranmer House - 6:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group - 7:17 p.m.	27 Lenten Preaching - Collin Hansen - 12:05 p.m. An Evening with Collin Hansen - Cranmer House - 7:00 p.m.	28 Lenten Preaching - Collin Hansen - 12:05 p.m.	Mar 1 Lenten Preaching - Richard Vise - 12:05 p.m.	2 Lenten Preaching - Elisabeth Elliott Hayes - 12:05 p.m.	3 Lenten Preaching - Elisabeth Elliott Hayes - 12:05 p.m.	4

Monday-Friday (Starting February 22): Lenten Lunches – Refectory/Clingman, 12:05 p.m.

Monday-Friday: AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

Pastoral Notice: If you are going into the hospital, have need of prayer or counsel, or have a family member unable to attend church, please call the Pastoral Care Office at 205-226-3500.