

Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 49, No. 39

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

Week of November 9, 2025



News & Events

This Sunday:

Last Service in the Assembly Hall

Starting on November 16, the 9:00 a.m. Assembly Hall service will move to the Refectory. All parts of the service will be the same; it will simply move locations. As Dean Smalley noted in a recent letter to the parish, this move provides additional space and needed seating for the service, an easier path for visitors to find the service, and the opportunity for all of us to gather before and after the service in Clingman Commons.

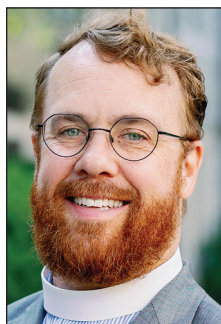
We will be pausing breakfast for the time being after this Sunday, November 9. Watch for additional information as we discern the ways we can resume breakfast in the months ahead. See page 2 for more on breakfast this Sunday.

Choral Evensong November 13

The Cathedral Choir will lead a service of Choral Evensong for Remembrance on Thursday, November 13, 5:30 p.m. in the Nave. See page 2 for more information.

Men's Lunch with Paul Zahl November 12

Advent men are invited to lunch and to hear from Dean Emeritus Paul Zahl on Wednesday, November 12, noon in Clingman Commons. See page 3 for details.



A Word from Canon Young

Kate DiCamillo's children's book, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, is a tale about a porcelain rabbit doll given to a little girl from polite society. Through a series of unfortunate scenarios, Edward changes hands many times and finds himself ruined and even physically broken. He is lost at the bottom of the ocean floor, scooped up and deposited in a garbage dump, travels the railroad with a vagrant, and is brought to the simple home of a farmer and his wife, only to be stolen by a young boy who gives Edward as a gift to his ill sister before she dies.

At each stop, Edward is loved and adored by very different people. Yet this once expertly crafted porcelain figure, meant to be displayed on a high shelf away from harm, has become broken and disfigured. Each time Edward changes owners, he begins to feel the separation and loss to greater and greater degrees. This once shallow and haughty rabbit, at the outset chiefly

concerned with his own self-importance, comes to discover things about himself through the trials of his travels. It is only after being finally broken into fragments and glued back together that he discovers that not only is he loved, but he had love to offer in return. His once hard heart that assumed his existence was about his own satisfaction had been softened, and this freed him to experience a new feeling: gratitude. The joy of being loved and enabled to love became a life-altering re-orientation for him.

Perhaps you can identify with this rabbit's fictional journey. You may know what it's like to be overlooked, cast aside, or discarded. You may know the sting of rejection or failure. Sometimes it is in the very recognition of our need that the grace of the gospel warms our cold and longing hearts. As we approach the holiday season that invites us to return thanks and to offer gifts, may we remember the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, "that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich."

- Adam

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

- 2 Corinthians 8:9

This Sunday:

November 9, 2025

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Canon Young

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Young

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In the Assembly Hall. Preacher: Canon Gardner

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Canon Gardner

We will livestream the 9:00 a.m. Nave service and the 11:00 a.m. service.

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) – *Bible Origin Stories:*

The Interpretation of Scripture – Dean Pinter

The Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) –

Tour of the Advent – Fontaine Pope

The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Christ (Chapter Room) – *Being Guarded in Him* (Philippians 4:2-23) – Gil Kracke

Flannery's Hidden Jewel: Seen and Unseen in "Parker's Back" (Living Room) – Jim Palmer

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *Are We There Yet?: Biblical Ways to Get Your Kids Better at Sports* – Will Fagan

From Awkward to Open: Talking to Your Kids About the Body, Sex, and Everything in Between (Lower School Library) – Tara Davis and Gunter Owens

Children's & Youth Education:

Our 3s and 4s classes meet at 9:00 a.m. Kindergarten through 3rd grade start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal. 4th grade-6th grade and Jr. and Sr. High 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!

Last Stewardship Call

Thanks to all who have made a Stewardship Pledge for 2026. For those who have not, please prayerfully consider supporting the ministry of the Advent in the coming year by doing so. You may pledge online at AdventBirmingham.org/Pledge. You can also contact Vice Dean Murray with any questions, or to request that a Pledge Card be mailed to you (205-226-3549 or Tom@CathedralAdvent.com).

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. Forms can be submitted digitally on our website; visit AdventBirmingham.org/Nominations. Forms are also available at the Ushers' Stations on Sunday. Forms must be returned to Rachel DeSanto in the Dean's office by Friday, November 14.

