



June 24, 2026 Newsletter
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Bee Happy!

As many of you know, we had a honey bee hive in the right front upper eave of the church. Wesley Grantham of Homesafe Honey Bee and Wildlife Removal removed the bees this Tuesday and safely relocated them to his farm in Winterville. Here you can see Frannie helping by giving him expert instruction (nah, she was just taking a picture)!

Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

From his opening words in the Gospel this morning, Jesus' challenging statement that he came "not to bring peace, but a sword" can sound unsettling; a bit daunting on Father's Day. Yet, Jesus is not promoting violence or family division. Rather, he is confronting the religious, social and political environment of first-century Palestine; an environment that divided people into categories, such as "clean" and "unclean," righteous and sinner, insider and outsider. In a society also burdened by Roman oppression, and economic exploitation. Jesus

proclaimed a different way; a different world with different truth; i.e. God's Truth, where grace, mercy, and compassion extend to all people. A kingdom where everyone belonged.

Jesus demonstrated this vision through his actions. He welcomed sinners and outcasts, ate with tax collectors, touched lepers, spoke with those considered unworthy, and challenged systems that excluded people from community. His "sword" was the cutting edge of God's Truth, breaking down barriers that separated people from one another and from the love of God. He invited his followers into a larger family defined not by bloodlines, status, or religious status, but by God's inclusive love.

In order to visualize what God's expansive and all inclusive family might look-like, one image would be the ministry led by Fr. Greg Boyle and Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles. Having served the outcast - rehabilitating former gang-members and felons for over 40 years, the ministry of Home Boy Industries is guided by two principles: #1 - everyone is unbreakably good, no exceptions; and #2 - we all belong; no exceptions. When people are cherished as God's beloved, much sooner than later, a light inside everyone's soul lightens up. It is impossible for that not to happen. Lives are transformed as they experience that they belong to God's household of cherished love, and compassion, and mercy. Jesus calls us to see every person as belonging within God's expansive family and to embody that love and cherishing.

Questions for Contemplation

- *Are there individuals or groups whom I consciously or unconsciously regard as "outsiders," and how might Jesus be inviting me to see them differently?*
- *This week, how can I help someone experience a deeper sense of belonging, dignity, and worth as a beloved child of God?*

Peace, Triggvi+

July 3rd - picnic celebration of Independence

Mark your calendars for Friday - July 3rd, (early evening) Independence Day celebration on the lawn outside the Cultural Center. We - the Church of the Advent will have a table as in past years. Please be on the look-out for any possible requests / needs in next week's e-news letter.

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:



If you haven't already completed the parish-wide survey, please do so this week. "Thank you" to everyone who has! We now have over 20 responses. We sincerely appreciate your time, your honesty, and your commitment to the Advent community.

**Rota for Sunday, Fifth after Pentecost
June 28, 2026**

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

1st Reading: Hudson

2nd Reading: Freyer

Altar Guild: Bennett-Roman

Flower Guild: Eskew

Organ Tech: Crown

Vestry of the Day: McNamara

**Readings for Sunday, Fifth after Pentecost
June 28, 2026**

[Link to Readings](#)

1st Reading: Genesis 22:1-14

Psalms 13

2nd Reading: Romans 6:12-23

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

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, 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, Jim

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

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

www.adventmadisonga.com • adventmadison@bellsouth.net

Priest-In-Charge, The Reverend Tryggvi Árnason

Devon Dartnell - Senior Warden, O. J. Booker - Junior Warden

Newsletter editors: Kim Jackson and O. J. Booker

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

Contact: info@adventmadisonga.com

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