

Adventurer

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL

Epiphany



Vol. 48, No. 5

The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

Week of February 4, 2024



News & Events

Ashley Null to Preach and Teach this Sunday Morning



Ashley Null (*left*), internationally renowned scholar of Thomas Cranmer and the English Reformation, will preach this Sunday, February 4, at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services in the Nave. He will also teach the Dean's Class at 10:15 a.m. in the Refectory, a class entitled *Thomas Cranmer's Understanding of Holy Communion*.

An old friend of the Advent, Dr. Null authored *Thomas Cranmer's Doctrine of Repentance: Renewing the Power to Love*, and has published innumerable articles about the English Reformation.

Breakfast to Return February 11; Refectory Service Moving to Assembly Hall

Breakfast will resume on Sunday mornings, beginning February 11, 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the Refectory. It will be similar to breakfast in the past, with a hot breakfast as well as cereal and other offerings. Also on February 11, the 9:00 a.m. Refectory service will move to the Assembly Hall. See page 2 for details.



A Word from the Vice Dean

Love is one of those words so often used that it can be a good exercise to occasionally reflect upon what we mean when we use it. For example, "I love my family" certainly means something different than "I love mint chocolate chip ice cream." To make things even more complicated, the way our culture typically portrays love between individuals can be altogether different from the kind of love we find revealed in Scripture.

The first thing to note about biblical love is that Jesus had to command it (John 15:17). Because our culture leans toward love as a feeling (sadly, a feeling we get when we get something we want), the idea of needing to command love hardly makes sense. But love is experienced and expressed as both feeling and behavior, isn't it, and there is a relationship between the two.

In fact, I often tell couples in premarital conversations that, in the same way affectionate feelings can lead to loving behaviors, so can loving behaviors lead to affection-

ate feelings. Sadly, for many, the behaviors are dependent upon the feelings. In other words, some may tell you that they received more flowers and kind notes when they were dating than they have since getting married!

Interestingly, when we begin with love as a decision to behave in a loving way, affectionate feelings are almost certain to follow. I believe this is in part why so many more marriages from a couple of generations ago stood the test of time. Love was more clearly understood as a behavior, a decision, and at times even a sacrifice.

The greatest love the world has ever known is revealed on the hard wood of Jesus' cross. It wasn't an affectionate feeling that prompted Jesus to say, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." The cross was painful. It was "while we were yet sinners that Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). And what does that kind of love draw forth from us? Affectionate feeling. "We love, because he first loved us" (1John 4:19). It's a biblically proven way to experience more love in our lives, to begin with love as behavior.

- Tom

"By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- John 13:35

This Sunday:

February 4, 2024

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Nave. Preacher: Ashley Null

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Refectory. Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Ashley Null

5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

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) – *Thomas Cranmer's Understanding of Holy Communion* – Ashley Null

The Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *The Gospel* – Craig Smalley

We Don't Talk About Amos: Why We Can't Endure His Words Without Jesus (Living Room) – Kristen Padilla

Salt and Light: Amistad Mission – Serving in Bolivia (Lower School Library) – Adam Young and Kelly Hulsey

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *Freedom From the Tyranny of Hurrying and Busyness: The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* – 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.

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!

Breakfast Is Back February 11; Refectory Service Moving to Assembly Hall

Breakfast will resume on Sunday mornings starting February 11, 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the Refectory. For those who remember, it will be similar to before, with a hot breakfast as well as cereal and other offerings. We hope offering breakfast again will not only make it easier for many of us to be here on Sunday mornings, but also offer the opportunity for us to gather and enjoy fellowship with one another.

With the resumption of breakfast, the 9:00 a.m. Refectory service will move to the newly renovated Assembly Hall on February 11. The expanded Assembly Hall provides more space for this growing service while also benefiting our Sunday-morning classes.

Pray for the Advent February 5

Adventers are invited to a Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting on Monday, February 5, 7:00 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Typically held the first Monday of the 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).

The Reformation Anglicanism Lecture

Simeon Zahl to Speak at Beeson February 5

Simeon Zahl will deliver Beeson Divinity School's first annual lecture in Reformation Anglicanism on Monday, February 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Hodges Chapel on Samford University's campus. Well known to many Adventers, he will speak on *The Book of Common Prayer: Thomas Cranmer's Technology of the Heart*. A reception will follow the lecture.

