

Adventurer

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL

Advent



Vol. 47, No. 43

First Sunday of Advent

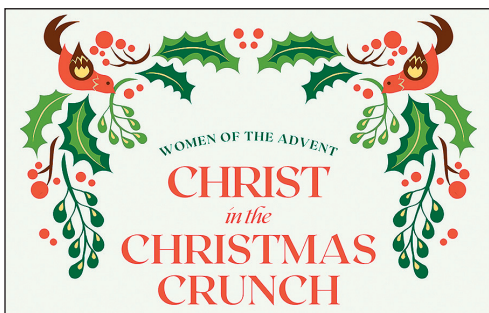
Week of December 3, 2023



News & Events

Lessons and Carols Services at 9:00 and 11:00 Nave Services this Sunday

We will hold two services of Advent Lessons and Carols this Sunday, December 3, at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services in the Nave. Lessons and Carols includes prayers, lessons and carol-anthems that celebrate the Advent season. See page 2 for details.



Christ in the Christmas Crunch Is December 7

Christ in the Christmas Crunch, our Women's Ministries annual tradition, will be Thursday, December 7, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Clingman Commons. Come for a delicious lunch, a message from Leslie Housman, live music, and a ministry market. Register at AdventBirmingham.org/Women. See page 2 for more information.



A Word from the Dean

Turbulence, ugh. No one enjoys turbulence, but there is turbulence and then there is *turbulence*. We were riding through the latter. The pilot gave us the heads up, as much as one can, but it still felt sudden and dramatic, like life. Not only was it the bottom-falling-out, roller-coaster-ride variety, but the side-to-side, plane-rattling, plane-breaking-apart-into-pieces kind of turbulence. Speaking of dramatic, I may have been a *little* inwardly dramatic, considering mortality, opportunities missed, and offering continual prayers.

We are moving into the liturgical season of Advent, and you will hear in the lessons and notice in the prayers a theme to be awake, alert, watchful. We prepare to remember again Jesus coming into the world and that he will, as we affirm every Sunday, come again. At first as an infant, and again as king and judge and savior, God will finally, fully put to right his creation.

What I wrestle with, and perhaps you too, is not the truth of who Jesus is and

that he will come again, thanks be to God, but the invitation to be awake, alert, and watchful. I try to be, I suppose, and so do you, but it also seems that much of our life is filled with our intent to be distracted. Why is that?

I suppose I could speak critically of us, and with good reason and good measure, but I believe the reason is that it is all too much. It – the world, ourselves, our relationships, the challenges, the problems, the impasses, the patterns, it's all too much. And I believe our regular response to a call to be awake, alert, and watchful is to misapply this call and our role in it, interpreting that we are to be saviors, fixers.

We are called to look to the Savior, Jesus, and follow him. This allows engagement, action, rightfully shaped and guided. As I, again, *inwardly* dramatically prayed on the plane, I prayed to God his promise and truth – God you are faithful! Be awake, alert, watchful to the truth that God is faithful.

- Craig

The Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

- 2 Thessalonians 3:3

This Sunday:

December 3, 2023

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Dean Smalley

9:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols

In the Nave. Preacher: Dean Smalley

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Refectory. Preacher: Mary Ann McCarty

11:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols

Preacher: Dean Smalley

5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Preacher: Mary Ann McCarty

We will livestream the 9:00 Nave, 11:00, and 5:00 services on AdventBirmingham.org/Live.