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

The final slate of 20 candidates will be presented to the Vestry at the December meeting, and thereafter will be announced to the parish. Elections will take place during the annual Parish Meeting on January 25, 2026.

Last Refectory Breakfast Is this Sunday

The last sit-down Sunday-morning breakfast in the Refectory will be this Sunday, November 9, 8:00-9:00 a.m.

As we make room for the Assembly Hall Band-led service to move to this space on November 16, we will have one last Bacon, Grits, and Egg-*Stravaganza* (and we'll probably throw some pancakes on the griddle too). *Everyone* is encouraged to come enjoy this hearty morning meal and fellowship (\$6/adult, \$3/child).

See the front page for more on the Assembly Hall service move.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Men's Ministry

A group of Advent men enjoyed rich fellowship over coffee on October 25 behind Cranmer House. Young and old gathered and split two truck beds full of logs for firewood. The two adolescents might have done the bulk of the wood splitting (thanks Charlie Owens (*right*) and James Burnette!) Men's Ministry is about men sharing in the gospel of grace by equipping, encouraging, and extending for the sake of the Kingdom. Contact Canon Young to get involved in the next Men's Ministry event.



worship

Choral Evensong

Evensong for Remembrance November 13

The time following All Saints' Day is marked by a period of remembering the faithful departed. The Cathedral Choir will lead a service of Choral Evensong for Remembrance on Thursday, November 13, at 5:30 p.m. featuring music by William Harris, Arvo Pärt, Gustav Holst, and Malcolm Boyle. Dean Smalley will be the officiant. All are invited to come and worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness and find rest in the gospel message. The service will also be livestreamed from the Advent's website (AdventBirmingham.org/Live) and associated digital platforms.

Lectionary

Sunday, November 9:

Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22 or Psalm 98 or Psalm 17:1-9

Haggai 1:15b-2:9 • Job 19:23-27a

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 • Luke 20:27-38



education

Sex Education

For 5th and 6th Graders, and Parents, on November 15

We live in a world that constantly talks about and references sex – often in ways that don't reflect God's design. Our hope is that the church and home can be the places where our children hear the truth.

On Saturday, November 15, from 9:00–11:00 a.m., the Advent will host *The Bible Talks About THAT?! – our annual sex education course for 5th and 6th graders and their parents.*

The program will begin in the Refectory with children and parents together for a brief welcome. Afterward, children will dismiss to their sessions on God's good design of the body, male and female puberty, and sex.

- Girls will meet with Associate Children's Ministry Director Gunter Owens and Advent School Nurse Evelyn Lofty, RN.
- Boys will meet with Dean Pinter and 6th-grade Sunday School teacher Dr. Robert Green, MD.

While children are in their sessions, parents will remain in the Refectory to hear from Margot Cooney, Tara Davis, Gil Kracke, and Will Fagan about how to talk with your children about the body and sex. We will conclude the program with children rejoining in the Refectory.

We know talking about these sex-related topics can feel awkward, but we are eager to equip and support you so that you feel comfortable, competent, and confident! If you have not talked to your child about sex prior to this event, we recommend doing so and letting them know what the program is about. Reach out to Tara or Gunter if you would like support with that.

Refreshments and donuts will be provided. Please register to attend at AdventBirmingham.org/ChildrensMinistry.

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

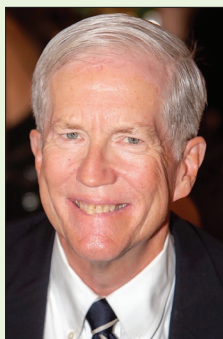


spiritual growth & fellowship

Men's Ministry

Men's Luncheon with Paul Zahl Set for November 12

Advent men and their guests will gather for lunch and fellowship on Wednesday, November 12, from noon-1:00 p.m. in Clingman Commons. Dean Emeritus Paul Zahl (*right*) will give a talk entitled *How to Be a Good Father to a Difficult Child – of Any Age!* Lunch will be \$13 from Urban Cookhouse. You can sign up on the website (AdventBirmingham.org/Men) or Realm. Contact Anita Gray (Anita@CathedralAdvent.com) in the office with questions.



Ageless Adventers

Next Third Wednesday Luncheon Is November 19

Ageless Adventers will gather for the next Third Wednesday program on Wednesday, November 19, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Whether you are still active, newly retired, or have been enjoying flexibility for decades, you are welcome! So that we have an accurate count for lunch, please RSVP by Friday, November 14, to Robin Turner (205-226-3500, Robin@CathedralAdvent.com).