Simeon (*right*) is Professor of Christian Theology at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge. He recently published *The Holy Spirit and Christian Experience*, and is working on a new book on the theology of sin and its contemporary relevance.



Women at Work

Bible Study to Begin New Series February 27

The truth is, all women work! The Women at Work Bible study is an opportunity to get to know women in different ages and stages of life, to share in the joys and struggles of the work each has been given in the context of Scripture study.

Our fall study examined what Proverbs 31 tells us about how the Lord has equipped women for work. Join us this spring for *Busy vs. Hurry*. Caroline Daw, Pam Simpson, Mary Bradley Anderson, and Julie Ogard will draw from a variety of Scripture to show participants what it means to live a life on mission for God.

The study will meet on Tuesday evenings for four weeks, February 27-March 19, at Cranmer House. Gather, if you're able, at 6:00 p.m. for fellowship and dinner (provided!). Teaching begins promptly at 6:30 and we will wrap up at 7:30. Contact Leslie Housman (Leslie@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-226-3511) with questions. Register at AdventBirmingham.org/Women or through your Realm account.



education

Inquirers' Class Series

Seven-Week Series to Begin this Sunday

Are you trying to decide whether to make the Advent your church home? The Inquirers' Class will help you make that decision. It's a seven-week series that will give you an idea of what the Advent believes and why.

Our next series will begin this Sunday, February 4, 10:15-10:50 a.m. in the Diocesan Conference Room (entrance near the middle of the garden). For more information, fill out the Interest Form at AdventBirmingham.org/Membership.

Adult Education



Learn More About Amistad Mission in Class this Sunday

The Advent has partnered with Amistad Mission (AmistadMission.org), a home for abandoned and orphaned children in Cochabamba, Bolivia, for almost three decades. Not only do we financially support creating an "alternative family" for these vulnerable children, Advent members have also participated in short-term mission trips to visit Amistad and developed friendships with these children and their caregivers.

If you would like to learn more about Amistad Mission, along with the details of what an upcoming summer trip will look like, join us this Sunday, February 4, 10:15 a.m. in the Lower School Library as Adam Young interviews Kelly Hulsey and other Adventers who have made the pilgrimage to Bolivia.



worship

Lectionary: Sunday, February 4

Psalms 147:1-12, 21c

Isaiah 40:21-31

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
- Mark 1:14-15



serving & outreach

Lenten Lunches

It's Almost Time for Lenten Lunches!

Lenten Lunches 2024 will start on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and continue each weekday, 12:05-1:00 p.m., through Maundy Thursday, March 28. Many volunteer opportunities are still available, and we hope you will join us as we work together to prepare and serve delicious lunches to our church and our community. Please contact LaVonda Keel (LaVondaKeel@gmail.com) or Miriam Morris (JcmMbm@gmail.com) for information and to sign up!

Popular entrées are back this year! Elegant Shrimp, Meatloaf, Tetrazzini, and Chicken and Cornbread Dressing are all on the menu. You can purchase lunch tickets now at the Advent Bookstore.

Local Outreach

SOUPer Bowl Soup Sale – Help Support Pathways

On Sunday, February 11, the women of the Advent will sell soup to benefit the work of Pathways (Pathwayshome.org). Here's how you can help:

1. Make some delicious, hearty soup!
2. Divide it up in one-quart containers.
3. Label the containers with the type of soup.
4. Freeze the soup.
5. Bring the soup (still frozen!) to Clingman Commons on Sunday, February 11, by 9:00 a.m.
6. Tell all of your friends to buy your yummy soup to enjoy during the Super Bowl!

Can't make soup this time? Here's how you can help:

1. Buy some yummy soup and tell all your friends!

Thank you for your support of Pathways, a ministry to women and children seeking a path out of homelessness. Questions? Contact Nancy McColloch (NdlMcColloch@gmail.com).

Youth Ministry

We Love Our Small Groups!

Our weekly small groups are one of our favorite things! Bring a friend for a quick breakfast and Bible study before school. Check AdventBirmingham.org/Youth for meeting times and locations.

