



ADVENTures *a weekly newsletter*

Advent Episcopal Church ◊ 3760 Dover Center Road ◊ Westlake ◊ OH ◊ 44145

March 22, 2020 ◊ The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Preaching this Morning at Advent

All services at Advent are suspended until further notice.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Word to the Church: Holy Week and Easter Day 2020 Online Worship Supported and Encouraged

"Last week I stated publicly my support for bishops who, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, decide "for a designated period of time . . . to cancel in-person gatherings for public worship." I write now concerning the need to suspend in-person gatherings for public worship, in most contexts, during the sacred time of Holy Week and Easter Day. Because this is a global health crisis, the principles in this letter apply throughout The Episcopal Church, including beyond the United States."

Therefore, there will be no services on Palm Sunday, during Holy Week, and on Easter Sunday. Certainly not being able to celebrate Easter as a community of believers is a blow to us all. The Lord will sustain us.

In the days ahead we will be taking steps to stay connected as a congregation during these tumultuous times, through phone calls, emails, and snail mail. Frequent versions of ADVENTures will be one way. We'll suggest content useful for private worship on Sundays and other times; prayers of support for one another; ways to encourage the faith of our congregation; and take other steps to help overcome the social isolation and loneliness that many will experience. The lack of corporate worship, restrictions on face-to-face interactions, restrictions on groups of 10 or more meeting, and social distancing keep us apart.

Please call JoAnn at the office (440-871-6685) or Dick (440-413-0189) or Ray (440-821-8057) with any needs or prayer requests. We need to know from you those who are ill, those in need of special prayers, and those who just need to hear a friendly voice from the faith community of Advent.

Continue to hold up in prayer our flock, our national/state/local leaders, our first responders and medical practitioners on the front line facing and fighting the diseases and putting themselves in great harm, and family care givers supporting those who are ill. As I wrote earlier, please communicate with the rest of us any who you learn are ill with COVID-19 or other illnesses. I had conversations with people this week who are really fearful and uncertain about the future. This is our opportunity to be Christ's light to the world of followers and non-followers. The COVID-19 may well be an opportunity for spiritual revival. Keep the faith!

Bishop Love's Visitation

Sunday's worship experience was enormously uplifting: 3 baptisms, 2 confirmations, powerful evangelical sermon, clarity in theology – he and we were mutually pleased with the entire experience. I heard many positive comments – even with a longer than normal sermon. What impressed me most is how SO many Advent people "went above and beyond" to make the day glitch-free. At the risk of leaving out someone, let me publicly thank: JoAnn Beck, Denise Geyer-Keller and Sally Morgan for professionalism and perseverance in finalizing prayer book extractions for the bulletin in Lent with baptisms, confirmations and a bishop visitation; Jason Evans for making the church spotless; Jennifer Meckes, Bunny Meriam, Anne Crothall and the rest of the Altar Guild team for sweating the details of the service; Dar and the choir for the Lent-appropriate music; the Bunn's for encouraging their children to be baptized; Denise for prepping Mindy and Alex for confirmation; Teddi Augustine, Liz Urbas and Sharon Rice for a classy reception; and, my apologies for not mentioning others who helped make this a memorable worship experience. Thanks to all!

Advent got his last visitation – glorious as it was!

Pray for the spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical health of all!

Advent Office Hours

You may call the church office (440-871-6685) and expect to have your call answered between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday. If you call outside of those hours, please leave a message and we will respond as soon as we receive it. In case of emergency, please contact a Dick McCormick (440-413-0189) directly.

Remember!

May God protect us all, strengthen our faith in Him, and give us His peace that passes all understanding. Psalm 46:1--God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

This Week at Advent

Sunday, March 22

8:00 a.m. **SERVICE SUSPENDED**
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal: **Suspended**
Bible Study: **Suspended**
10:00 a.m. **SERVICE SUSPENDED**

Monday, March 23

Tuesday, March 24

Wednesday, March 25

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Advent: **Suspended**
9:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Group
7:00 p.m. The Praise Community: **Suspended**

Thursday, March 26

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal: **Suspended**

Sunday, March 29

8:00 a.m. **SERVICE SUSPENDED**
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal: **Suspended**
Bible Study: **Suspended**
10:00 a.m. **SERVICE SUSPENDED**

Prayer Request

Health and Recovery

Lillian Kwasny	Dave Luptak	Joan Joye
Mary Lou Dixon	Marilyn Decker	Velta Sanborn
Bob Allen	Karen Zolar	Rose Walker
Barb Frank	Lois Zolar	Arthur Beel
Michael Uhrich	Sharon Rice	George Belinsky
Bill & Judy Arkley	Steve Boyce	Shirley Moore

Friends of Advent

Toni Kulma, wife of Pastor Kulma
Eliza Jennings residents
Trevor, grandson of Art Beel
Ken and Jim
Richard Ward, Jr.
Jack Morgan
Liz Schilling, friend of JoAnn Beck
Fr. Richard Lutz
Steve Sing

Please contact the church office if you would like your name added or removed from our list.

Retired Bishop Little's Wife of 37 Years Has Passed

The wife of Bp Little, our DEPO bishop preceding Bishop Love, died after a debilitating illness last week. We sent him the following.

"Bishop Little, your friends of Advent Episcopal Church in Westlake, Ohio, send our sincerest sympathies to you in your loss. We know how devoted the two of you were to one another and to the Lord and we pray He strengthens and sustains you during this time of grief. Our love goes out to you!"

Server Schedule Today, March 22

8:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearer/Lector **SERVICE SUSPENDED**

10:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearers **SERVICE SUSPENDED**

Lector

Prayers of the People

Acolyte

Ushers

Intercessory Prayer

Altar Guild

Coffee Hour

Close Advent

Counter / Date

Next Sunday, March 29

8:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearer/Lector **SERVICE SUSPENDED**

10:00 a.m.

Chalice Bearers **SERVICE SUSPENDED**

Lector

Prayers of the People

Acolyte

Usher

Intercessory Prayer

Altar Guild

Coffee Hour

Close Advent

Counter / Date

Note: It is your responsibility to contact another volunteer directly to take your place. Please call the office with all changes. Thank you.

Cancellation

St. Ladislav has canceled the Lenten Lunch series for this current Lenten season.