



**The Episcopal Church of the Advent**  
**November 18, 2025 Newsletter**  
**Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost**



On Friday the 28<sup>th</sup>, we observe The Feast Day of the Holy Sovereigns. King Kamehameha and Emma of Hawaii are saints in the Episcopal Church. Native to Hawaii, Kamehameha and Emma were Christians who not only spread Christianity through Hawaii, they also were devout Episcopalians. King Kamehameha translated the Book of Common Prayer and a Hymnal into Hawaiian to further spread Christianity. He invited the Church of England to send missionaries to the islands out of concern for the spread of American political influence that seemed to be part of some American Christian Missionaries.

**Christ the King Sunday – A Reflection from November’s Closing Sunday**

Church of the Advent glowed in white and gold last Sunday: colors of triumph, joy, and the promise that something new is always beginning. We celebrated Christ the King, yet the Gospel carried us straight to the cross. How strange and how perfect that on the last Sunday of the year we meet our King not in glory but nailed to a cross between two criminals.

Luke shows us the scene at the place called The Skull. Jesus’ first word from the cross is not anger or pain, but mercy: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

This is the kind of King we have.

- His throne is the cross we wear around our necks.
- His crown is forgiveness.
- His court is filled with the least likely: the dying thief who simply asks, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”
- His promise is breathtakingly generous: “Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Father Tryggvi reminded us that Jesus never reached for the kind of power the world understands: no palace, no army, no fine robes. From the temptation in the desert to the silence before Pilate, he refused to lord it over anyone. He turned away from every chance to dominate and chose instead to serve, to forgive, to give himself completely. Love that must be forced, he knew, is not love at all.

And so, his greatest act of kingship happens at the moment he seems most powerless. Hanging helplessly, he does the one thing only God can do: he forgives, and he opens Paradise. This is the Kingdom Jesus invites us into: a kingdom where the last are first, where mercy triumphs over judgment, where the broken are welcomed home today.

As we close one liturgical year and stand at the edge of Advent, this crucified King teaches us how to approach the manger. If we cannot see ourselves among the thieves at the cross, we will miss the Child who was born to die there. But if we let this humble, merciful King rule our hearts, we will come to Bethlehem with reverence, gratitude, and hope.

Christ's Kingdom is not of this world precisely because it is for this world. It does not crush its enemies; it converts them, one dying thief at a time. The first person to hear the promise of Paradise is not a devout Pharisee, not a faithful disciple who stood bravely beneath the cross, but a criminal who has minutes to live. Grace is a pure gift; citizenship in this Kingdom is not earned but received.

Christ the King – the most compassionate, joyous, steady King anyone could hope for. “He may not be the King we always want, but he is the King we always need,” said Father Tryggvi. “Thanks be to God for Christ our King, who makes us truer, kinder, braver versions of ourselves.

With joy as we begin again, Kim

***Question for Reflection: With which thief do we identify? The one who demands that Jesus prove his kingship on the world's terms (“Save yourself and us!”). Or the one who, in the midst of suffering and failure, simply asks to be remembered?***

**Wednesday nights in Advent – light supper and program:** "For the 'days are coming' say the prophets of old. "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will fulfill the good promise." The promise of truth, compassion, restoration, and justice. During this season of Advent, we will gather at the Parish House at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings (**December 3, 10, 17**) for a light supper (soup), followed by an hour conversation and reflection on the daily Advent devotional on the Advent's promises - The Weary Word Rejoices by Kate Bowler Th.D. Start reading the devotional on December 1st. Each Wednesday we will reflect on the previous days' reflections and prayers.

[Link to the devotional](#)

[Link to RSVP to the suppers](#)

**Opportunity at Advent – Lay Eucharistic Minister:** We are looking for people to join our Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEM). Traditionally known as the “sub-deacon”, the LEM assists the priest during services by helping with readings, prayers and during the eucharist. This is a great way to participate in the spiritual life of our church. Talk to Fr. Tryggvi to find out more about training and serving as an LEM at the Sunday morning services, and to get answers to questions you might have about becoming a Lay Eucharistic Minister. If interested, we also invite you to join our LEM meeting with Fr. Tryggvi after the 10:30 service, (ca. 11:45), **this Sunday, November 30.**

**The Greening of the Church, Saturday, November 29** – Everyone is invited to participate in our annual Greening of the Church for the beginning celebration of the Advent season. We will gather at the church at 1:00 pm on Saturday, November 29. All are welcome, no experience necessary, just a good attitude and a willing heart as we bedeck the church windows, Narthex, and Altar with Advent greenery; install the Advent wreath; welcome the Angel Tree; Smilax the Reredos; and generally have a fun and festive time of fellowship.

