



The Episcopal Church of the Advent
February 17, 2026 Newsletter
Last Sunday after the Epiphany



On Wednesday this week we celebrate the feast day of [Martin Luther, Pastor and Church Reformer 1546](#). Luther (1483–1546) was a German theologian and monk who catalyzed the 16th-century Protestant Reformation by challenging the Roman Catholic Church's doctrines, most notably with his 95 Theses in 1517. He is best known for initiating the divide in Western Christianity, advocating that salvation is achieved through faith alone, not deeds, and translating the Bible into German.

Sermon Reflection from Father Tryggvi

Today, Transfiguration Sunday, we reach the apex of the liturgical season after the Epiphany. After weeks of hints—a star, a dove, a voice in the wilderness—the clouds part and Peter, James, and John glimpse Christ's radiant glory. The Church has long understood this moment as a revelation of Jesus' full humanity and full divinity; an encouraging sign in light of what is to come at another elevated place, Golgotha. Magnificent as Jesus's dazzling appearance is, it is also an event that can trap and tempt us to measure faith by dramatic, mountaintop experiences, and comparing ourselves to others, wondering why we have not seen visions or heard unmistakable voices on our own faith journey.

"Mountain-top Christianity" can become dangerous, i.e. if we divide life into the "sacred" and the "ordinary," and/or surmise that God is more present in dazzling moments than in daily routines. In chasing spiritual highs, we may miss the God "in whom we live and move and have our being" every day. Peter wants to stay and build dwellings, to contain the glory. But God does not allow Jesus's transfiguration to be caged or domesticated.

Instead, Jesus touches the frightened disciples and says, "Do not be afraid." The glory gives way to a familiar face and a reassuring voice. We are invited not to cling to the spectacle, but to follow Jesus back down the

mountain—learning to find awe in the ordinary, and trust in his presence and companionship, whether in the valleys or walking the hillsides of our life’s journey of faith.

- 1. *Where might I be waiting for a dramatic “mountaintop” moment to confirm God’s presence in my life, and how might I begin to notice Christ already beside me in the ordinary rhythms of daily life?***
- 2. *In the days ahead, how might I follow Jesus back down the mountain—cultivating awareness of God in simple encounters, quiet acts of care, and in both the bright moments and the darker valleys where I hear the gentle words, “Do not be afraid”?***

As always, peace and blessings to you, Tryggvi+

Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Supper time!

We celebrate Shrove Tuesday **tomorrow night at 6 PM**. We are asking parishioners to support this fun event. How, you say? We need **precooked sausage and/or bacon, juice, and fruit**. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can go online [HERE](#) to let us know what you’re bringing or **volunteering for (pancake cook or clean up)**. Please bring your food items to the Parish House by 5:00 PM that day and join us at 6:00 PM for dinner. If you have any questions, please contact Vic Jackson at 404-735-0065.

Donations already committed: <https://adventmadisonga.com/shrove-tuesday-vols-and-food-signed-up/>

Sign up to donate/contribute: <https://adventmadisonga.com/shrove-tuesday-contributions/>

Ash Wednesday

There will be three services with imposition of ashes:

- 9:00 am: Office of Morning Prayer with the imposition of ashes
- 12:15 p.m.: Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes (no music).
- 6:00 p.m.: Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes and music.

Wednesday evenings at Advent in Lent

Lenten Wednesday Nights - Light Supper & Program: On **February 25, March 11, 18 and 25**, we will gather in the Parish House from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm for light supper of soup and bread, fellowship, and conversation centered around the Lenten devotional: **Bless the Lent We Actually Have** - by Kate Bowler, Jessica Richie, Brenda Thomsson and Harriet Putman. “My hope and prayer is that ... our actual days - pain-filled, lovely, ordinary - might be blessed. So let’s stop waiting for the perfect life. This is the one we have. Let’s bless it all” - Kate Bowler.

**** [Link to the devotional](#) ****

**** [RSVP to supper February 25, March 11, 18, 25](#) ****

**** [Volunteer for making soup](#) ****

Rota for the First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

Vestry of the Day: McNamara

LEM: 8:00 A.M. South—10:30 A.M. T. Pridgen

1st Reading: B. Pridgen

2nd Reading: Permar

Altar Guild: Bennett-Roman

Flower Guild: Eskew

Organ Tech: Quillin

**Readings for the First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026**

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

The Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Parish Prayer List

Flossie Dodge, Kate Jackson, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Lynne Roach, Dick Schmidt, Kathie Schmidt, Betty Thomas, Lynn Cupples, Bob Cupples, Mary Ann Edelman, Anita Hunt, Beth Tamplin Jones, Fr. Dann Brown, Jay Whitcomb, Jack Ward, Gloria Ward, Jack Leo, Eric Wiemann, Susan Crosher, Jennifer Mize, Gloria Leo, Etwanda "Tink" Wade, Robert Boswell, Liz Cunningham, Helga H. Stefnisdóttir, David Medlock, Marcy Lay, Laura, Caroline, Kim Jackson, Monterey Powers, Ed Hogan

February Birthdays: 4 Emily Buck, 7 Sally Green, 8 Harrison Buck, 11 Doug Adkins, 12 Debbie Permar, 19 Nancy Bush, 21 Grace Yost, Kate Jackson, Francis Ramfos, 23 Woody Burriss, 28 Kathy Lehman, Rick Thompson

Anniversaries: 17 Dianne and Patrick Yost, 21 Annie Hunt and Woody Burriss

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

Volunteer for service: To learn about and volunteer to be a lay reader, organ tech, or lay eucharistic minister, or to be a member of the flower and/or altar guild, click this link!

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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