

Adventurer

Easter

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 50, No. 16

Third Sunday of Easter

Week of April 19, 2026



News & Events

Registration Is Open for VBS

Vacation Bible School 2026 will happen Monday-Thursday, June 1-4, 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Advent. We will offer two different VBS programs: one for current 3K-3rd graders (*Rainforest Falls*), and a separate format for current 4th and 5th graders (*The I AM Statements of Jesus*). Register through your Realm account or at AdventBirmingham.org/VBS. See page 2 for more information.

Fifth and Sixth Grade Outreach Evening

Fifth and sixth graders will have their monthly gathering this Sunday, April 19, from 5:00-7:30 p.m. at Brother Bryan Mission. They will serve dinner to the residents and then participate in the worship service following dinner. Parents are welcome to join. Please confirm your attendance with Tara Davis (Tara@CathedralAdvent.com).

Choir Concert to Give Preview of England Tour this Summer

The Cathedral Choir will sing a concert on Sunday, April 26, 4:00 p.m. in the Nave. The performance is offered as a preview of the choir's tour to England in July. See page 2 for details.



A Word from Mary Ann McCarty

While I was in Japan with a group from our church a few weeks ago, I had a heightened awareness of my need for God to go before us and proclaim the gospel of Christ by his power. The multitude of people there who have such little access to the good news of Jesus was overwhelming in the face of our small group who spoke mainly English (and some French, Spanish, and German!). One morning this reading from 2 Corinthians was appointed for the day, and the image was powerful in that setting. I pictured a parade as if for the World Series Champions, but it was for Jesus' victory over death. We followed him as captives, but we were joyful to be captives in his kingdom of life.

We were not there alone, nor were we sent out alone. No, we were there following behind Christ in *his* triumphal procession over death and sin as those who have been caught up in his saving victory. He is the

light that the darkness cannot overcome, and his work accomplished salvation for us and for the world. We went as participants in his finished work, bearing witness to his new creation in our own lives. We followed him where he was already living, working, and drawing people to himself.

That is still true now that we are home, and it is true for you and me in our daily lives. Christ is the victor who is making all things new, yet he chooses to include us in his triumphal procession. We testify of our captivity in his kingdom, that place where we have been made truly alive with God, and we point to the risen King. As we follow in his victory parade as his captives, God uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of Christ everywhere. Your testimony of God's work in your life is God's plan to spread the good news of his victory over sin and the grave. Thanks be to God, we follow the one who is already victorious.

- Mary Ann

But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere.
- 2 Corinthians 2:14 (NIV)

This Sunday:

April 19, 2026

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Canon Pinter

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Pinter

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, YouTube, or Facebook Live to access our stream.

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

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *Jesus I Love, but Paul I'm Not So Sure: The Harmony of Redemption in the New Testament* – Jason Wallace

Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *Fellowship and Gathering* – Leslie Housman

Why Am I a Christian?: Challenges and Reasons for Believing (Chapter Room) – Bill Wortman

The Love of Christ Compels Us (Living Room) – Adam Young

Our Hide-and-Seek God (Lower School Library) – *Part 1 of 2* – Jay Gardner

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *Grandparents and the Gospel* – Jen Green and Will Fagan

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!



education

Vacation Bible School

Register Now for VBS 2026

Join us for 2026 Vacation Bible School, Monday-Thursday, June 1-4, 9:00 a.m.-noon at the Advent. We will offer two different Vacation Bible Schools: one for current 3K-3rd graders and a separate format for current 4th and 5th graders.



Current 3K-3rd graders are invited to *Rainforest Falls* VBS, where they will explore the nature of God. (Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2025, and be potty trained.)

At *Rainforest Falls*, children will learn:

- Day one – God is our creator!
- Day two – God knows everything!
- Day three – God is love!
- Day four – God is forever!

Current 4th and 5th graders are invited to *The I AM Statements of Jesus* VBS. They will participate in hands-on learning to reflect on what Jesus meant with each statement. Space is limited to 16 participants.

At *The I AM Statements of Jesus* VBS, children will learn:

- Day one – I am the bread of life. I am the light of the world.
- Day two – I am the resurrection and the life. I am the true vine.
- Day three – I am the good shepherd.
- Day four – I am the door.

Register at AdventBirmingham.org/VBS or through your Realm account.

We still need a handful of volunteers to be group leaders who lead groups of children from station to station. If you are available and feel a nudge, please contact Tara Davis (Tara@CathedralAdvent.com) or Gunter Owens (Gunter@CathedralAdvent.com).



worship

Lectionary

Sunday, April 19

Psalms 116:1-3, 10-17

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart.

- 1 Peter 1:22



making music

Concert Series



Cathedral Choir to Offer Preview of England Tour April 26

The Cathedral Choir will sing a concert on Sunday, April 26, 4:00 p.m. in the Nave. The performance is offered as a preview of the choir's tour to England in July. Admission is free.

The choir will have residencies in Winchester Cathedral and St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and the concert will feature in large part the music they will sing while on tour. Come support our Cathedral Choir and wish them well on their upcoming pilgrimage.



Easter at the Advent

We gathered to worship and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday, April 5. The Lord is risen indeed – Alleluia!