Rick will provide greenery and berries plundered from local gardens and landscapes, but if you have some materials you would like to contribute, or gloves and a pair of pruning shears to wield, by all means bring them. It is always helpful to have a sense of who and how many might be coming, or if you have questions, holler back at me:

Advent-urously Yours, Rick  
treadwellcrown@gmail.com  
706-474-8302

**Madison Morgan Community Food Pantry:** We are fortunate to have the Madison Morgan Community Food Pantry right here in our community. Their mission is to serve our neighbors by providing access to nutritional and essential goods while demonstrating compassion, respect, and love. Their vision is a community where everyone has access to sufficient provisions that allow all to thrive. They will be providing additional food for the holidays. Below is a link to support this wonderful ministry during the holiday and throughout the year.

[Madison-Morgan Community Food Pantry](#)

You can also mail a check to: Madison Morgan County Food Pantry, PO Box 407, Madison, GA 30650

**Father Tryggvi's contact information and office hours:** Father Tryggvi's email is priest@adventmadisonga.com. He typically holds office hours at the Parish House on Mondays and Tuesdays. For pastoral emergencies, please call his cellphone number at 828-446-7843. For an appointment, please contact the church office at 706-342-4787 and leave a message to schedule an appointment.

**Rota for the First Sunday of Advent  
November 30, 2025**

LEM: 10:30 A.M. Pridgen  
1st Reading: Permar  
2nd Reading: Jackson-Lewis  
Altar Guild: Bennett-Roman  
Flower Guild: Permar  
Organ Tech: Simpson  
Vestry of the Day: Jackson-Lewis

**Readings for the First Sunday of Advent  
November 30, 2025**

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122  
Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14  
The Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

## Parish Prayer List

Fr. Dann Brown, Susan Crosher, Lynn Cupples, Bob Cupples, Flossie Dodge, Mary Ann Edelman, Anita Hunt, Kate Jackson, Beth Tamplin Jones, Jan Kozel, Bill Kurtz, Susan Kurtz, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Gloria Leo, Jack Leo, Jennifer Mize, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Ft. John Porter, Lynne Roach, Dick Schmidt, Kathie Schmidt, Betty Thomas, Árni Greer Tryggvason, Etwanda "Tink" Wade, Eric Wiemann, Jay Whitcomb

**November Birthdays:** 27 Beverly Abbott

**December Birthdays:** 5 Camilla Dartnell 8 Betty Thomas 9 Kelley Freyer, Susie Freyer 21 Holly Shreiner 25 Terry Blum 28 Edward Harrell 31 Shandon Land, Carol Black

**December Anniversaries:** 28 Susan and Bill Kurtz

### Recurring weekly calendar

- Rite I Eucharist: Sunday, 8:00 AM
- Sunday school (adult): Sunday, 9:15 AM
- Rite II Eucharist: Sunday, 10:30 AM
- Morning Prayer service: Wednesday, 9:00 AM
- Off the Rails AA group: M, Tu, Th @ noon
- Madison AA group: Th, F, Su @ 7:00 PM

**Pastoral Care Requests:** email [pastoral-care@adventmadisonga.com](mailto:pastoral-care@adventmadisonga.com) for:

- Additions to the Prayer List
- Inquiries about weddings, baptisms, or funerals
- Use of the Memorial Garden
- Requesting Eucharistic visits
- Short-term meals following surgery or during illness

**Morgan County Transit System** provides transportation to local addresses to include grocery stores, workplaces, doctors' appointments and others. \$2.00 per person/ \$1.75 for seniors 60 and over. Advanced reservations are required. For detailed information see <https://www.morgancountyga.gov/158/Public-Transportation>

## The Episcopal Church of the Advent

338 Academy Street • Madison, Georgia 30650 • 706-342-4787

[www.adventmadisonga.com](http://www.adventmadisonga.com) • [adventmadison@bellsouth.net](mailto:adventmadison@bellsouth.net)

Priest-In-Charge, The Reverend Tryggvi Árnason

Devon Dartnell - Senior Warden, Vic Jackson - Junior Warden

Newsletter editors: Kim Jackson and O. J. Booker

News and Newsletters: <https://adventmadisonga.com/news/>

Contact: [info@adventmadisonga.com](mailto:info@adventmadisonga.com)

To UNSUBSCRIBE, click "Unsubscribe" at the bottom of the newsletter.