

Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 49, No. 40

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

Week of November 16, 2025



News & Events

This Sunday: Service Moving to the Refectory (No Breakfast)

This Sunday, November 16, our band-led 9:00 a.m. service which has been meeting in the Assembly Hall will move indefinitely to the Refectory. The service itself will remain the same; it will simply move locations. As Dean Smalley has noted, moving to the Refectory 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 in Clingman Commons.

We will be pausing breakfast for the time being. Watch for additional information as we discern the ways we can resume breakfast in the months ahead.

Christ in the Christmas Crunch Set for December 4

Advent women and their guests are invited to Christ in the Christmas Crunch on Thursday, December 4, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Clingman Commons. Come for fellowship, lunch, Scripture meditations, and song, plus the Ministry Market. See page 2 for more information.

Support the Cathedral Choir Fundraiser

See page 2.



A Word from Will Fagan

We've reached that time of year again when the clocks fall back and the day darkens before it really even has a chance to end. I, like 99 percent of the population, mourn the loss of one more hour of daylight and the opportunity for outdoor activity after work or school. It certainly takes getting used to finding it completely dark not long after 5:00 p.m.

Yet, I've found since becoming a father, I don't mind it as much. While we would say that the season of Advent is our "official" time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, I have found this time change starts that process for me, particularly seeing the world through my young daughters' eyes.

As we drive home from their school, the sun setting or fully set, soon we'll see workmen begin to light the town's trees on the way to our street, much to their delight. When we get home, we might light a fire, both of which strike the "changing of the season" feeling and the march toward the holidays. (Don't tell anyone that I'll begin

listening to King's College Lessons & Carols, too.)

And I hear you, I'm reinforcing the fact that these days we seem to just jump over Thanksgiving and into Christmas. While that's not altogether great, I think there's a reason for that.

In a world gone increasingly busy, angry, anxious, and sad, I think a lot of what we're after on a societal level is something good to look forward to. And really that's true, because in the ins and outs and ups and downs of our lives, we personally want something to look forward to – we want good news that feels like good news. At some level, we're always after that feeling of what it's like when we put the string lights on the tree.

So, I know it's getting dark and cold outside, and I know I'm talking about Advent and Christmas before I should. (Don't call the church calendar police.) But while it's dark and gray outside, I'm reminded that the light of the world is coming, symbolically, soon. And that one day, he will come again for good.

- Will

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

- John 1:9

This Sunday:

November 16, 2025

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Nave. Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Refectory. Preacher: Dean Smalley

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Dean Smalley

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) – *The Apostle to the Mediterranean: The Life and Travels of Paul* – Dean Pinter

The Merciful Surprise: A Modern Search for the "Word of the Cross" (Living Room) – Tommy Mayfield

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *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 for Children's Church. 4th grade through 6th grade and Jr. and Sr. High youth have classes between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. See Sunday's worship bulletin for locations. 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

Ageless Adventers

Third Wednesday Luncheon November 19

Ageless Adventers will gather for a Third Wednesday luncheon 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).

Women's Ministry



Christ in the Christmas Crunch Returns December 4

Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 4, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., when the annual Christ in the Christmas Crunch will happen in Clingman Commons.

Invite a friend (or two!) to celebrate the season with fellowship, Scripture meditations, and song. Visit the Ministry Market to check off your shopping list for neighbors, babysitters, teachers, hostess gifts—you name it! In addition to Ministry Market favorites from previous years, we are excited to welcome some of our ministry partners, including Maranathan Academy, Restoration Academy, and Oak Tree Ministries, as first-time vendors. We are also pleased to welcome Tula Hats and cuddle+kind whose wonderful gift items will be available in the market.

This year, we will gather donated gifts for Oak Tree Ministries' ninth annual Christmas in the Village, making gifts available at affordable prices for our neighbors in the Marks Village public housing community to shop for their own children with dignity. All money raised will go toward summer programs for the children. Details will be available soon on the women's webpage.

