

# Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 42, No. 39

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Week of November 11, 2018



## News & Events

### Thursday Worship in the Beauty of Holiness: Evensong on November 15

The Cathedral Choir will sing Choral Evensong on Thursday, November 15, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave. Evensong, a sung version of the Evening Prayer service, is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. This service offers an evening of respite and rest during the workweek. Mark Gignilliat, the Advent's Canon Theologian, will preach, with the Rev. Katherine Jacob officiating. Come worship and find rest in the gospel message.

### TSM's Laurie Thompson in the Dean's Class this Sunday

The Very Rev. Dr. Laurie Thompson (*right*), Dean and President of Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, will be in the Dean's Class this Sunday, November 11, along with Dean Pearson. Following our familiar interview or conversation format, Andrew and Laurie will engage the title, *Preparing the Faithful for Ministry: Headwinds Facing Theological Education Today*.



## A Word from Canon Hicks

I have had many conversations recently about "assurance." How am I assured that I'm one of God's own, loved by God, and destined for eternal life with him? This is the ultimate question. And, to be clear, it is no respecter of persons. I've had this conversation with the elderly close to death, and I've had this conversation with a pre-teen.

There is actually a statement behind the question. A subtext. It's, "I don't feel I qualify." Occasionally, people open up about this sentiment. Sometimes they're comparing their lackluster faith with Christians they admire and respect, who seem to be "doing it right." Other times it's an anxious retrospective on a life with too many speed bumps and wayward turns. Other times it's the simple reflection, "I'm just a bad person, and I know it." Every time, though, the struggle for assurance bears the same posture. It's the posture of what the Bible calls "iniquity."

In the original language, this word is actually a word-picture: bent in, in-curved. At the center of every doubter's question of

assurance is an inward-looking posture – a kind of spiritual scoliosis. And when we look inward, we find no assurance. And we evangelicals haven't helped. We've often responded to the question of assurance in well-meaning ways by asking the troubled individual, "Well, do you have faith? Do you believe?" But that's ultimately an in-curved kind of question.

Where does our assurance lie? We often forget Jesus' own teaching to Nicodemus which preceded that most famous Bible verse, John 3:16. He said, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life" (John 3:14-15). Jesus is teaching us that the posture of faith stands upright and looks up and out to the cross. Faith doesn't check to see if it "has faith." It simply looks up, and out, to the cross. So, when people come to me struggling with the doubt that plagues us all, I'm more inclined to ask them this question: "Who is Jesus, and what has he done for you?" Look out. Look up. Behold: your Assurance hangs on a cross for you. And he dies, even for your weak faith, even for your doubt. - Zac

**And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image.**  
- 2 Corinthians 3:18

## This Sunday: November 11, 2018

### 7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Deborah Leighton

### 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Deborah Leighton

### 11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Nave. Preacher: Deborah Leighton

### 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Refectory. Preacher: Dean Pearson

### 5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Preacher: Canon Schneider

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

**The Dean's Class** (Nave) – *Preparing the Faithful for Ministry: Headwinds Facing Theological Education Today* – Laurie Thompson and Dean Pearson

**Flannery O'Connor's Inexplicable Presence of Grace** (Chapter Room) – *"The Life You Save May Be Your Own"* and *"Greenleaf"* – Jim Palmer

**The Parables** (Living Room) – *Jesus' Friendly Subversive Speech (Matthew 13)* – Doug Webster

**1 Timothy** (Assembly Hall) – *The Church and Its Members* – Gerald Bray

**Faith and Family** (Lower School Library) – *Learning to Lament: Teaching Kids How to Take Their Difficulties to God* – Christa Cordova

### Children's & Youth Education:

Classes are offered for 3-years and older. See Sunday's service leaflet for details. Nurseries are open 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. At the 5:00 service, childcare is available for 5-years and younger.

### Lectionary:

Psalm 127 or Psalm 146

1 Kings 17:8-16

Hebrews 9:24-28

St. Mark 12:38-44

Sermon and class recordings are available at [AdventBirmingham.org](http://AdventBirmingham.org).

The 9:00 a.m. service is broadcast live on WERC 960 AM, 105.5 FM, and [AdventBirmingham.org](http://AdventBirmingham.org).



# GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

## Call for Vestry Nominee Suggestions

The Nominations Committee of the Vestry invites parishioners to suggest names for consideration for next year's Vestry class slate. Please complete a Nomination Suggestion Form if you know someone who would contribute to our parish's leadership. The forms are available in Clingman Commons or on our website, [AdventBirmingham.org](http://AdventBirmingham.org). Forms must be returned to Eva Beard in the church office by Monday, November 12.

It is recommended that you *not* notify the person that his/her name has been suggested.

The final slate of 20 candidates will be presented to the Vestry on December 13, and will thereafter be announced to the parish. Elections will take place during the Annual Meeting on January 27, 2019.

**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 226-3500.



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Youth Ministry

#### Jr. High "Hunt or Be Hunted" Night this Sunday

Jr. High youth will get together for dinner, games, and a lesson this Sunday, November 11, 6:30-7:45 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). This semester we are studying the Armor of God. This week's theme is "Hunt or Be Hunted" so suit up in your camo or your crazy animal outfit! Come and play basketball, spike ball, corn hole, and four square. Contact Rachel Cain ([Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Rachel@CathedralAdvent.com)) for more information.

#### Coffee with Rebecca Lankford for Moms of Sr. High Youth November 14

All mothers of Sr. High youth are invited to get to know Rebecca Lankford (*right*), the new Sr. High Youth Director. Please join us for coffee on Wednesday, November 14, 9:00-10:30 a.m. at Kate Hamilton's home (169 Peachtree Circle, 35213). Please RSVP to Rebecca Lankford ([Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com)).



#### Sr. High: Next Family Dinner Is November 18

All Sr. High youth are invited to the next Family Dinner on Sunday, November 18, 6:57-8:15 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). The theme is "Hunt or Be Hunted," so come dressed in your best hunting gear or as an animal. Dinner will feature our famous BBQ Taste-off, after which we'll vote on who has the best BBQ in town. Golden Rule? Full Moon? Miss Myra's? Join us as Saw's defends last year's title. Questions? Contact Rebecca Lankford ([Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com)).



## making music

### Midday Music



#### Ensemble Aubade to Perform November 16

Our Midday Music series continues on Friday, November 16, at 12:30 p.m. with a performance in Clingman Commons by Boston-based Ensemble Aubade. The free, 30-minute concert is part of the group's seven-city South-eastern tour from Mississippi to South Carolina. The esteemed trio, including Francis Grimes, viola; Mary Jane Rupert, piano; and Peter H. Bloom, flute (*l-r in photo above*), concertizes throughout the United States, winning praise for stellar musicianship, vibrant performances, and engaging residencies. Their program will include the *Trio in G minor*, Op. 63, by Carl Maria von Weber. You are warmly invited to what promises to be a beautiful half-hour of chamber music!

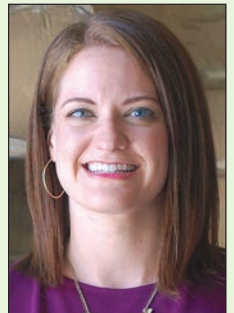
### Advent to Host Veterans Day Service

The annual Veterans Day Memorial Service will be held Monday, November 12, at 8:30 a.m. in the Nave.

### Ageless Adventers

#### Next Third Wednesday Program Set for November 14

Ageless Adventers, our fellowship group for seniors, will gather for the next Third Wednesday program on November 14, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). We're meeting on the second Wednesday of November to avoid Thanksgiving week. Bethany Rushing (*right*), the Advent's Director of Mission and Outreach, will continue our exploration of Philippians. Lunch will be served. RSVP to Stella Schreiber (443-8558, [Stella@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Stella@CathedralAdvent.com)).



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.  
- Ephesians 2:8-9



## making music

### Advent Musicians

#### Groups to Release New Recordings November 18

Two new album releases are almost here! On Sunday, November 18, the Cathedral Choir will issue *A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols*, while Advent Birmingham, featuring musicians from the Rectory and Five O'Clock services, will release *Our Strivings Cease*. Visit the music table in Clingman Commons on November 18 and 25 to purchase CDs or pick up a card with digital download information.