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

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *Understanding Israel as a Place* – Jason Wallace

Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – “Where Is Everything?": A Tour of the Advent – Fontaine Pope

My God, My Life, My Holy Delight (Chapter Room) – “Woman, thou art loosed.” (Luke 13) – Gil Kracke

The Message of Isaiah and the World Today (Living Room) – Dennis Sansom

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *Kids, Tech, and Truth: The Bible, Time Management, and Boundaries* – Cameron Cole

Children's & Youth Education:

Our 3s and 4s classes meet at 9:00 a.m. Children in Kindergarten-3rd grade start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal to meet teachers in Clingman Commons. Children in 4th grade and higher 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!



spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministries

Register for Christ in the Christmas Crunch, Set for December 7

Register today to join us for *Christ in the Christmas Crunch*, so you can:

1. Enjoy live, festive music while shopping for unique, handmade gifts that benefit underserved and vulnerable populations locally and around the globe.
2. Get ideas for your holiday decorations from the variety of centerpieces assembled by members of our guilds.
3. Indulge in a delicious Chez Lulu lunch and prepare for the season with a message from Leslie Housman, entitled "What Are You Waiting For?"

"The Crunch" will be Thursday, December 7, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (early bird shopping at 11:00 a.m.!) in Clingman Commons. Register today at AdventBirmingham.org/Women, through your Realm account, or by contacting Janet Dozier (Janet@CathedralAdvent.com 205-226-3503). Cost is \$15, and guests are welcome.



Above: Ornaments 4 Orphans collaborates with global artisans to create jobs, fight poverty, strengthen families, empower communities, and ultimately prevent vulnerable children from becoming orphans. Ornaments 4 Orphans is one of the vendors who will be at *Christ in the Christmas Crunch*.

Caregivers Support Group

Lunch Gathering Set for December 8

Caregivers are invited to a monthly lunch with others who have been impacted by the increasing demands of caring for a loved one. The next gathering will be Friday, December 8, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). You are welcome whether you are a full-time caregiver or you are just beginning to experience changes in your life due to the health of a family member. To RSVP for lunch or for more information, contact Stella Schreiber (Stella@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-443-8558).

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.



worship

Service of Advent Lessons and Carols

Annual Services to Be Held this Sunday Morning



Each year, the Cathedral Choir prepares music for our Advent Lessons and Carols services, which will take place on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3, at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in the Nave. These services include prayers, lessons, and carol-anthems that celebrate the Advent season, as we prepare our hearts for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We hope you will join us for these services, and if you like the music

you hear, we encourage you to purchase the choir's recording, *A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols*, available on CD in the Advent Bookstore as well as online at Apple Music.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

This Sunday, December 3, the Green family, Jen and Robert, Tate (4th grade) and Lulu (1st grade), will lead the lighting of the first candle on our Nave Advent wreath at the beginning of the 9:00 a.m. service.

In the Refectory service, the Townsend family, Stacy and Jacob, Charles (11th grade), Frances (10th grade), Whit (6th grade), and Hayes (5th grade), will lead the lighting of the first candle on our Advent wreath at 9:00 a.m.

Youth Ministry

Progressive Dinner Is this Sunday

Our last youth gathering of the calendar year is this Sunday, December 3, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Join us for our traditional Progressive Dinner! We will meet at Cranmer House and ride in the bus and volunteers' cars to three different homes for appetizers, soup, and desserts. We will end at Cranmer House for pickup. We are excited to celebrate Christmas together!

For more information about our Youth Ministry, contact Mary Ann McCarty (MaryAnn@CathedralAdvent.com) or Will Fagan (Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com).

Ageless Adventers

Third Wednesday Lunch Is Early this Month: December 13

The next Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday luncheon will be a week earlier than normal, on Wednesday, December 13, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Dean Craig Smalley will speak, and Barbara Partridge will prepare lunch.

Whether you are still active, newly retired, or have been enjoying flexibility for decades, you are welcome! So that we may have an accurate count for lunch, *please RSVP by Friday, December 8*, to Stella Schreiber (205-443-8558, Stella@CathedralAdvent.com).

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.
- Titus 2:11-13



education

Church Tour

"I'm New Here: Where Is Everything?"

