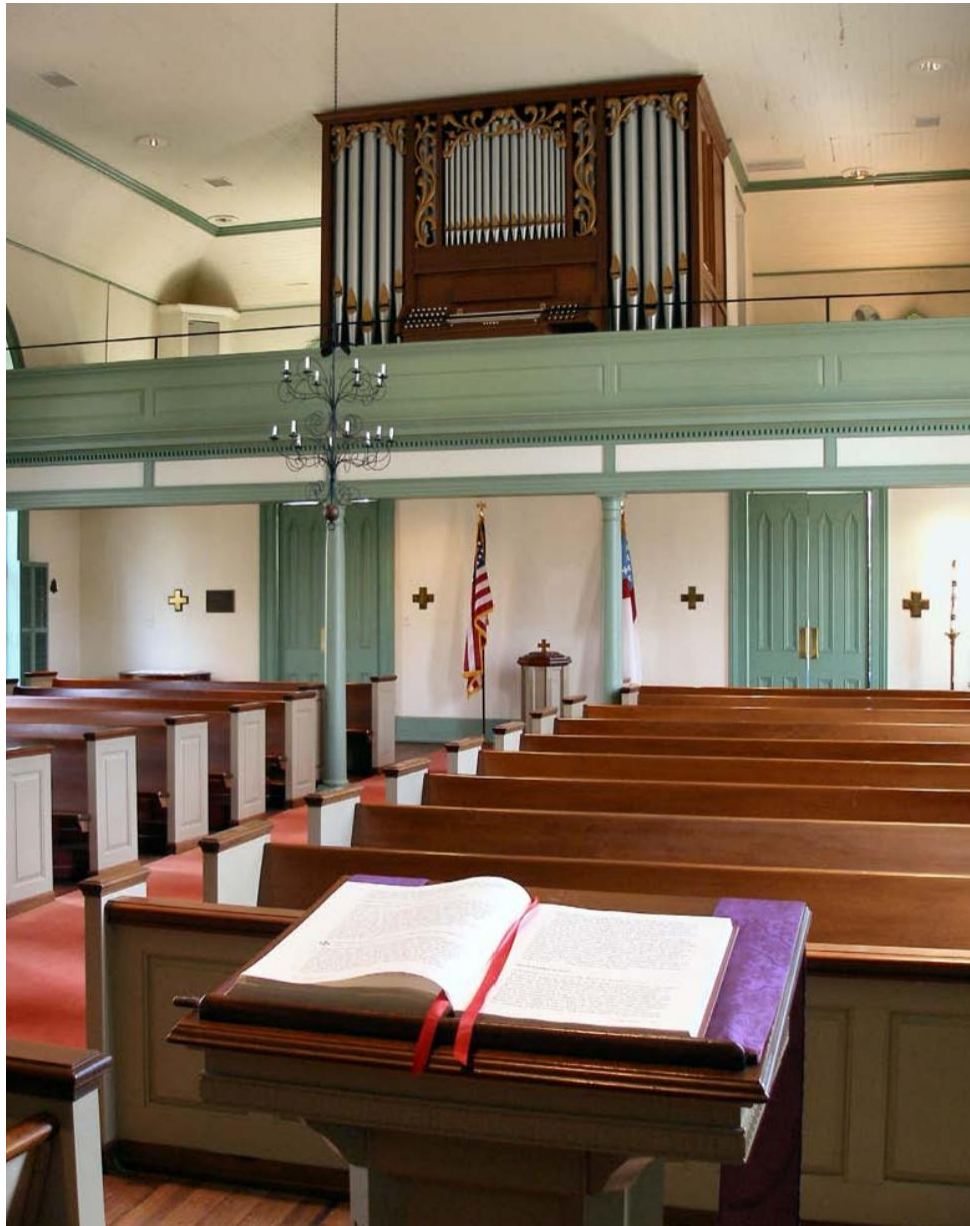




September 19, 2026 Newsletter
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



New Hymns

Our organ was built with technology to play hymns that are recorded as electronic files (MIDI). Years ago, Advent had an organist record 230 hymns on floppy discs. We play these hymns on Sundays at the 10:30 service on the wonderful McDowell organ, made by A. E. Schleuter. We have contracted with another organist to record additional hymns, giving Fr. Tryggvi much more flexibility to introduce new music into worship.

Sermon reflection from Fr. Tryggvi

Experiments with primates and later with babies as young as nine months old suggest that a sense of fairness may be deeply rooted in our psyche. When one monkey received a grape while another received only a

cucumber for the same work, the latter protested dramatically. Today's Gospel, however, challenges our instinctive understanding of fairness. In the parable of the laborers, those who worked all day receive the same wage as those who worked only an hour. Their resentment reflects our deeply ingrained belief that equal work deserves equal reward. Yet Jesus invites us to consider that God's economy operates according to a different measure.

The landowner is less concerned with who deserves what than with ensuring that every worker is treated with dignity and receiving enough to live. The workers may have arrived late for countless reasons; limited education, physical challenges, family responsibilities, unreliable transportation, or circumstances beyond their control. Rather than measuring and judging their worth by productivity or opportunity, the landowner extends generosity to all. The parable therefore challenges our tendency to measure people by achievement, status, effort, or their place in line.

God's kingdom is an economy of grace, whose currency is compassion, mercy, and kindness. Grace cannot be earned, bought, or sold; it can only be received and shared. Life is not fair, and never has been fair, but thank God that God's grace is freely offered to everyone. Our proper response should be gratitude, and a willingness to pass that grace on to our neighbors and strangers alike.

Suggestions for Contemplation this week:

- ***1] Where might I be measuring another person's worth according to my own ideas of fairness, achievement, or deservingness? What might change if I looked at that person through the lens of God's generosity instead?***
- ***2] Who in my life might need an unexpected measure of grace today? Consider one practical way you might receive God's generosity with gratitude and then "pass it on" to someone else.***

Peace, Tryggvi+

Construction Update

Almost 100% of demolition has been completed downstairs. Footings have been poured for the new porch. Upstairs, preparation for demolition started Thursday.

120th Annual Council - Anchored for the Future:

We are currently seeking parishioners to represent the Church of the Advent as either delegates or alternates at the diocesan 120th Annual Meeting - Nov. 6-7, 2026 at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. If interested and /or need additional information, please reach out to Fr. Tryggvi or contact the church office.

Rota and Readings Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 20, 2026

LEM: 8:00 A.M. Shepard—10:30 A.M. Crown

1st Reading: Ramfos

2nd Reading: Jackson-Lewis

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

Flower Guild: Crown

Organ Tech: Simpson

Vestry of the Day: Booker

[Link to readings](#)

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30
Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

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, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Gloria Leo, Jack Leo, 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, Linda Carswell, Beth, Steve Huggins, Betty Camnitz, Bob Kite, Reese Freyer IV

Birthdays in September: **1** Alexander Reid, **4** Penny Lyle, **14** Vic Jackson, **15** Maryann Dartnell, **17** Julie Jenkins, **20** Ray Bennett, **20** Alex Branch, **26** Devon Dartnell, Harrison Yost, **27** Amanda Vernon, **28** William Wood Burriss

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!](#)

To add a name to the prayer lists, either restricted or public, email: prayer-list@adventmadisonga.com.

Prayer list requests go to Tim and Fr. Tryggvi only. You can always add names to the register at the back of the nave. For other pastoral care requests such as inquiries about weddings, baptisms, or funerals, use of the Memorial Garden, requesting Eucharistic visits and short-term meals following surgery or during illness, email pastoral-care@adventmadisonga.com.

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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