



ADVENTures a weekly newsletter

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April 4, 2021 The Sunday of the Resurrection
Easter Sunday

Worship with the Diocese of Albany at

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=episcopal+diocese+of+albany

Welcome to Advent Episcopal Church and may God bless your worship today!

Happy Resurrection Day!

Luke 24:1-6^a (NASB) *But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing; ⁵ and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? ⁶ "He is not here, but He has risen."*

The first Easter occurred on the first day of the week after the Passover Sabbath. The first day of the week became the Christian's "sabbath rest" (Heb. 4:1-11), the time of weekly Christian celebration of the resurrection. Annually, the Lord's Day immediately subsequent to the Jewish Passover was a day of special resurrection celebration.

Early Christians consulted local rabbis to determine the date of Passover each year, which would correspond to Holy Week. Passover was determined by the lunar configurations of the latitude in which the Jewish community resided. There was no Jewish authority at Jerusalem to determine a uniform date after the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in A.D. 70. In communities with no Jewish presence, Christians found it even more difficult to determine the date.

I want to briefly touch on cultural aspects of our Resurrection celebration. Many of the popular associations with Easter come from pagan traditions rather than Christian. However, traditionally the church has taken these pagan elements and "converted" them to convey Christian principles. For example, the egg is a common pagan sign of fertility and good luck. In Christian tradition, the egg is often used as an analogy to the trinity, and to signify the resurrection life promised us by Christ's resurrection (1 Cor. 15:37-38).

Butterflies are indicators of spring, and therefore new life, but Christians often used the butterfly as a symbol of the resurrection. Just as the caterpillar "dies," is "buried" in his cocoon, and then emerges in a "new body" so Jesus died, was buried, and was resurrected and we who belong to Him will be also (Rom. 8:11).

Hiding Easter eggs once symbolized the mysteries of the world of the gods and goddesses, who had to be coaxed into returning life to the earth in spring. Christians used hiding-and-finding as a teaching tool for kids that we have been "hidden" from God's loving presence by our sin, but we are "found" by Christ, who forgives us and loves us (Luke 15:4-7). It also signifies the diligence with which we seek the kingdom of God and our joy in finding it (Matt. 13:44-46).

Lambs are fertility symbols and indicators of spring in paganism, but in Christianity we remember that we are His sheep (Ps. 23:1-2; John 10:1-16; Matt. 26:31-34) and He is our Shepherd (John 10:11-14). Also, Christ is the Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:5), the One sacrifice Who cleanses all from sin by His blood (Is. 53:7; John 1:29). Historically, the celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection is a time of joy, hymns, celebration, and light. Many churches use bright colors to decorate the sanctuary and the altar, traditionally white and gold. White represents purity and the resurrection, gold symbolizes triumph. Flowers signify resurrection life, the lily being the most popular because of its long association with spring and the white of salvation. Blessings on you and your family's celebration!

The Lord Jesus bless you this week with His peace.

Pastor Paul Laursen

This Week at Advent

Sunday, April 4 Easter

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, April 5

Tuesday, April 6

Wednesday, April 7

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

Thursday, April 8

Friday, April 9

Sunday, April 11

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Server Schedule Today, April 4

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

Lector Dick McCormick

Prayers of the People Dick McCormick (Form 3)

Ushers Peter Meckes & Teddi Augustine

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (4/5)

Close Advent Ray Busony

Server Schedule April 11

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Kathleen Huffman

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Lewis Meriam

Lector Lewis Meriam

Prayers of the People Lewis Meriam (Form 4)

Ushers Jim Edwards

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (4/12)

Close Advent Peter Meckes

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

“ALLELUIA” is back!

