

# Adventurer

Pentecost

OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT • BIRMINGHAM, AL



Vol. 50, No. 24

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost and Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Weeks of June 28/July 5, 2026



## News & Events



### VBS 2026: A Look Back

Held June 1-4, Vacation Bible School was enjoyed by rising 3K through 6th graders and volunteers during a week of learning and fun. See page 3 for more.

### Two Services to Be Held July 5

We will hold services of Holy Communion at 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. in the Nave on Sunday, July 5, during Independence Day weekend. Christian Education classes for adults, youth, and children will not be held. The Nursery will be open for ages 5 and under during the 10:00 a.m. service.

Please join us for a continental breakfast between services, starting at 8:15 a.m. and running until 10:00. There is no charge for the breakfast.



## A Word from Will Fagan

The Cathedral Choir is about to embark on a tour of England that will include a stay at St. George's Chapel in Windsor, the church home of the royal family when they are in residence at Windsor Castle. St. George's Chapel sits upon a beautiful setting on the grounds of Windsor, which sits on a hill overlooking the Thames Valley. In its entirety, from the gardens to the grounds, it is quintessentially English.

The choir's forthcoming residency has caused me to reflect on several recent occasions at the Chapel, but most notably, the funeral of Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh, husband of the late Queen Elizabeth II. A curious man, designer, and tinkerer, his funeral was marked by several feats of his own design, including a faux pillar that hid a royal photographer within, as well as a remarkable Land Rover hearse, meeting his wish to, upon his death, "Just stick me in the back of a Land Rover and

drive me to Windsor." Though Prince Philip was not there at his own funeral, his spirit was most acutely felt by all.

Martin Luther is known for his notion of "The Hidden God" – where though God does not seem to be present, his activity is most certainly noticeable in our lives. For Luther, God wears masks – seen either through positive ordinary activity that is traceable to the work of God – or even through times of suffering, which is difficult, but perhaps draws us closer to God.

My point is that in our lives, there will be times that God does not seem to be present, times where we will say, "Where are you, Lord?" I pray then that we might consider that though we don't see him, we can trust that he is hidden – like the photographer in the pillar – and that his activity will always meet us in our times of need and for our good.

- Will

**Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.**

- 1 Peter 1:8

## This Sunday:

June 28, 2026

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

Preacher: Canon Gardner

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

In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Gardner

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

In the Refectory. Preacher: Canon Pinter

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

Preacher: Canon Pinter

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

Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Live), YouTube, or Facebook Live to access our stream.

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

June 28:

**The Dean's Class** (Refectory) – *The Faith Once for All Delivered: Twenty Centuries in Four Sundays (The Modern Church)* – Jason Wallace

**Jesus, Remember Me** (Chapter Room) – Gil Kracke

July 5:

Adult classes will not meet on Sunday, July 5. Regular classes will resume on Sunday, July 12.

## Next Sunday:

July 5, 2026

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

Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

### 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Preacher: Vice Dean Murray

We will livestream the 10:00 a.m. service. Visit [AdventBirmingham.org/Live](http://AdventBirmingham.org/Live), Facebook Live, or YouTube to access our stream.

The regular worship schedule will resume on Sunday, July 12.



# GET INVOLVED! SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

## Richard Lawson to Be Ordained Bishop of Alabama June 27

The Very Rev. Richard T. Lawson, III, will be ordained and consecrated as the 13th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama on Saturday, June 27, 10:00 a.m. at the Advent. In-person access is limited; the service will be livestreamed on the diocesan Facebook and YouTube channels. Please join us in praying for Bishop-elect Lawson as he begins his service in our diocese.

## Office Closing

The church office will be closed on Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day. It will reopen on Monday, July 6.

## Clergy Spotlight

### Q&A with Vice Dean Tom Murray

1. *What area of ministry are you most involved in, and what do you enjoy most about it?*

Although I get to share (like the other clergy) in all the privileges of ordained ministry, the area I'm most focused on as Vice Dean is our administrative and operational function. And I most enjoy the ways this enables us to be better stewards of all the Lord has entrusted to us.

2. *What inspired you to pursue a call to ordained ministry?*

The Episcopal Church I grew up in didn't really "connect the dots" for me about the profundity of God's plan to redeem and restore creation through the gift of Jesus Christ. So my call toward ordination got started in my early 20s when I began pursuing ways of sharing this good news with other young Episcopalians.

3. *If you could share one piece of spiritual advice with the parish, what would it be?*

Acceptance and surrender are the hallmarks of Christian discipleship, not determination and strength; God's power is made perfect in our weakness (2 Cor.12:9).

4. *On your day off, what is something you enjoy doing that parishioners might be surprised to learn about you?*

I enjoy the satisfaction that comes after completing weekly chores and special projects around the house. I got started doing the laundry early on because Perrin wasn't very good at it. After we'd been married for a number of years, I figured out that she was only faking that to get me to do it, so good for her. Truth is that it's an easy way for me to enjoy the benefits of seeing a task completed, so good for me!

Oh, and we couldn't be more proud of our four adult children, and as empty nesters are obsessed with our fur-babies – Bishop and Gus. I know there wasn't a question about that, but it needed to be said!



