



ADVENTures *a weekly newsletter*

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June 14, 2020 The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Worship with the Diocese of Albany at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjVmrEwtur7R8akk7Drd9TQ>

At Advent

All services at Advent are scheduled for Sunday at 9:00 a.m. We will be celebrating the Holy Eucharist with a special service.

Matthew 9:35-10:8 Christian Discipleship - The First Twelve

Christian discipleship is a concept that was born when Jesus selected His first followers. A disciple, by definition, is a convinced adherent of a school of thought or individual. Jesus' disciples were those who followed Him while He was on earth, as well as those who continue to follow Him & His teachings today.

Christian discipleship began, according to John's Gospel, the day after Jesus was baptized (John 1:35-39). According to this passage, the first two men to follow Him heard John the Baptist declare that Jesus was the Lamb of God. Andrew and his friend (most likely John) believed what they heard and followed Jesus. Before long, they were telling others about Jesus. It is possible therefore that the earliest disciples of Jesus had been disciples of John who believed that Jesus was the Messiah and wanted to be with Him.

Andrew recruited his brother Simon (whom Jesus called Peter); the next day Jesus found Philip in Galilee; Philip found Nathaniel and soon a movement was born. Not everyone came easily or willingly at first. However, before long, Jesus had twelve disciples. Why only twelve? We don't really know the answer to that. From Jacob came the twelve tribes of Israel, so it's possible this number was intended to represent each tribe.

After the resurrection and before He ascended into heaven, Jesus appeared one last time to His disciples. They were eleven in number at that time, since Judas Iscariot had betrayed Jesus and hanged himself. This is the moment that He delivered the famous calling for disciples known as The Great Commission, last week's Gospel.

Christian discipleship continued to grow when the followers of Jesus gathered in Jerusalem and Peter outlined criteria for selecting a twelfth disciple to replace Judas Iscariot. The Scripture says they drew lots and the lot fell to Matthias. These men, who had previously been disciples, or followers of Jesus, were now to become apostles, or messengers. Their intention was to spread the Word, and beginning with Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came and indwelt them for the first time, they did! (Acts 1-2)

Christian discipleship is more than being a believer, it's also about being a follower as well as a messenger. Once we make a decision for Christ, then just like Andrew, John and Peter, the next obvious step is to follow Him. If you are a Jesus Follower, then are a modern-day Christian disciple.

Thanks to the faithfulness of those apostles, who understood their role as messengers of Christ, we have their gospels and letters today. Later Paul was added to their number, by virtue of his Road to Damascus encounter with the risen Christ. He wrote letters to all the churches he helped create. These books and letters became the New Testament of God's Word, and unlike those first disciples, we have all of Christ's instructions at our fingertips and brought to life by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Christian discipleship begins when you make an active choice to get to know Jesus better. By God's grace, it is then accomplished in several ways:

- Studying His Word daily.
- Spending time with Him in prayer.
- Seeking out the companionship of other Christians who are also growing with Christ.
- Participating in ministry and meeting the needs of others.

Sharing what you're learning about Jesus with others, just like Andrew, James, John, Luke, Matthew, Peter, Paul and all the original disciples did.

Like those first twelve, as believers, we are both followers and messengers.

Pastor Paul Laursen

This Week at Advent

Sunday, June 14

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, June 15

Tuesday, June 16

7:00 p.m. Vestry

Wednesday, June 17

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Advent

9:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

7:00 p.m. The Praise Community

Sunday, June 21

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Server Schedule Today, June 14

9:00 a.m.

Assistant Marcia Duennes

Lector Marcia Duennes

Prayers of the People Marcia Duennes (Form 4)

Ushers Jan & Jerry Nagy

Intercessory Prayer Bev Cummings

Counter Marcia Duennes (6/15)

Close Advent Peter Meckes

Next Sunday, June 21

9:00 a.m.

Assistant Denise Geyer-Keller

Lector Denise Geyer-Keller

Prayers of the People Denise Geyer-Keller (Form 5)

Ushers Jim Edwards & Max Gage

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (6/22)

Close Advent Denise Geyer-Keller

My Dear Advent Family,

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and kindness towards my mom, Doris Khoury. Your Afghan blanket ministry is more important than you know. Below is a message from my mom.

"Dear Advent Family,

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for the lovely afghan blanket. May God shower you and your family with good health. I will LOVE IT this winter. It is shelved on my sofa, waiting for winter!

Thank you very much,

Doris Khoury (Dar's mom)."

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 Fr. Richard Lutz
Ken and Jim

Eliza Jennings residents

Trevor, grandson of Art Beel

Liz Schilling, friend of JoAnn Beck

Laura Lenis, friend of JoAnn Beck

Pastor Joyce Williams, friend of Bev Cummings

Stella, friend of Bev Cummings

Tom and Betty Clark

Residents of Pinzone Tower (2 residents have Covid 19)

Safety Protection

David Arkley, Detective for Cleveland Police

Son of Bill & Judy Arkley

Rachel Moffitt, ER Nurse daughter of Bill & Judy Arkley

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

Sundays after Pentecost

The Season after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. It may include twenty-three to twenty-eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter, but the first Sunday is always Trinity Sunday, and the last Sunday is always the Sunday of the Reign of Christ or Christ the King.

The season also includes All Saints and Thanksgiving.

Although the scripture lessons in the lectionary for this half of the year go in a semi-continuous cycle through books of the Bible rather than follow a theme, the gospel lessons cover Jesus' teaching ministry.

Paraments, stoles, and banners may show a variety of color, texture, and symbols. Regardless of the name given to this season, its basic color is green, symbolizing growth in Christ.

Wikipedia