We are going Super Bowling with St. Mary's and St. Luke's again on Sunday, February 11, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Vestavia Bowl. Sign up at AdventBirmingham.org/Youth.

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

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.



making music

James O'Donnell at the Advent

Acclaimed Musician to Conduct Cathedral Choir February 11

The Advent is honored to welcome James O'Donnell, LVO, for our morning choral services on Sunday, February 11. He will conduct the Cathedral Choir at Holy Communion at 9:00 a.m., and at Choral Matins, a special service of Morning Prayer, at 11:00 a.m.

One of the most celebrated choral conductors, concert organists, and liturgical musicians of our time, James O'Donnell served for more than two decades as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey.

Concert Series

Tickets Available for VOCES8 Concert February 22

The British choral ensemble VOCES8 will return for their third performance in the Cathedral Concert Series on Thursday, February 22, 7:00 p.m. in the Nave – this time with a special program for Lent. Tickets will be on sale in Clingman Commons after all morning services on Sundays, February 4 and 18. They may also be purchased online at AdventBirmingham.org/Music. This is a concert not to be missed!



spiritual growth & fellowship

Women's Ministries

Join The Middle for "Being Mom to Your Young Adult"

Have you found yourself thinking how much easier it was to be a parent when your child was in diapers and up all night, or when she needed you to get her somewhere all the time with some variety of snacks, equipment, gifts, or friends – *without embarrassing her*?

If any of this sounds familiar, you should join The Middle on Thursday, February 8, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the home of Elizabeth Outland (2901 Southwood Road, 35223). Advent Youth Directors Will Fagan and Mary Ann McCarty will join us for a conversation about *Being Mom to Your Young Adult*.

The Middle is a fellowship group for women in the middle stages of life. Register through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/Women. Contact Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (ElFitzPat9511@gmail.com) or Leigh Whatley (LeighHWhatley@gmail.com) if you'd like to bring a snack.

Caregivers Support Group

Lunch Gathering Set for February 9

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, February 9, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). To RSVP for lunch or for more information, contact Stella Schreiber (Stella@CathedralAdvent.com, 205-443-8558).

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

The Rev. Canon Dr. Dean Pinter, Canon Theologian

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Gail Sharp: (Endowment Fund) by Charlotte Murdock

Donie Neal Martin: (Endowment Fund) by Charlotte Murdock

Virginia "Din" Goodall Johnson: (Endowment Fund) by Eleanor and Rob Nielsen

Bill Wilson: (Endowment Fund) by J. Bradley and Betty Wilson

George Cassady: (Endowment Fund) by Ann Damon Haas

In Honor of Bruce and Hallie Rawls: (Endowment Fund) by Hallie Markel

In Thanksgiving for the Thursday-Night Bible Study Group and Its Leader, Robin Anderson: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Sandra Ash

In Thanksgiving for Dr. Ginger Alred: (Music Discretionary Fund) by Albert Middleton

In Thanksgiving for Craig Smalley: (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Eugenia W. Greer



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 4 Regular worship schedule Confirmation Kick- off Meeting - Cran- mer House - 1:00 p.m.	5 Anglicanism Lecture with Simeon Zahl - Beeson Divinity School - 5:00 p.m. Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting - Cranmer House - 7:00 p.m.	6	7	8 Women's "The Middle" - 2901 Southwood Road - 6:30 p.m.	9 Caregivers Support Lunch - Cranmer House - noon	10
Feb 11 Regular worship schedule Choral Matins at 11:00 a.m. Soup Sale - Cling- man Commons Youth Super Bowl- ing - Vestavia Bowl - 1:30 p.m.	12	13	14 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.	15 Lenten Preaching - Ken Jones - 12:05 p.m.	16 Lenten Preaching - Ken Jones - 12:05 p.m.	17

Monday-Friday: AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

Monday-Friday (*Starting February 14*): Lenten Lunches – Refectory/Clingman

Intercessory Prayer Available at Advent House: Anyone desiring to seek God in prayer may reach out to the Advent House Prayer Ministry. We offer prayer sessions at Advent House (2317 Arlington Avenue South, 35205). Please contact Kathy Logue (205-410-4622, Kathy@CathedralAdvent.com) to make an appointment or for more information.