



July 8, 2026 Newsletter
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Happy Fourth of July!

Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

20 years ago, the Australian Indigenous elder and world renowned opera singer Delmae Barton suffered the double blow of a stroke and a heart attack. Incapacitated, she was left in such a state unattended for more than five hours at a public bus stop outside a university campus in Brisbane, Australia. Hundreds of commuters passed her by, unconcerned, assuming she was simply drunk. Her story illustrates how easily stereotypes blind us to the dignity of others. Jesus confronts this same human proclivity in the Gospel this Sunday noting that both he and John the Baptist were judged and rejected because they did not fit people's expectations. Labels and categories prevent us from seeing one another, and God, as they truly are.

Jesus' statement to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation?" has and is sometimes interpreted as his condemnation or reproach directed towards the witnesses and observers of his ministry and teaching. I'd like to suggest, however, that Jesus is expressing deep sadness for his contemporaries, and grieving their inability to grow into the fullness of the life God created them to embrace. His words arise not from anger, but from a heart broken by humanity's failure to recognize God's presence and to receive the abundant life offered through divine love. Jesus' compassion for all of God's children comes clear with his invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

To whom or what are we truly yoked? Following Christ means more than attending church; it means allowing his life and teachings to shape our priorities, relationships, and actions. We are both beautiful and broken, created and loved as such by our gracious and tender God. In response to our brokenness, Christ continues to seek to journey with us; to save, guide, and transform us. Faith is a lifelong journey of letting go of prejudice, seeking God's presence in every person, and living with compassion, justice, humility, and hope.

Questions for contemplation:

- *What assumptions or labels might be preventing you from truly seeing another person as a beloved child of God?*
- *In what practical ways can you become more deeply "yoked to Christ" so that compassion, justice, and mercy increasingly shape your daily decisions and relationships?*

Peace, Triggvi+

**Rota and Readings for
Sunday, Seventh after Pentecost
July 12, 2026**

LEM: 8:00 A.M. Simpson—10:30 A.M. Roman

1st Reading: Permar

2nd Reading: K Jackson

Altar Guild: Abbott- Strickland-Yost

Flower Guild: Branch

Organ Tech: Quillin

Vestry of the Day: Burriss

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Genesis 25:19-34

Psalm 119: 105-112

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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 Maret, 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, Caroline Hill

Birthdays in July: 2 Jill Jubelt, 3 Faith Roman, 5 Henry Easton, 8 Carol Winslow, 10 Kjesti Easton, 13 Daisy Jane Buck, Bob McCauley, 14 O.J. Booker, 17 Sarah Harrell Klein, 21 Dianne Yost, 22 Eliza Hilliard, Anna Maret, 27 Flossie Dodge

Anniversaries in July: 13 Kate and O.J. Booker; 14 Flossie and David Dodge

Advent pledge income/expense as of end of May, 2026			
Pledge income:	\$60,736		
Total expense:	\$73,089		

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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