The key to the Christian faith is found in the fact that Christ is risen. Sin and Death have been vanquished and God's power over our spiritual enemies is acknowledged and accomplished. Easter was the name of an Anglo-Saxon fertility goddess of spring. The Christian Easter transforms this, celebrating the power of new life in the springtime. In Easter, we look to the future. Our hopes are great and their fulfillment is assured. The Easter message gives us confidence and hope. **ALLELUIA – He Has Risen!! He Has Risen Indeed!!**

Prayer Request

Health and Recovery

Lillian Kwasny	Ed Kwasny	Joan Joye
Mary Lou Dixon	Marilyn Decker	Stacey Smith
Bob Allen	Karen Zolar	Shirley Moore
Barb Frank	Lois Zolar	Arthur Beel
Michael Uhrich	Sharon Rice	George Belinsky
Bill & Judy Arkley	Steve Boyce	Sue Boyce
Dave Luptak	Roger Luptak	Liz Urbas
John & Anne Crothall		Bev Cummings
Richard Ward Jr	Jerry Nagy	

Friends of Advent

Toni Kulma, wife of Pastor Kulma	Fr. Richard Lutz
Ken and Jim	Betty Clark
Eliza Jennings residents	
Liz Schilling, friend of JoAnn Beck	
Julie and Ray Coy	
Residents of Pinzone Tower	
Will Hayes, friend of Cynthea Sabolich	
Gabe, grandson of Jan & Jerry Nagy	
Marie Archer	
Christina Laursen	
Joyce Meitin	

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.

Bishop William Love to Leave The Episcopal Church and Join Anglican Communion of North America (ACNA)

I can now publicly report what Bishop Love told me in confidence on Monday: he is leaving the Episcopal Church and joining the Anglican Communion of North America (ACNA) effective March 30. I rejoiced with him in this move and commented he is now unfettered in his doctrinal practices consistent with his understanding and interpretation of Holy Scripture. This means he is resigning as Advent's DEPO bishop and will so inform Bishop Hollingsworth. On Easter Sunday he will preach in an ACNA church. Bishop Love is a good friend, cares deeply about Advent, and apologized again for not doing more to support us especially during COVID. (I told him to stop the guilt trip; he had nothing to apologize for!) He has a pastor's heart. Advent was his last visitation before the COVID shutdown. The ACNA Presiding Bishop has the sole authority to receive him as a retired bishop into ACNA, which he is doing. In June the ACNA College of Bishops will vote to invite him to become an active bishop. Once formally accepted he will be assisting in the ACNA Diocese of the Living Word. Bishop Love's predecessor in the Diocese of Albany has likewise relinquished his Episcopal ministry effective this month. Bishop Love makes this decision with a heavy heart, considering the impact it will have on many of the faithful people he has led and served. Yet, he knows deep in his soul that this is the right decision for him. Keep him in your prayers! Here is a link: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2021/03/30/former-albany-bishop-william-love-leaves-the-episcopal-church-to-join-acna/>

Regards,
Dick

Zoom Invitation

This is a recurring invitation for worship services at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday morning. You can use the same link, Meeting ID, and Passcode Sunday after Sunday. This way, the link won't change week by week. You can launch the link either from this transmittal or a separate email I'll send, which should overcome the difficulties some have experienced recently.

Peace be with you!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93790207331?pwd=NWFXZVhnVGdEY1Z5dzRCSjNVQzIzOT09>

Meeting ID: 937 9020 7331

Passcode: 988930

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,93790207331#,,,,*988930# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,93790207331#,,,,*988930# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR AREA TODAY

Daffodils are bright trumpet-shaped flowers that symbolize friendship, rebirth and eternal life. According to legend, the daffodil first appeared in the Garden of Gethsemane and it bloomed during the time of Christ's resurrection. Daffodils are called Osterglocken (Easter bells) in Germany and are the favored flower for Easter decorations in England, where they are nicknamed Lent lilies. Tulips are the third most popular spring flower worldwide. While it does not actually have a specific meaning for Easter except in the Middle East, it does represent the rebirth of spring and perfect love. The Hyacinth is sometimes regarded as a symbol of Christian prudence, peace of mind, and the desire for Heaven. This was derived from the myth of Hyacinthus, upon whose death the flower sprung forth.



Christ
is
Risen!