With a delicious lunch, music by Lowana Wallace, and a selection of Frederick Buechner's Scripture reflections shared by a variety of readers, the "Crunch" is a great way to kick off your holiday season.

Register through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/Women. Hope to see you there!

Women's Advent Quiet Day December 6

Join us Saturday, December 6, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the church for a morning of quiet Advent observance, facilitated by Mary Zahl. Sign up through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/Women.



making music

The Cathedral Choir

Last Call to Support the Choir's Fundraiser

The Cathedral Choir's annual Meat Sale is running through this Sunday, November 16. Boston Butts and hams are available to order from choir members in Clingman Commons this Sunday 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!

Purchases can be picked up here at the church on Friday, November 21, in time to enjoy for holiday gatherings through the season.

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 (above), under the direction of Brian Kittredge. They will perform a varied program of both sacred and secular music, including works by Anton Bruckner, John Clements, Elaine Hagenberg, Caroline Shaw, and others. This free concert will also be live-streamed 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!

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.

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

Subscribe to Our Email Lists

The Advent uses several email lists to communicate with parishioners quickly about various news and events. You can sign up for any of these four lists at AdventBirmingham.org/Subscribe. On that page, click the "Subscribe" button to receive Parish-Wide News, Email *Adventurer*, Women of the Advent, and/or Pastoral Care Notices, which share news of births and deaths in and close to our parish.



spiritual growth & fellowship

Youth Ministry



Relationships are growing throughout the Youth Ministry and our city! John Mark Haase (*above left*) and a handful of high school boys (*some pictured above*) coached a Southside 12U baseball team together this fall. This opportunity allowed them to invest in younger students and display some of God's unconditional love in a sports context.



worship

Lectionary

Sunday, November 16:

Psalm 98

Isaiah 65:17-25 • Malachi 4:1-2a

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 • Luke 21:5-19

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.

- Psalm 98:1-2

Thus says the Lord God: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create."

- Isaiah 65:17-18a



serving & outreach

Lenten Luches



Lunch Ticket Presale Will Begin November 30

Lent is just around the corner, and your Lenten Lunches Leadership Team (*above*) has been working hard to ensure there will be delicious options for your purchase. Presales of Lenten Lunch tickets will start on Sunday, November 30. Tickets will be available in Clingman Commons between the 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. services as well as the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services each Sunday starting November 30 and ending December 21. Tickets make great stocking-stuffers.

Local Outreach



Trunk or Treat at the Park Place Fall Festival

The Advent joined our Central-City neighbors for a wonderful community connection across from Marconi Park at the Park Place Fall Festival. Adventers brought the candy and decorations for the Trunk or Treat. It's a joy to come alongside people of peace in our downtown neighborhood. Pray that our hearts will grow in compassion and care for our downtown friends, and that they will experience the love of Christ in and through simple acts of kindness. A huge thank you to all who came out to make the event a success!

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

transitions:

Baptisms: Max Vincent Canonaco, son of Emily and Nick, on November 2; Edith "Edie" Claire Millhouse, daughter of Adam and Claire, on November 2

Death: John G. Peterson, on July 20

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.

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Stella Scott Schreiber: (Pastoral Care) by C. Peter Bolvig; Kelley and Phillip McCallum; Sharon and Gregory Hyde; Becky and Walter Young • (Advent House) by Kathryn and Allen Corey

The Rev. John Thompson Brown: (Pastoral Care) by Kathryn and Allen Corey; Mary Altz-Smith and Alan Stamm



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 16 Regular worship schedule	17	18	19 Third Wednesday Luncheon - Cran- mer House - noon	20	21 Midday Music - Nave - noon	22
Nov 23 Regular worship schedule	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Day Church office closed	28 Church office closed	29

Monday-Friday: AA – Coe Conference Room, noon

Intercessory Prayer Available at Advent House: Intercessory prayer is on-going through the Advent House Prayer Ministry. To schedule a prayer session at Advent House (2317 Arlington Avenue South, 35205), call Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622.