



The Episcopal Church of the Advent
December 2, 2025 Newsletter
Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost



Fr. Tryggvi gives Glenn and Susan spiritual guidance.

Sermon Notes: From Purple to Glory: Advent's Call to Joyful Vigilance

On Sunday, Rev. Tryggvi welcomed us into a sanctuary transformed: evergreen boughs, the Advent wreath poised for its first flame, and the sudden shift from green vestments to royal purple. "This Sunday generally sneaks up on many of us," he said with a smile and a sparkle in his eye. "We have barely cleared the Thanksgiving table, and already the world is racing toward Christmas!" Stores are decked, trees are rising, lights are twinkling—yet the Church gently interrupts the rush and says, "Not yet. First, Advent."

Purple, the ancient color of kings and of penance, reminds us that the One we await is both the royal Child of Bethlehem and the returning Judge of all the earth. The single candle we lit—our candle of Hope—stands in quiet contrast to the startling words of this morning's Gospel: "No one knows the day or hour—not the angels, not even the Son, but only the Father."

Jesus silences every countdown and calendar. His coming, He says, will be like the days of Noah: people eating, drinking, marrying, working the fields, grinding grain—ordinary life in full swing—until the flood came without warning and swept them away. Two will be in the field; one taken in judgment, the other left for the kingdom. The difference will not be between the obviously wicked and the obviously saintly, but between those who were ready in heart and those who were not.

“There is no way around it,” Tryggvi observed. “This is an unsettling Gospel for the first Sunday of Advent. It clashes with our gentle images of baby Jesus, meek and mild.” And yet this is precisely the tension Advent is meant to hold: the tender manger and the sudden trumpet; the infant King wrapped in swaddling clothes and the eternal King coming on the clouds.

Advent, therefore, is not a season of fear but of joyful vigilance. We are not called to scan the skies in anxiety, but to keep the lamps of faith, hope, and love burning brightly in the ordinary days God gives us. We watch by praying without ceasing. We stay awake by loving the neighbor beside us today. We remain ready by gathering at this table each Sunday, receiving the Body and Blood of Christ as though it might be the last time—or the first taste of the wedding feast of the Lamb.

“So let us walk through these December days,” concludes Rev. Tryggvi. “With the quiet confidence of those who know the Master of the house may return at any moment—and who long for nothing more than to hear him say, ‘Well done.’”

Question for reflection: As we move through these busy December days—shopping, decorating, planning, and celebrating—where are we tempted to live as if “everything will just continue as it always has”? What is one ordinary moment this week in which we can choose to stay awake and ready for Christ—by praying, serving, forgiving, or simply pausing to give thanks for His coming?

Faithfully yours in the watching and the waiting, Kim+

Tomorrow night, Dec 3rd – light supper and Advent program

During 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 devotionals contained in the publication “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.

As of today, 20 Adventers have signed up. RSVP and join your fellow parishioners!

[Link to the devotional](#)

[Link to RSVP to the suppers](#)

Volunteer Opportunities: Lay Readers, Organ Tech, and Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Are you interested in serving as Lay Reader, a Lay Eucharistic Minister (L. E. M.), or becoming an expert button-pusher to make the organ play? If you're ready to join as a volunteer to help by reading lessons, becoming an "organ tech", or assisting at the altar during the eucharist as an L. E. M., now is a good time to sign up — the new Rota will be put together during the coming weeks and you can join the schedule. Contact Richard Simpson (richardsimpson.georgia@gmail.com, (706) 474-4821) if you're interested as a new volunteer in these various ministries. You can also talk to Fr. Tryggvi or Richard if you have questions and want to learn more about these different jobs. All are welcome and we all greatly appreciate the help our volunteers provide in making our worship happen here at Church of the Advent!

Start the New Year by Joining the Altar Guild or Flower Guild

Altar Guild and Flower Guild could always use some new members, too. Both guilds operate with teams made up of church volunteers, serving once a month. You can join either guild by contacting:

1. Altar Guild, Peggy Hawkins at peggyminerhawkins@gmail.com, (229) 881-2584
2. Flower Guild, Rick Crown at treadwellcrown@gmail.com, (706) 474-8302

Christmas Flower Memorials



It's that wonderful time of year when we invite your support for our Christmas floral decorations that help make our worship space so beautiful during the Advent and Christmas seasons. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one, give thanks for someone special, or simply contribute to this seasonal effort, please consider making a Christmas Flower Memorial gift.

You may pick up one of the pre-printed green Christmas Flower Memorial forms located in the Narthex and return it with your contribution, or simply send an email directly to adventmadison@bellsouth.net with the names you'd like included and your dedication wording. The amount of your gift is entirely up to you. Contributions may be made by check, cash, or online through Tithely. Thank you in advance for your generosity—it truly brightens our sanctuary and our hearts! With gratitude, Rick

The Angel Tree is now up!

For a number of years, Advent's Angel Tree ministry has brightened the lives of many Madison Health and Rehab residents. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring them some much appreciated holiday cheer! Here's how you can help:

1. Choose an angel from the tree.
2. Record your adoption on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
3. Take the info sheet with your angel's name, wish list, and instructions.
4. Shop for gifts based on your angel's list.
5. Wrap your gifts.
6. Deliver your gifts to Madison Health and Rehab by Thursday, December 11th, at 5:00 pm.

Kitchen Spruce-Up; In Progress!

As you may know, our Parish House renovation project will start March 2026. The kitchen and pantry will be part of that work, and thorough cleaning and removal of unneeded items must take place prior to then. If there is anything in that space that belongs to you – plates, cups, serving pieces, decorative pieces,

appliances, disposables, food, drink, etc., etc., etc. – **please remove them by January 1.** Questions, contact O. J. Booker at 706-818-4308 or info@adventmadisonga.com

**Rota for the Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025**

LEM: 8:00 A.M. Booker—10:30 A.M. Booker

1st Reading: Hilsman

2nd Reading: Ramfos

Altar Guild: McCauley-Burriss-Harrell

Flower Guild:

Organ Tech: Quillin

Vestry of the Day: Burriss

**Readings for the Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025**

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7. 18-19

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

The Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Parish Prayer List

Robert Boswell, Fr. Dann Brown, Susan Crosher, Liz Cunningham, 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, Etwanda “Tink” Wade, Ellen Warren, Eric Wiemann, Jay Whitcomb

December Birthdays: 5 Camilla Dartnell 8 Betty Thomas 9 Kelley Freyer, Susie Freyer 20 The Reverend Tryggvi Árnason 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 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

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