## spiritual growth & fellowship

### Small Groups



### Praying For and Supporting Each Other with Our Whole Hearts

We sat across from each other at the kitchen table, drinking coffee and looking out the window at the oak trees. "Would you join an Advent small group with me?" Deborah asked. Fortunately, I swallowed my infamous Initial Negative Response and said yes. Our small group has been together four years, and I count them among my closest friends. They aren't superficial friends; they are kitchen friends. We are a family, each with our quirks and different personalities, and each accepted and loved for who we are. We pray for each other, and support each other with our whole hearts.

Our group strengthens my soul. Some of the members are on their second around-the-world religion cruise, while I am still in a rowboat. We are all searchers, seeking a better understanding of God and the Scriptures. Hearing different perspectives, life experiences, and levels of knowledge has been a joy.

- Marzette Fisher (with a little help from Deborah)

*This fall, we are inviting current small groups to participate in a 10-week parish-wide study of Galatians, written by Dean Pinter, Will Fagan, Mary Ann McCarty, and Leslie Housman. If you are not currently in a small group but are interested in this study, new groups are being formed. For more information, please complete the interest form at [AdventBirmingham.org/SmallGroups](http://AdventBirmingham.org/SmallGroups).*

## Caregivers Support Group

### Lunch Gathering July 10

Caregivers are invited to a monthly lunch with others who have been impacted by the demands of caring for a loved one. The next gathering will be Friday, July 10, noon at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). You are welcome whether you are a full-time caregiver or you are just beginning to experience changes in your life due to the health of a family member. To RSVP or for details, contact Robin Turner ([Robin@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Robin@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-226-3500).

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



## education

### Vacation Bible School



#### Exploring the True Nature of God

From June 1-4, rising 4K through 4th graders participated in Vacation Bible School! Through a daily Bible story, songs, and activities, children learned four main Bible points: God is our creator, God knows everything, God loves us, and God is forever. Thank you to the many volunteers (both adults and youth) who served during VBS!



#### Exploring the "I Am" Statements of Jesus

Rising 5th through 6th graders reflected on what Jesus meant when he said, "I am the bread of life, I am the vine, I am the light of the world, I am the resurrection and the life," and "I am the door." Kids baked bread, went fishing, built a trellis door, created wood block prints, and more. It was a special opportunity for this age group to gather apart from the younger children in the ministry.

### Sunday Children's and Youth Education

*June 28:* Rising 4K and Kindergarten (former 3K and 4K) meet at 9:00 a.m. Rising 1st through 3rd graders start the 9:00 service in church before leaving during the children's dismissal for Children's Church. Rising 4th graders through 6th graders 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.

*July 5:* Classes for children and youth will not be held. The Nursery will be open during the 10:00 a.m. service for ages 5 and under.



## serving & outreach

### Youth Ministry



#### Park Place Partners Is Happening Monday Mornings

Every Monday through July 27, Advent Youth Ministry partners with the YMCA to bring lunch and fellowship to our neighbors at Park Place. We gather in the Advent kitchen at 9:30 a.m., and we finish around 12:30 p.m. Contact Margot Cooney ([Margot@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Margot@CathedralAdvent.com)) for more information.

### Welcome to Our Church Family!

We welcome our newest Advent member: Ben Grimes.

If you are interested in joining the Advent or finding out more, please contact Fontaine Pope ([Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com](mailto:Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com), 205-443-8562).



## worship

### Lectionary

*Sunday, June 28*

Psalm 13 • Genesis 22:1-14 • Matthew 10:40-42

*Sunday, July 5*

Psalm 45:11-18 • Psalm 145:8-15 • Song of Solomon 2:8-13  
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 • Zechariah 9:9-12  
Romans 7:15-25a • Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

## 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:

**Births:** Camille Alexandra Harvey, daughter of Margaret and Adam, on June 8; Floy Jennings Barnes, daughter of Lane and Mack, on June 13  
**Baptism:** Mary Julia Mahoney, daughter of Brendan and Mary Paty, on June 14  
**Marriages:** Isabelle Virginia DeBuys and Tom Knott, on June 13; Mary Margaret Shoe and Crawford Schwieger, on June 13  
**Death:** Harry Edward Logue, on June 6

## memorials:

### Gifts Were Given In Memory Of:

**Naneita Leach Cobbs:** (Garden Fund) by Nancy Poynor  
**John B. Rudolph, Jr.:** (Endowment Fund) by Elna Brendel  
**In Thanksgiving for the Prayer Team:** (Advent House) by Florence Ellen Cowden



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## calendar:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
June 28 Regular worship schedule Youth Food and Fellowship - Cranmer House - 3:30 p.m.	29 Youth Park Place Partners - Advent Kitchen - 9:30 a.m.	30	July 1	2	3 Church Office closed (Independence Day observed)	4 Independence Day
July 5 Holy Communion at 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast - Clingman Commons - 8:15 a.m.	6 Youth Park Place Partners - Advent Kitchen - 9:30 a.m.	7	8	9	10 Caregiver Support Lunch - Cranmer House - noon	11

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.