

# **ADVENTURES** a weekly newsletter

Advent Episcopal Church  $\diamond$  3760 Dover Center Road  $\diamond$  Westlake $\diamond$  OH  $\diamond$  44145 440-871-6685  $\diamond$  www.adventwestlake.org  $\diamond$  advent.church@sbcglobal.net

## May 2, 2021 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Worship with the Diocese of Albany at <u>https://www.youtube.com/results?search\_query=episcopal+diocese+of+albany</u>

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

This week's gospel begins to point toward Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In John chapters 14-16, we are given an amazing insight into the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. My theme for this week's message, is that when the Holy Spirit comes into a person's life, He changes everything.

For us, the Holy Spirit really is a game changer. This is baseball season, my very favorite sport. The Holy Spirit is like going from playground under arm, slowly pitched, high arching softball to fast pitch hardball, where you better be wearing a helmet! It's a real game changer.

The Holy Spirit is a game changer in our lives. I read quite a bit. When I was beginning to understand the reality of the Holy Spirit, I read all that I could about how great people of God in the past were impacted by the Holy Spirit; people such as Jonathan Edwards, William Seymour, Charles Finney, and George Whitfield.

What I learned from them and many others was that they were dependent on the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives on a daily basis. Just essential. Applying that to our lives at Advent Church today, if we don't have the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, all the things we have in church, a beautiful building, excellent music, good fellowship, great food at our carry-ins, don't matter at all.

John 14:15-17 If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

One of the ways the Holy Spirit changes our lives is that He will speak the truth. The truth is often a scarce commodity today. We are exposed to so many untruths, lies and distortions on a daily basis that it can be challenging to know what is the truth, what we are to believe. The devil is even spoken of in God's Word as the father of lies. We need someone to speak truth to us.

Do you have people around you who speak what you want to hear and have led you to decisions that are still negatively affecting your life? I certainly have had those types of folks in my life. We need truth.

The Holy Spirit will impart two important truths to us:

You are guilty before God – conviction is a work of the Holy Spirit; this is where He starts his work in our lives.

The most amazing plea deal ever offered is placed for us: admit your guilt and you will walk free, then Jesus will take your place, receiving the judgment that we had deserved.

After His resurrection Jesus came to His disciples. In John 20:21-22, He spoke to them and said, "Peace be with you", and then He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." That was the impartation of the Spirit of Truth that we so much need in our lives as well. He is completely available to us on a moment by moment basis.

The HS changes everything because He changes us from the inside out. The Lord Jesus bless you real good this week!

Blessings on your week!

Pastor Paul Laursen

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

#### Schedule Today, May 2 m. Dick McCormick nt ı.m. Dick McCormick nt Dick McCormick s of the People Dick McCormick (Form 2) Max Gage essory Prayer Ray Busony Anne Crothall (5/3) er **Advent** Max Gage Schedule May 9 .m. ant Kathleen Huffman a.m. Denise Geyer-Keller ant Denise Geyer-Keller rs of the People Denise Geyer-Keller (Form 3) Peter Meckes essory Praver **Ray Busony** Anne Crothall (5/3) er Peter Meckes Advent

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



### May Birthdays

- 1 Denise Geyer-Keller
- 11 John Urbas
- 16 Gus Cratcha
- 22 Jerry Nagy
- 26 Joan Joye
- 28 Paul Koszkalda

May Anniversaries

9 Jerry & Jan Nagy

## Ed Kwasny Is With the Lord

Ed passed on Monday afternoon after struggling with dementia for some years and severe pain the last couple of weeks. His struggles are over! Even though in a skilled nursing facility, Lillian and his family were able to be with him during these most recent battles. Lillian held his hand during the last hours. The family wants to have a memorial service "in Dad's church" and we are happy to welcome them next Saturday, May 8, at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to come as we practice social distancing and mask wearing. Ed is being cremated and there are currently no plans for a wake. Come next Saturday to celebrate his life!