20s & 30s Ministry

Christmas Party Set for December 4

Save the date for the Advent 20s & 30s Christmas Party! We will gather on the evening of Thursday, December 4, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the home of Carolyn and Stephen Greene (101 Pine Crest Road, 35223). We'll enjoy dinner, Christmas music by Lowana Wallace, and festive cheer to kick off the Advent and Christmas season. Contact Will Fagan (Fagan@CathedralAdvent.com) for details.



serving & outreach

Local Outreach

RUF Seeks Coats for UAB International Students

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at UAB has an International ministry which seeks to serve international guests in the UAB community through friendship and hospitality. They have reached out to the Church of the Advent to secure donated coats in order to bless their students as the weather turns cold. Canon Young will receive new and gently used coats for males and females until Sunday, November 16. There will be a box in Clingman Commons to collect the coats. You can also drop them by the church office until that date. Contact Canon Young (Adam@CathedralAdvent.com) with questions.



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, November 9, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. services. We'll meet in the Diocesan Conference Room (the entrance is near the middle of the garden). Coffee will be available.

Club 456

Next Gathering for 4th-6th Graders Is this Sunday

The next Club 456 will be this Sunday, November 9, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the home of Margot Cooney (2808 Cherokee Road, 35223). Club 456 is a monthly gathering for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders on Sunday evenings that includes dinner, Bible study, and fellowship. This year at Club 456, children are discovering and discussing the "I am" statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John. Contact Tara Davis for more information (Tara@CathedralAdvent.com).



making music

Midday Music

UAB Concert Choir to Perform November 21

Our Midday Music series will continue on Friday, November 21, at noon in the Nave as we welcome back the UAB Concert Choir, under the direction of Brian Kittredge. They will perform a varied program of both sacred and secular music. This free concert will also be livestreamed at AdventBirmingham.org/Live and associated digital platforms. Please come and hear what promises to be a half-hour of magnificent and beautiful music from one of Alabama's outstanding collegiate choirs!

The Cathedral Choir

Fundraiser to Support the Choir's Ministry

The Cathedral Choir's annual Meat Sale is underway. Boston Butts and hams are available to order from choir members in Clingman Commons on Sundays, November 9 and 16, or online at AdventBirmingham.org/Music. Purchases of butts and hams support the Cathedral Choir's worship ministry in the church as well as its global outreach ministry when it goes on tour to other cities and countries. It also supports our local outreach ministry to our neighbors at Park Place as, once again, you can designate the purchase of a Boston Butt to be donated to a Park Place resident. It is a great way to bless our neighbors!

The sales will continue through November 16, and purchases can be picked up here at the church on Friday, November 21, in time to enjoy for holiday gatherings through the season.

diocesan staff

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry, 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 James "Jay" W. Gardner, III, Canon Pastor

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

The Rev. Canon Dr. Dean L. Pinter, Canon Theologian

The Rev. Canon Adam A. Young, Canon Missioner

The Rev. William J. Fagan, Curate

The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl, Dean Emeritus

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

J. Brooke Johnston, Jr.: (Garden Fund) by Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Daniel

Sarah Britton Neal: (Endowment Fund) by Genie and Phil Stutts

Henry Goldthwaite Seibels, III: (Endowment Fund) by Scott and Cameron Vowell

Stella Scott Schreiber: (Endowment Fund) by Ray Epperson; Mr. and Mrs. George T. Lane, III; Billy and Jane Howard Angell; Ginny and Richard Anthony; Patty and David Wilson

The Rev. John Thompson Brown: (Cathedral Choir Fund) by Sam Urmey • (Endowment Fund) by Jim and Alison Gorrie; Hat-ton Smith

My Mom: (Mission and Outreach) by Robert Hornak

Peggy Balliet: (Garden Fund) by Mrs. Jack S. Allison

Winfield Baird: (Garden Fund) Mrs. Jack S. 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 9 Regular worship schedule Youth Family Brunch - 12:30 p.m. Club 456 - 2808 Cherokee Road - 4:00 p.m.	10	11	12 Men's Lunch - Clingman Commons - noon	13 Choral Evensong - Nave - 5:30 p.m.	14 Caregivers Support Lunch - Cranmer House - noon	15 <i>The Bible Talks About That?! - Advent - 9:00 a.m.</i>
Nov 16 Regular worship schedule	17	18	19 Third Wednesday Luncheon - Cran- mer House - noon	20	21 Midday Music - Nave - noon	22

This Sunday, November 9: Breakfast – Refectory, 8:00 a.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.