



The Episcopal Church of the Advent
June 17, 2026 Newsletter
Third Sunday after Pentecost



Marina the Monk

Marina was born in fifth-century Lebanon and lost her mother at a young age. When her father planned to arrange her marriage and then enter a monastery, Marina instead chose the monastic life for herself. Disguising herself as a man and taking the name “Marinos,” she accompanied her father to a monastery in the Qadisha Valley. After her father’s death, she continued living there without revealing her identity.

Years later, a pregnant village girl falsely accused Marinos of fathering her child. Rather than expose herself or shame the girl, Marina accepted the accusation and raised the child, enduring years of ridicule and punishment from fellow monks. Only after her death did the monks discover that Marinos was actually a woman and therefore innocent of the charge. Filled with remorse, they repented of their unjust judgment, and many miracles were later reported at her tomb.

Though some details may be legendary, Marina the Monk remains one of the most historically credible examples of women entering male monasteries in early Christianity. She is especially venerated in Lebanon, Cyprus, and Italy.

Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

It doesn't take a genius to acknowledge that there is a lot of pain in the world. Pain is woven into every aspect of human life. Physical suffering, emotional wounds, spiritual struggles, and the injustices of violence, poverty, and oppression confront us daily. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, Jesus repeatedly encounters people in pain and responds with compassion, healing, and hope. In today's Gospel, he continues that ministry, proclaiming the kingdom of God and addressing human suffering. Looking upon the world's brokenness, Jesus describes it as a plentiful harvest in need of laborers willing to bring healing and restoration, but the laborers are few. Therefore, he tells his disciples to ask the Lord to send out laborers to the fields of pain. This is a form of prayer that Jesus calls his disciples to pray.

Immediately after they have said their "Amen", he then sends them out into the fields. In doing so, he is calling them to be a part of the answer to their own prayer. Our Christian faith is not simply about asking God to act, but also about aligning our lives with our prayers, and becoming the instruments of God's healing presence in the world through our service of compassion, and healing.

We are called to make God's presence credible in the world. As we have received God's grace freely, Jesus encourages and invites us to give freely; to bear witness to God's living presence. It's always a question worth asking: "Why not me?"

Questions for contemplation this week:

- *In what ways might God be calling me to become part of the answer to the prayers offered for others and for the world for healing, and for that which is broken to make it whole ?*
- *This week, how can I make God's presence more visible and credible through acts of compassion, especially toward those whose voices are often overlooked?*

Peace, Triggvi+

Request for survey

We are launching a brief, anonymous survey to help us identify where we should focus our energy and resources over the next year. We aren't looking for simple yes or no answers. We are looking for your stories, your frustrations, and your dreams for Advent to thrive. Please complete the online survey by July 1 at: <https://forms.gle/hx9cqr7LoEdQAPda6>. Or you can scan the QR code:



Thank you for your time, your honesty, and your commitment to the Advent community.

**Rota for Sunday, Fourth after Pentecost
June 21, 2026**

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

1st Reading: Jackson-Lewis

2nd Reading: Ramfos

Altar Guild: Abbott- Jackson Lewis - Hawkins - Hilsman - Urena- Pike

Flower Guild: Crown

Organ Tech: M Dartnell

Vestry of the Day: Booker

**Readings for Sunday, Fourth after Pentecost
June 21, 2026**

[Link to Readings](#)

1st Reading: Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

2nd Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

Parish Prayer List

Robert Boswell, Fr. Dann Brown, Susan Crosher, Lynn Cupples, Bob Cupples, Flossie Dodge, Mary Ann Edelman, June Harrell, Anita Hunt, Kate Jackson, Beth Tamplin Jones, Mary Mack Jones, Marcy Lay, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Gloria Leo, Jack Leo, Penny Lyle, Anna Marett, David Medlock, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Ella Petroski, Monaray Powers, Lynne Roach, Bobbie Rushing, Kathie Schmidt, Helga H. Stefnisdóttir, Wayne Tankersley, Betty Thomas, Etwanda "Tink" Wade, Jack Ward, Gloria Ward, Eric Wiemann, Jay Whitcomb

Birthdays in June:

1 Genia Bennett, Reese Freyer, III; 2 Charles Baldwin, III; 6 Rob McCauley; 11 Sue Baldwin; 11 Elizabeth Branch; 26 Bob Baldwin; 27 Mary Carson Brown; 30 Janel Urena

Anniversaries:

28 Rick and Gail Thompson

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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