



July 28, 2026 Newsletter
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



The Philadelphia Eleven — July 29

On July 29, the Episcopal Church commemorates the Ordination of the Philadelphia Eleven, the first eleven women ordained to the priesthood in our Church. Their historic ordination took place on July 29, 1974, at the Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia. Although the Episcopal Church had not yet formally authorized the ordination of women as priests, these courageous deacons answered God's call, supported by bishops willing to act in faithful conviction. Their ordinations were declared irregular but not invalid, and two years later, in 1976, General Convention officially approved the ordination of women to the priesthood and episcopate. Today, women serve throughout the Episcopal Church as deacons, priests, bishops, seminary professors, and church leaders. The witness of the Philadelphia Eleven reminds us that the Holy Spirit continues to call the Church into deeper faithfulness, often through the courage of those willing to step forward in hope, trusting God's promise that all are gifted for ministry.

Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

Jesus' parables of the mustard seed, yeast, hidden treasure, pearl, and fishing offer unexpected and even puzzling glimpses of the kingdom of heaven. Rather than describing a majestic, distant realm, Jesus uses ordinary and sometimes surprising images - a troublesome weed, leavened bread, an ethically questionable treasure hunt, and everyday fishing - to challenge conventional expectations. These stories remind us that God's reign rarely appears where human beings expect to find it and often emerges through the humble, hidden, and commonplace realities of daily life.

Better yet and contrary to some claims, the kingdom of heaven is not simply a future destination but glimpses of it are already among us here and now. Jesus speaks of God's reign breaking into the world, wherever God's mercy, compassion, justice, and love are reflected. The kingdom is seen not in political power or religious

prestige but in families, neighborhoods, communities, acts of kindness, forgiveness, generosity, and even in the ordinary rhythms of work and relationships. God's presence is woven into everyday life, inviting us to recognize the holy in familiar places.

The Kingdom of Heaven is God's gift to us, and its appearance in our midst is not our achievement. Jesus does not tell us to build or expand God's kingdom but to receive, enter, inherit, and proclaim it. Like a seed that grows or yeast that quietly transforms dough, God's reign unfolds naturally through divine grace. Our calling is not to manufacture the kingdom but to recognize, cherish, and participate in it by living lives marked by humility, compassion, forgiveness, grace, and love.

Questions for Contemplation this week:

- *Where have I overlooked signs of God's kingdom because I expected God to appear in extraordinary rather than ordinary moments?*
- *How might I become more attentive this week to the hidden presence of God in everyday acts of kindness, mercy, forgiveness, and love within my family, community, and daily routines?*

Peace, Triggvi+

Parish Meeting – August 16th

Please reserve **August 16th** on your calendar and plan to attend an informative **Parish meeting** immediately following the 10:30 service. At the meeting the Vestry will share the outcome from the Parish Survey, and provide the finalized list for the renovations / construction in the Parish House. The Hospitality Committee will provide light refreshments.

**Rota and Readings
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 2, 2026**

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

1st Reading: Freyer

2nd Reading: Quillin

Altar Guild: McCauley-Burriss-Harrell

Flower Guild:

Organ Tech: K Jackson

Vestry of the Day: Sigman

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm 17: 1-7, 16

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

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, Monaray Powers, Lynne Roach, Bobbie Rushing, Kathie Schmidt, Helga H. Stefnisdóttir, Wayne Tankersley, Betty Thomas, Etwanda "Tink" Wade, Jack Ward, Gloria Ward, Eric Wiemann, Jim, Caroline Hill, Gail Thompson, Walter Harper, Linda Carswell

Birthdays in August: 3 Elizabeth Crotts, Elizabeth Adkins; 4 Kate Branch, Becky Adkins; 8 Kate Roberts; 12 Betsy Quillin; 14 Kathie Schmidt; 18 Avery Jackson, Malin Dartnell, Gail Thompson; 24 Reese Freyer, IV; 26 Jamie Crotts

Anniversaries in August: 2 Maryann and Devon Dartnell; 3 Emily and David Buck; 12 Peggy and Charlie Hawkins

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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