



# ADVENTures a weekly newsletter

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**April 11, 2021 The Second Sunday of Easter**

Worship with the Diocese of Albany at

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=episcopal+diocese+of+albany](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=episcopal+diocese+of+albany)

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

**John 20:30-31 (NCV)** *Jesus did many other miracles in the presence of his followers that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Then, by believing, you may have life through his name.*

Welcome to our first post-Resurrection Sunday newsletter. For this Sunday I want to focus on the above passage from John's Gospel. In preparation or as a follow up to my teaching, I encourage you to read the following seven passages from John. These are the seven miracles or signs that John includes in his Gospel. Each has significance and meaning. I believe this personal study will be a blessing to you.

1. Turning water into wine in Cana (2:1-11)
2. Healing an official's son in Capernaum (4:46-54)
3. Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem (5:1-18)
4. Feeding the 5,000 near the Sea of Galilee (6:5-14)
5. Walking on the water of the Sea of Galilee (6:16-21)
6. Healing a blind man in Jerusalem (9:1-7)
- Raising dead Lazarus in Bethany (11:1-45)

As you read each miracle, ask yourself why the Holy Spirit led John to include this particular miracle out of the multitude of Jesus' powerful interventions in the lives of people of His day. What does the Holy Spirit want us to understand about the event and what it declares about who Jesus is and is able to be in our lives. Blessings on your week!

Pastor Paul Laursen

## **"We live in a time of scattering"**

Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, PA, is a Bible-centric, evangelical seminary providing theological and ministry education for Episcopal, Anglican, Lutheran, and non-denominational churches globally. Father Joe Maiocco received his Master of Divinity there. I've used their Lenten and Advent devotional messages in prior ADVENTures articles, including this one. The Rev. Dr. David Ney, Associate Professor of Church History, observes "We live in a time of scattering. . . . a new virus called COVID-19 caused a scattering we had not been subject to and was not something we could simply wash our hands of and move on from. I'm sure you've found this to be true too. While you've tried to stay in touch with people and tried to bring people together in a responsible way, the scattering continues to affect you deeply.

More than ever in this country, people are isolated and alone. The worst part of it is that the dying have been given over to a lonely death. Those they love have been taken from them. They are confused and afraid. They have no one to pray with, no one to hold their hand, no one to give them last rites. Now is the chance we have, as the church, to think in a fresh way about what it means to live and act as members of one body. Now is our chance to stand in the gap by bringing people together rather than driving them apart. In the end though, it is obvious that the forces in play that toss us to and fro and that scatter us are too big for us to overcome. But God's promise still rings true, even for the scattered: 'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.' (Jeremiah 29:13)"

Please call someone today. Make contact. Listen. Share Jesus' love. Help people feel connected to believers. Reach out to non-believers. Pray with them. Help us all to overcome that soul-crushing isolation caused by being scattered.

Dick McCormick, Senior Warden

## This Week at Advent

### Sunday, April 11

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### Monday, April 12

### Tuesday, April 13

### Wednesday, April 14

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 15

7:00 p.m. Dar's Happy Hour Zoom Meeting

### Friday, April 16

### Sunday, April 18

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## Server Schedule Today, 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

## Server Schedule April 18

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Denise Geyer-Keller

Lector Denise Geyer-Keller

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

Ushers Max Gage

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (4/19)

Close Advent Max Gage

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

## April Birthdays & Anniversaries

6 Barb Frank	21 Bunny Meriam
Scott Medley	25 Arianna Evans
7 Bun Blossom	



8 Jeff & Tracey Medley  
15 Art & Kay Beel

## 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		
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	
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.

### **Extracts from Bishop Love's Letter to the Presiding Bishop**

"I have come to believe that the Lord is now releasing me from any further ordained ministry in The Episcopal Church. I therefore resign from the House of Bishops and request to be released and removed from the ordained Ministry of The Episcopal Church.

I have struggled greatly over the last several years with many of the new theological understandings of The Episcopal Church, particularly in regard to TEC's ever-increasing progressive views concerning human sexuality, same-sex marriage and the authority of God's Holy Word as revealed in the Scriptures.

I have taken seriously my call as a bishop, to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church, and to celebrate and to provide for the faithful administration of the sacraments of the New Covenant. By God's grace I have tried to serve as a faithful pastor and wholesome example for the entire flock of Christ.

It had been my hope and prayer, that there would always be a genuine place in The Episcopal Church for theologically conservative and orthodox Christians to worship and serve God, allowing them to remain faithful to their understanding of the authority of Holy Scripture over our lives.

The passage of B012 and my subsequent conviction by the Hearing Panel clearly shows "there is no place in this branch of the church" for theologically conservative and orthodox bishops to uphold the traditional understanding of marriage as that between one man and one woman as clearly revealed by God in Holy Scripture and taught by the Church for over 2000 years.

The views I hold on these issues are not unique to me. They are shared by thousands of faithful theologically conservative and orthodox Christians (lay and ordained) who are still worshipping in The Episcopal Church, as well as the vast majority of the world-wide Anglican Communion and wider Body of Christ. It greatly saddens me to think that a Church that advertises itself as being diverse, inclusive and welcoming, fails to appreciate the importance and necessity of the theologically conservative voice in the Church, and seems intent on either silencing or driving anyone who shares those theological understandings out of The Episcopal Church.

The current political and social agenda and political correctness influencing the Church, has caused it to lose its way, negatively impacting the Church's ability to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As a cradle Episcopalian and Christian, it has broken my heart to see the rapid decline of the Church over the past several years. At its best, The Episcopal Church has so much to offer the wider body of Christ, unfortunately, it is currently far from its best. It doesn't have to be this way. Presiding Bishop, I urge you and my fellow Bishops and leadership of the Church to return to your roots before it is too late – return to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. In so doing, God will bless the Church and use the Church to be a blessing to the world around us, sharing the true love of Christ with ALL people."

### **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=NWFEXZVhnVGdEY1Z5dzRCSjNVQzIzQT09>

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)

Meeting ID: 937 9020 7331