



ADVENTures *a weekly newsletter*

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

**May 30, 2021 The First Sunday after Pentecost
Trinity 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!

The Gospel reading for this week is John 3:16. Along with Psalm 23, these are two of the most famous verses in the Bible. Several life-changing truths are seen in John 3:16.

The first truth: God's love, is foundational to everything that follows. But can anything more be said about the love of God that Christians don't already know? Let me give it a brief shot. God's love is not uniform or monolithic. What I mean is that God loves different people and different things differently. His love is multifaceted.

The Bible talks of *God's love for his Son, and of the Son's love for the Father*. John 3:35: "*The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand.*" In John 14:31, Jesus says, "*I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.*"

This is a dimension of divine love that is almost beyond comprehension. God loves us in spite of our sin, but there is no sin in the Godhead that might impede or limit the love that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have for each other. There is no obstacle that might diminish the love that the persons of the Godhead have for each other. Their mutual love is perfect. No shadows, no history to be forgiven.

The second truth: *God's love for his creation*. Psalm 145:9 declares "*the Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made*". Jesus, in Matt. 5:44-45, commands us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us so that we may be seen to be sons of our Father who is in heaven, "*for he makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust.*" God's love leads him to make provision even for those he created who hate him.

The third truth: *God's love for the sinful fallen world*. That is what we find here in John 3:16. In spite of how we sometimes react and respond to the darkness that is in the world, Father God loves the sinful fallen world.

The fourth truth: *God's love for Israel*. Deuteronomy 7:6-8 "*The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you*".

This doesn't mean that everyone who was an Israelite was saved. We know that many within the nation were rebellious and turned to idolatry. But God loved the nation as his covenant people and blessed them. This doesn't mean there is no sense in which God loved other nations. But he didn't love them in the same way that he chose to love Israel.

The fifth truth: *God's love for his elect, redeemed people*. This is a love that goes beyond merely providing physical blessings. This is the love that actually brings us into a saving relationship with him. God goes beyond merely offering them eternal life. He actually works in their hearts to overcome rebellion and unbelief and leads them to faith in Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-5 "*God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.*" This love conquers and overcomes spiritual death and gives new and eternal life.

This is just a brief excursion into the depths of John 3:16, that sign you regularly see at football games...but it is much more than a sign, it is a declaration of the richness of God's love.

The Lord of the Church bless you this week!

Pastor Paul Laursen

Thanks for Your Fellowship Ministry

We give thanks to Teddi Augustine, Sharon Rice, Pete Meckes and everyone else who helped with our Pentecost celebration after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. Finger sandwiches, cheese, fruit, cupcakes, cake and punch were much appreciated as was the opportunity to be outside and to TALK! Let's do it again in 2 weeks to celebrate graduates, birthdays and anniversaries.

This Week at Advent

Sunday, May 30 Trinity Sunday

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

Monday, May 31 Memorial Day
Church office is closed

Tuesday, June 1

Wednesday, Jun 2

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, June 3

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

Sunday, Jun 6

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

Server Schedule Today, May 30

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Dick McCormick

Lector Dick McCormick

Prayers of the People Dick McCormick (Form 6)

Ushers Jim Edwards

Intercessory Prayer Bev Cummings

Counter Anne Crothall (5/17)

Close Advent Dick McCormick

Server Schedule June 6

8:00 a.m.

Assistant Kathleen Huffman

10:00 a.m.

Assistant Denise Geyer-Keller

Lector Denise Geyer-Keller

Prayers of the People Denise Geyer-Keller (Form 2)

Ushers Max Gage

Intercessory Prayer Ray Busony

Counter Anne Crothall (5/17)

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.

Bob Allen’s Update

Since April 30, Bob has been in Ayden Healthcare facility in North Olmsted. This is the Old Manor Care Nursing Home. He is there recovering and receiving medical care. He hopes this will be a temporary stay-moving out by August is his goal. Please keep Bob in your prayers. Any questions maybe directed to Max Gage (440) 503-7040. His previous address is no longer valid.

Prayer Request		
<i>Health and Recovery</i>		
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		
<i>Friends of Advent</i>		
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		
Carolyn Kay, cousin of Jan Nagy		
<i>Safety Protection</i>		
David Arkley, Detective for Cleveland Police		
Son of Bill & Judy Arkley		
Rachel Moffitt, ER Nurse daughter of Bill & Judy Arkley		
<i>Please contact the church office if you would like your name</i>		

Wednesday Men’s Bible Study

The men’s Bible study continues to meet at Advent most Wednesday mornings at 7:00 AM. . Mike Grogan facilitates the discussion. Mike’s cell is 440-570-6498.

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=NWFXZVhnVGdEY1Z5dzRCSjNVQzIzQT09>

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

West Shore Healing Room

The West Shore Healing Room will reopen on Tuesday, June 8, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the church. The healing room will resume its normal operation of being open on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For information, call 216-407-3220 or email westshorehealing@gmail.com.



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



Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost in the liturgical calendar, and is the day on which the Doctrine of the Trinity has been celebrated since the late middle ages. With Trinity Sunday, we see the culmination of our Lord's teachings as set forth in the creed. Now it is us up to us to grow and

mature, as seems to sum up best the purpose of the six months long season of Pentecost. We must grow and develop in the love of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The color for Trinity Sunday is White.

Bishop Rescinds and Relaxes Certain COVID Guidelines

Effective this Sunday, Pentecost on May 23 Bishop Hollingsworth has issued new guidelines that replace all previous protocols and guidelines. Here's what applies to Advent:

- Out of respect for those who feel at risk, we'll continue to wear masks indoors. Masks are not needed when we're outdoors.
 - By now, people have chosen to "social distance" themselves according to their personal risk assessment and comfort level. We will continue to respect people's individual decisions.
 - We will not replace the yellow ropes marking off every other pew.
 - Communion will continue to be wafers only, with distribution in front of the altar single-file as we've been doing.
 - Singing is allowed, while wearing masks.
 - Choir activities can commence based on how and when Dar and her team choose to move forward.
 - We'll "pass the peace" in ways each person feels comfortable – fist-bumping, hand-shaking, waving, etc. – while respecting and taking a cue from the other person's behavior.
 - In-person meetings, Bible studies, birthday/anniversary celebrations, celebration of graduation, fellowship activities, baptisms, etc. can resume consistent with the above.
 - Outside groups like CODA can resume using Advent facilities.
 - We'll continue with one Assistant at each service, who fulfills the acolyte, lector, and prayers of the people functions.
 - We'll continue to Zoom the 10:00 service, funerals, baptisms, etc.
- Jason will continue with the cleaning and sanitizing on a weekly basis.

Thanks for the prayers as we "almost resume normal" church activities. Hope to see more and more return to in-person gatherings!