



# ADVENTures *a weekly newsletter*

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**May 16, 2021 The Seventh Sunday of Easter  
The Sunday after the Ascension**

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!

## **Living Beyond the Limits**

Our Gospel message this week from John 17:11-19, is Jesus' prayer for His disciples and therefore also for us. He is preparing to return to the glory and perfection of heaven and is asking Father God that by sending forth Holy Spirit, that His people would be protected even though the world is not always a safe place.

How appropriate that is for us today. As we peruse the news (that's almost poetic), we grasp that all is not well, both in our community as well as across the nation.

Jesus asks, *"They do not belong to this world any more than I do. Make them holy by your truth, teach them your word, which is truth."*

There had been relative security for the disciples when Jesus was with them, now He was preparing them for a time when they would be without Him, not at all the future they had envisioned. What would be their unwanted reality now? They didn't yet grasp the coming of Holy Spirit upon them.

The promise was that the disciples would not be alone at all. Jesus would be with them in an even greater dimension because He was going home to Father God. That is also a strong reminder and encouragement for us. It doesn't matter what is in front of us, what we are dealing with, our Lord is intimately involved and available to us.

In the presence of Holy Spirit (I am practicing using the personal form of the third person of the Trinity, Holy Spirit. We speak of Jesus personally, and Father God in the first person as well, why not Holy Spirit? More on this concept later) we can break through barriers we would not even approach on our own.

One of those barriers, I believe, is fear. The Lord at times calls us to walk in faith to places that are beyond our normal limits. Fear can actually be a boundary that wants to keep us from reaching a desired goal. Our fears may be based on things that are unknown or on possible outcomes of circumstances that we imagine.

The threshold of obedience is often marked by the boundary of fear. Fear places an imposing limit on our lives. We listen to its voice and respond instinctively by fright or flight rather than the voice of Jesus who said in the Gospel: *"Keep them safe from the evil one."* Fear is not from our Lord, so it's a tactic of the evil one. Fear whispers: "what if", "how can I?", "what if I fail?" "What if my child won't speak to me if I draw this hard line on their moral behavior?"

These phrases cause us to panic. They tend to bring us to a halt. They shut us down. They stop us at the boundary of obedience.

Jeremiah 32 reminds us that God WILL inspire fear in us. We risk much more by being fearful of men than of God. Fear is a boundary that can be crossed! God inspires us to cross that threshold, to move beyond our normal limits, to take on more than we often believe we are able to accomplish. We bridge our fear by the presence of heaven in our hearts and mind.

There can be much to rationally fear in the world, yet the Word says I have not given you a spirit of fear!

Blessings on your week as you seek to walk in the peace of the Lord.

Blessings on your week!

Pastor Paul Laursen

## **Fellowship Celebration on Pentecost, May 23**

We all miss coffee hour, cakes for birthdays and anniversaries, Shrove Tuesday pancakes/sausages/paczki's, chili nights, men's and women's nights out, and general fellowship opportunities. This year we are celebrating the church's birthday on Pentecost. After the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services we'll have a reception in the parish hall and, weather permitting, outside in the courtyard. Pete Meckes and his team are planning the food and drinks. So please plan to join us as we renew our church family lives together.

## This Week at Advent

### Sunday, May 16

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

### Monday, May 17

### Tuesday, May 18

### Wednesday, May 19

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, May 20

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

### Sunday, May 23 Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. Pentecost Celebration  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
11:00 a.m. Pentecost Celebration

### Prayer Request

#### Health and Recovery

Lillian Kwasny	Joan Joye	Gus Cratcha
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		

#### Friends of Advent

Toni Kulma, wife of Pastor Kulma	Fr. Richard Lutz
Ken Wood Jim Johnson	Betty Clark
Eliza Jennings residents	Bill Liptak
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	
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.*

## Server Schedule Today, May 16

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

Lector Dick McCormick

Prayers of the People Dick McCormick (Form 4)

Ushers Teddi Augustine

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (5/17)

Close Advent Dick McCormick

## Server Schedule May 23

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Kathleen Huffman

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

Lector Dick McCormick

Prayers of the People Dick McCormick (Form 4)

Ushers Jim Edwards

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (5/17)

Close Advent Ray Busony

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

### Calling all Graduates!



Is your son or daughter graduating this year? We will be honoring high school and college graduates from Advent. If your son or daughter is graduating this year, submit a short bio on what they accomplished in high school/college and what their plans are for the future. This information needs to be turned into JoAnn at the Parish Office by Sunday, May 30, or emailed to: [advent.church@sbcglobal.net](mailto:advent.church@sbcglobal.net)  
Thank you.

**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=NWFhZVh0VGdEY1Z5dzRCSjNVQzIzQT09>

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