



August 18, 2026 Newsletter
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



April, 2024

Some of you may remember the last large renovation work Advent underwent. This drone shot was one of the most impressive pictures of our beautiful church. Here, the steeple is getting a facelift. During this same period all of the windows were renovated.

Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

Jesus' encounter with the Canaanite woman in the gospel this Sunday is difficult to hear precisely because his initial response seems so unlike the Jesus we know. In the biblical world, dogs were commonly regarded as scavengers and were often used as an insult or term of contempt. Yet this story reminds us that Jesus, Son of God as he was, still lived fully within a particular human culture, time, and place. He experienced hunger, emotion, limitation, and the need to respond to circumstances as they arose. His humanity does not diminish our trust in him; rather, it makes that trust more profound because Christ knows what it means to live as we live.

The disciples see the Canaanite woman as a nuisance and someone outside their boundaries. She, however, refuses to accept those boundaries. Her persistence challenges Jesus with a wider vision of God's kingdom. And Jesus listens, changes, and recognizes the truth in her faith. Her courage becomes a means through which Jesus' own understanding of his mission expands: God's abundance is not limited to one people, one culture, or one boundary.

Perhaps this is part of the Gospel's challenge to us. Like the disciples, we can become comfortable with familiar boundaries and resistant to people or possibilities beyond them. Yet God keeps calling us beyond those lines. The Canaanite woman reveals that those whom we declare or assume to be "outside" may already be among those God intends to bring "in." When we are courageous enough to be open to new possibilities, and humble enough to change, we discover a wider kingdom—one in which there is enough of God's grace and love to go around for everyone.

Questions for Contemplation:

- *What boundaries have I drawn, knowingly or not, that determine who I consider "inside" or "outside" God's kingdom? Who might God be inviting me to see differently?*
- *Where might I need the openness, humility and courage of Jesus in this story; i.e. to listen, to be challenged, and even to change my understanding when another person reveals a wider truth about God's love?*

Peace, Triggvi+

Parish Meeting – August 16th

The Parish meeting was held following the 11:00 AM service, and the survey results were shared with the group in attendance. The parish life survey identified several ideas to sustain and strengthen our church at its present membership level. Top priorities included outreach in the Madison community, repairing and modernizing our buildings, and securing full-time support for our priest through stewardship and new members.

Devon Dartnell went over the approved and budgeted building renovations, which are scheduled to begin soon. These include repairs to the front door and floors and remodeling of the kitchen, bathrooms, and the ADA handicap ramp. Heartland Custom Builders of Bishop have been retained, with O.J. Booker serving as the Vestry liaison and overseer of the project.

The Vestry will use these findings to shape planning for the coming year. Moving forward, the Vestry will share updates as the timeline is finalized.

Opportunity Sunday - September 13

Plan to attend our Opportunity Sunday - Ministry Fair at the Parish House on September 13, following the 10:30 service. There, you will have the opportunity to learn about our various ministries, and opportunity to get involved.

Rota and Readings Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 23, 2026

LEM: 8:00 A.M. South—10:30 A.M. Crown

1st Reading: K Jackson

2nd Reading: Permar

Altar Guild: Bennett-Roman

Flower Guild: Eskew

Organ Tech: Simpson

Vestry of the Day: Burriss

[Link to readings](#)

First Reading: Exodus 1:8—2:10

Psalm 124

Second Reading: Romans 12:1—8

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13—20

Parish Prayer List

Flossie Dodge, Kate Jackson, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Lynne Roach, Kathie Schmidt, Betty Thomas, Lynn Cupples, Bob Cupples, Mary Ann Edelman, Anita Hunt, Beth Tamplin Jones, Fr. Dann Brown, Jack Ward, Gloria Ward, Jack Leo, Eric Wiemann, Susan Crosher, Gloria Leo, Etwanda "Tink" Wade, Robert Boswell, Helga H. Stefnisdóttir, Monaray Powers, June Harrell, Wayne Tankersley, Bobbie Rushing, Anna Marett, David Medlock, Jim, Caroline Hill, Gail Thompson, Linda Carswell, Beth, Steve Huggins, O J Booker, Betty Camnitz, Bob Kite

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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