## education

### Advent Theological Lecture Series



Above: On Thursday, October 25, retired Bishop Colin Buchanan spoke to a gathered group of Adventers at Cranmer House on the topic, "What did Cranmer think he was doing?" During the unique evening event, Bishop Buchanan discussed parts of *Eucharistic Liturgies of Edward VI: A Text for Students* (which he edited) and explained how and why Cranmer's theology was methodically introduced into the common worship of the Church of England. Bishop Buchanan also spoke during the Dean's Class on October 28, and we invite you to listen to his teaching at [AdventBirmingham.org/Audio](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Audio).

### Book Group

#### Group Reading Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying*

The Advent Book Group will meet to discuss William Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying* (available through the Advent Bookstore) on Wednesday, November 28, at 7:00 p.m. Considered one of Faulkner's most accessible (and among his shortest) novels, it is the story of the death and burial, after a harrowing journey, of a Southern matriarch that is told from 15 viewpoints, including the dying woman herself. One commentator observed that "religion is an especially important storehouse of symbolic values in the world of this novel."

New participants are always welcome. For more information, contact James Bradford (873-5855, [JBradford@Balch.com](mailto:JBradford@Balch.com)).



## worship

### Christmas Eve

Save the date and make plans to join us on Christmas Eve (Monday, December 24), as we celebrate the advent of Jesus Christ with special gospel-centered worship services at 3:00, 5:00, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m. Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Christmas](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Christmas) for more information.

And in his teaching (Jesus) said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

- St. Mark 12:38-44

**Advent House:** Intercessory prayer is on-going at Advent House. If you would like to schedule a prayer session, please call Kathy Logue at 410-4622.

## memorials:

#### Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

**John Worrell Poynor:** (Outreach) by Janet R. Hill; Mary and Victor Hanson • (Garden Fund) by Julie and Jim Goyer; Sue Ellen and Mike Lucas • (Endowment Fund) by Carolyn Brinson Reed • (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Laura and Richard Abernethy • (Cathedral Choir Fund) by Lila and Tommy McGahey



## bookstore

#### Book Store Open Extra Time through December 21

Starting Thursday, November 8, and running through Friday, December 21, the bookstore will be open extra time on Thursday and Friday (excluding Thanksgiving week, November 22 and 23) from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Regular store hours are Sunday, 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., and Monday-Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Contact us: 323-2959, [Bookstore@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Bookstore@CathedralAdvent.com). Visit us any time: [AdventBirmingham.org/Bookstore](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Bookstore).

## 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. Deborah R. Leighton, Director of Women's Ministries and Clergy Associate

The Rev. Katherine P. Jacob, Deacon

The Rev. Michael Weeks, Assisting Clergy

## transitions:

**Baptisms:** Sarah Simmons Ratliff, daughter of Thornton and Emory, on October 28; Sawyer James Jones, son of Justin and Margaret, on October 28

## memorials:

### Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

**Clare Hill Draper, III:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by Marjorie Forney

**William "Bill" Doric Tynes, Jr.:** (Outreach) by Janet R. Hill; Mary and Victor Hanson • (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Laura and Richard Abernethy; Mr. and Mrs. Tynes Quarles

**John Worrell Poynor:** (Music Discretionary Fund) by David B. Hezlep

**John McCrory:** (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Mr. and Mrs. Tynes Quarles

**In Thanksgiving for Forrest Louise Pritchard:** (Dean's Discretionary Fund) by Laura and Richard Abernethy

**In Honor of Liam Moody:** (Endowment Fund) by Elizabeth and Charles Scribner



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## calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 11 Regular worship schedule Jr. High Youth Group - Cranmer House - 6:30 p.m.	12 Veterans Day Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m.	13	14 Coffee for Moms of Sr. High Youth - 169 Peachtree Circle - 9:00 a.m. Ageless Adventers Third Wednesday - Cranmer House - noon	15 Sunrise Sinners - Refectory - 7:00 a.m. Praise Service - Nave - 8:30 a.m. Choral Evensong - Nave - 5:30 p.m.	16 Midday Music - Clingman Commons - 12:30 p.m.	17
Nov 18 Regular worship schedule New Member Recognition The Forum - Clingman - 6:15 p.m. Sr. High Family Dinner - Cranmer House - 6:57 p.m.	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day Church Office and Bookstore closed Holy Communion - Nave - 10:00 a.m.	23 Church Office and Bookstore closed	24

Every Sunday: Breakfast – Refectory, 8:00 a.m.

Monday-Friday (No meeting November 22 and 23): AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

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