



The Episcopal Church of the Advent
April 21, 2026 Newsletter
Third Sunday of Easter



Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

As the Gospel comes to us this morning, it is the afternoon of the resurrection, and two of Jesus's disciples are walking the road to Emmaus, weighed down by grief and shattered hopes. They had believed Jesus would transform the world, but his death seemed to end that promise. When a stranger joins them, they do not recognize him as the risen Christ. Instead, they share their confusion and sorrow. This quiet, subdued scene reminds us that resurrection is not always immediately clear; recognizing Christ can take time, especially when our hearts are burdened by fear, disappointment, and uncertainty.

Yet this story reveals a profound truth: Jesus meets us on the road, even when we do not perceive him. He listens patiently, inviting honesty about pain and doubt. Then he gently reframes their story within God's larger story of redemption and hope. Their hearts begin to burn—not because their circumstances instantly change, but because they glimpse a deeper meaning unfolding within them.

Only later, in the simple act of breaking bread, do they recognize him. In that ordinary moment, everything changes. The Emmaus story reminds us that Christ is present in the rhythms of daily life—in conversation, in companionship, in sacrament. When we invite him to stay, even in life's ordinary and uncertain moments, his presence transforms us and, through us, the world.

Questions for contemplation:

- *Where in my life might I be walking with Christ without recognizing his presence, especially in moments of discouragement or uncertainty?*
- *How can I become more attentive to the "ordinary" moments - in my conversations with friends and neighbors or strangers alike, in hospitality, shared meals - where Christ may be revealed to me?*

Peace, Tryggvi+

Athens Master Chorale: "To Her Hands" concert
Saturday, May 2, 7:30 PM
UGA Performing Arts Center, Athens
Justin Han, Conductor



You are invited to join us for a program titled "To Her Hands", an evening of choral music written entirely by female composers. This program celebrates the diverse voices of women composers, juxtaposing sound worlds that are both intimate and larger than life. Through soaring melodic lines, rhythmic vitality, and expressive texts, each work invites us into moments of reflection and connection.

For tickets, click here: <https://pac.uga.edu/event/athens-master-chorale-spring-concert-in-her-hands/>

Athens Choral Festival: "Elijah" concert
Saturday, May 30, 8:00 PM
Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall, Athens
Joseph Napoli, Conductor



ATHENS CHORAL FESTIVAL
JOSEPH NAPOLI, CONDUCTOR

FELIX MENDELSSOHN'S

ELIJAH

WITH JEREMY GALYON AS ELIJAH

**SATURDAY
MAY 30, 2026
8:00 PM**



HUGH HODGSON CONCERT HALL
ATHENS, GEORGIA



UGA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
706-542-4400

\$15.00 ADULTS
\$7.50 STUDENTS & CHILDREN

Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah* (1846) is a dramatic oratorio depicting the life of the Old Testament prophet Elijah, based on 1 Kings and 2 Kings. It tells the story of his battle against pagan worship, miraculous feats, persecution by Queen Jezebel, and ultimate ascension to heaven in a fiery chariot. The role of Elijah is sung by Jeremy Galyon, a wonderful bass who sang with us at Carnegie Hall in 2024. He has sung many concerts there and sings at several opera companies in the U.S. including the Metropolitan Opera in New York. We have 56

singers coming from eight states to perform this concert. It would be nice to have a contingent from Advent Church in attendance that night. O. J. Booker is singing in this concert. –Joe Napoli

Choir of Boys and Young Men free concert
Friday, April 24, 7 PM
First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski Street, Athens



**The Choir of Boys
and Young Men of
Helsinki Cathedral, Finland**

71st INTERNATIONAL CONCERT TOUR USA
22 April - 2 May 2026

ATHENS • ATLANTA • WASHINGTON D.C. • PHILADELPHIA • NEW YORK CITY

Conductor prof. Hannu Norjanen

CHOIR CONCERT

Fri, 24 April 2026 7.00 PM

First Baptist Church of Athens

355 Pulaski St., Athens, GA

Choir Music from 14th to 21st century

E.g. Schütz - Mendelssohn - Bruckner - Brahms - Pärt - Sandström - Sibelius - Mäntyjärvi

FREE ENTRANCE

Part of the Georgia Boy Choir International Festival 2026

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The Choir of Boys and Young Men, Helsinki Cathedral (Lutheran) will perform an hour of choral works Friday, April 24, 7 PM at First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski Street, Athens. The choir comprises 30 boys and 20 young men. We'd love to have you join us for this free concert at 7 p.m. There is free parking in the lot behind the church. The concert should last about an hour.

News from the Church

- Welcomed Janel Urena to the Vestry to begin serving a three-year term.
- Devon Dartnell announced that the Vestry had taken a retreat and that they identified ministries they felt worked well. Expressly - the inclusiveness of the congregation, within the parish and in the community. All the guilds were listed as strengths, as well as community outreach. The plan is to build on the identified strengths and to determine the best way to get input from the congregation, either by online surveys or by a meeting at the parish house.
- The Romans hosted a beautiful reception at their home after the baptism of baby Joseph. The entire church was invited and treated to refreshments and food.
- Ellen Warren's ashes were scattered at her farm on Saturday evening, followed by a champagne toast and a reception hosted by her family and Preston Small. Father Trygvvi officiated, and members of the community and church were present in this final tribute to Ellen.
- The Athens Chamber Singers' concert was performed this last Sunday in the church. Kevin Kelly, conductor, had traveled to The Isle Of Man and heard the melodies of that country's native songs. He then came home and arranged those melodies into song for chorus and harp. The Singers numbered about 25 members. There was hardly a seat left in the church!

Rota for Fourth Sunday after Easter April 26, 2026

LEM: 8:00 A.M. South—10:30 A.M. Crown

1st Reading: B McCauley

2nd Reading: Permar

Altar Guild: Abbott- Bennett-Roman

Flower Guild: Eskew

Organ Tech: Simpson

Vestry of the Day: Burriss

Readings for Fourth Sunday after Easter April 26, 2026

[Link to Readings](#)

The Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Parish Prayer List

Robert Boswell, Fr. Dann Brown, Susan Crosher, Lynn Cupples, Bob Cupples, Flossie Dodge, Mary Ann Edelman, June Harrell, Charlie Hawkins, Anita Hunt, Kate Jackson, Kim Jackson, Beth Tamplin Jones, Marcy Lay, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Gloria Leo, Jack Leo, Penny Lyle, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Monterey

Powers, Lynne Roach, Bobbie Rushing, Kathie Schmidt, Helga H. Stefnisdóttir, Wayne Tankersley, Betty Thomas, Etwanda "Tink" Wade, Gloria Ward, Jack Ward, Eric Wiemann, Jay Whitcomb

April Birthdays: **1** Kate Jackson, **11** Marsha Schmalhorst, **13** George Hunter Hilliard, **20** Mary McCauley, Martha Harrell, **24** Will Eskew, **30** Sam Easton

April Anniversaries: **18** Alicia and Erik Ramfos

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, 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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