If this is you, please join us for a tour of the Advent this Sunday, December 3, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. services. We'll meet in the Diocesan Conference Room (entrance is in the middle of the garden). Coffee will be available, and a restroom is nearby. For more information, contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-443-8562).



spiritual growth & fellowship

Children's Ministry



Club 456 to Meet this Sunday

Club 456 will get together this Sunday, December 3, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the home of Margot and Patrick Cooney (2808 Cherokee Road, 35223). Club 456 is a monthly gathering for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders led by Margot Cooney and Haley Yearout. During their time together they engage in a Bible study, eat dinner, and have fellowship. It's a wonderful opportunity for this age group to gather with their peers to build relationships and study God's word together.

Questions? Contact Tara Davis (Tara@CathedralAdvent.com).



making music

Midday Music

Music for Clarinet and Piano December 15

Our Midday Music series will continue on Friday, December 15, 12:30 p.m. in Clingman Commons, with a free, 30-minute concert by Brian Viliunas, clarinet, and Laurie Middaugh, piano. Viliunas is Professor of Music and Orchestra Director at Samford University, and Middaugh is staff accompanist and piano instructor at the University of Montevallo, where she has served for more than two decades.

The concert will be livestreamed on AdventBirmingham.org/Live for anyone unable to attend, and be made available for later listening at any time. All are cordially invited to enjoy a half-hour of beautiful music!

Pray for the Advent December 4

Adventers are invited to a Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting on Monday, December 4, 7:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Typically held the first Monday of each month, this hour-long meeting is set aside to pray for the Advent. For details, contact Carol Ann Collier (CarolC1118@gmail.com, 205-478-8081).



serving & outreach

Lenten Lunches

Ticket Presales Happening Sundays in Clingman

Tickets for Lenten Lunches 2024 are available for pre-sale on Sundays in Clingman Commons. We'll be there this Sunday, December 3, as well as Sundays, December 10 and 17. Tickets make great stocking-stuffers. Be sure to stop by our table to purchase tickets and to volunteer for Lenten Lunches.



worship

Lectionary: Sunday, December 3

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18

Isaiah 64:1-9

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
And so we will never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- Psalm 80:16-18

Jesus said, "Therefore stay awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning – lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

- Mark 13:35-37

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. - 1 Corinthians 1:9

Advent House: Intercessory prayer is on-going through the Advent House Prayer Ministry. To schedule a prayer session at Advent House, call Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622.

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. Canon Thomas P. Murray, Vice Dean

The Rev. Canon Jay Gardner, Canon Pastor

The Rev. Canon Adam Young, Canon Missioner

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Virginia "Din" Goodall Johnson: (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Donny and Katharine Patton; Cary and Janet Beck • (Music Discretionary Fund) by Robert Schuler

Mary K Wilson: (Pastoral Care) by Mr. and Mrs. John Morris

David Hayes Brewer: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Samuel E. Urmev

Gail Sharp: (Endowment Fund) by John and Marie Ehrhardt; Jimmy and Mary Todd Davis; Tricia L. and Robert G. Risan; Peggy and Michael Balliet • (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Troy and Ann Haas; Carolyn Reed; Amy Ager; Donny and Katharine Patton; Kathleen and Edmund Doss; Janie and John Williams • (Cathedral Choir Fund) by Cathy and Mell Duggan • (Music Discretionary Fund) by LaVonda See

In Thanksgiving for Peter Thomas Teardo: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Samuel E. Urmev



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 3 Regular worship schedule Advent Lessons and Carols - Nave - 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Youth Progressive Dinner - Cranmer House - 6:00 p.m.	4 Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting - Cranmer House - 7:00 p.m.	5	6	7 <i>Christ in the Christmas Crunch</i> - Clingman Commons - 11:30 a.m.	8 Caregivers Group Luncheon - Cranmer House - noon	9
Dec 10 Regular worship schedule	11	12	13 Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday Lunch - Cranmer House - noon	14	15 Midday Music - Clingman Commons - 12:30 p.m.	16

Monday-Friday: AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

Bible Studies: We have more Bible studies meeting than we can list on the calendar! Please join us in praising God for this blessing and visit AdventBirmingham.org/BibleStudies for a list of options available to you. If you have any questions, please contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-443-8562).