[Jesus prayed to the Father] "As you sent me into the world, so I have sent [those you have given me] into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth." - John 17:18-19



spiritual growth & fellowship

Youth Ministry

Kickball Finale April 26

The last Advent Holy Rollers kickball game will be Sunday, April 26, 4:00 p.m. at the Crestline Elementary fields. All 7th-12th graders and parents are invited to attend the competitively friendly contest. Contact Margot Cooney (Margot@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

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.

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.

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

Ella Cobbs Cook: (Children's Ministry) by Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Grubbs; St. Mary's Episcopal Church; Claud N. Cooper; Mr. and Mrs. George F. Wheelock, III; Leon V. Rosato, Jr.; Alvin T. Lewis, III; Jan H. Hobson; Mr. and Mrs. G. Gray Plosser, Jr.; Meade Whitaker, Jr.; Dr. and Mrs. Ronald W. Orso; Mr. and Mrs. Keith R. Arendall; Mary C. Evans; Frances C. Bennett; Mr. and Mrs. A. Sims Garrison; Mr. and Mrs. Billy H. Angell; Mr. and Mrs. Al H. Simmons; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Price; Nancy McCollum; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Myatt; Mr. and Mrs. Mathew L. Carnes; Cynthia S. Sproull; Mary Dunn French; Donna Reddinger; Mr. and Mrs. L. Gwaltney McCollum, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen W. Still; Hollis N. Gieger, Jr.; Ellen L. McWhorter; Mr. and Mrs. Jason F. Hard



servicing & outreach

Japan Mission Trip



Youth Team Returns from Fruitful Trip to Japan

"And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way towards him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.'"
- Acts 17:26-28

During our time in Japan, there were frequent reminders that the Kingdom of God consists of – and seeks out – those of every nation, tongue, and kindred (Cf. Rev. 7:9). Perhaps the most poignant reminder came from the elderly pastor of a small house church who, after writing our names in his Bible and praying over us in Japanese, parted from us with some of the only English words he knew: "I'll see you one day in Heaven." What a small but profound signpost of that day on which people of every language will join together to confess the Lordship of the risen Christ! (Cf. Phil. 2:10-11; Isa. 45:23)

This encounter was one of the many highlights from our students' week-long experience in the Tokyo/Chiba area of Japan. The students enjoyed learning from, and working with, our Global Teams mission partners, Cody and Rachel, who are faithfully setting forth the gospel in Tokyo/Chiba. The students particularly appreciated the opportunity to assist Cody and Rachel in achieving a long-planned goal of theirs: the launch of the Chiba English Club. Thanks in large part to our friendly and engaged students, the inaugural meeting of the Chiba English Club was a resounding success. Recognizing that it is difficult to evangelize in Japan without first cultivating close and meaningful friendships (often a slow process in a culture that places a premium on privacy), Cody and Rachel believe that the Chiba English Club may prove to be an important part of their ministry.

The other highlights are too numerous to recount – but visits to the ancient *Narita-san* temple and garden, a Tokyo cherry blossom festival, the *Shibuya* crossing, and the raucous opening game of the Chiba Marines baseball season were among the most notable.

Ultimately, though, the most rewarding part was simply accompanying one another as we witnessed together the quiet and hidden ways in which God is ushering in new creation.

Thank you, Advent, for your prayers and generosity in supporting our students! Please pray that the mission partners and pastors we met will continue to advance God's Kingdom in Tokyo/Chiba and throughout Japan. And please pray as well that those of us who made this trip will not forget the ways in which God's grace sought us out and encountered us while we were there. (1 Timothy 2:4)

- Ben Grimes (one of our trip leaders)

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 Rev. Canon Dr. Dean L. Pinter, Canon Theologian
 The Rev. Canon Adam A. Young, Canon Missioner
 The Rev. William J. Fagan, Director of Parish Life and Evangelism
 The Rev. Mary Ann McCarty, Curate
 The Very Rev. Dr. Paul F.M. Zahl, Dean Emeritus

transitions:

Baptisms: Everett Worthing Bisceglia, son of Emily and Patrick, on April 4; Hampton James Sharp, son of Stephanie and Charles, III, on April 4

memorials:

Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:
Mildred Leake Day: (Enndowment Fund) by Susan Cutrell; Debra Goldstein
Andrew Burton DeAtkine: (Endowment Fund) by Linnea Israel; Lee Dicks Guice
Jerrell and Jermaine Thompson: (Endowment Fund) by Jean and James Daniels

Merle Elizabeth Martin Robertson: (Mission and Outreach) by Frank and Kathie Taylor
Henry Goldthwaite Seibels, III: (Endowment Fund) by Linda Kennedy
In Thanksgiving for the 2026 Lenten Lunches Leadership Team and Volunteers: (Lenten Lunches) by Rosemary and Randy Ham



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calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 19 Regular worship schedule 5th/6th Grade Outreach - Brother Bryan Mission - 5:00 p.m.	20	21	22	23	24	25
Apr 26 Regular worship schedule Concert Series: The Cathedral Choir - Nave - 4:00 p.m. Youth Kickball - Crestline Fields - 4:00 p.m.	27	28	29	30	May 1	2

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.