News & Events

John Guest to Preach in Lenten Series this Week

John Guest (left), Minister-at-Large at Christ Church at Grove Farm in Sewickley, Pennsylvania, will preach Monday-Friday, March 2-6, at 12:05 p.m. For more than 20 years, Dr. Guest has preached the gospel around the world, addressing approximately two million people. See page 2 for more information.

Have Coffee with Heidi Kinner March 10

All Advent women are invited to a Spring Coffee with Heidi Kinner on Tuesday, March 10. We’ll have two sessions: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209); and 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Sister Clapp’s house (57 Fairway Drive, 35213). See page 3 for details.

Elizabeth Wilson Ending Tenure as Director of Children’s Ministries

Elizabeth Wilson will wrap up her 13 years of faithful service at the Advent this summer. See page 2 for a note of appreciation from the Dean.

A Word from Canon Hicks

“Dearly beloved.” Perhaps we too quickly pass by those two simple words that begin our Morning Prayer liturgy every week. We hear those words rush by at other moments, like weddings. In the original Communion rite of 1552, we are addressed as “dearly beloved” no less than four times throughout the service. The architects of the Book of Common Prayer could have begun with many other appropriate words of address: “People of God;” or “Church of Christ;” or “Faithful ones;” or “Saints of the Lord.” But instead, we are called “Dearly beloved.” We may not realize it, but prior to the Reformation in the 16th century, that’s not how worship services began. They began with the people of God jumping straight into prayer, straight into action, straight into duty.

Why the change, then? Why begin a service not with our words to God but with God’s words to us? And why, further, begin with such tender words as “Dearly beloved”? It’s because God wants a worship service – and all of life, for that matter – to be seen as a safe place for repentance precisely because it’s a context of grace. God wants you to know as you begin a worship service, and as you begin every day, that you are not just loved, but dearly loved. Think of it as God’s way of saying, “You know this thing between me and you? This relationship? It’s a safe place. It’s a place where you can come clean, be honest, find healing, receive forgiveness. I’m not going to punish you like a taskmaster; I’m going to welcome you with open arms, because I’m your Father. You see, you’re my dearly beloved.” Perhaps the whole of the Christian life is one long journey of coming to terms with the fact that really is the state of affairs.

Besides us, there’s only one other that ever gets the title of “dearly beloved” and “well-beloved” in our liturgy – Jesus Christ himself. That’s purposeful. When you put your faith in Christ, you are joined to him as an adopted sister and brother, which means that you receive all the benefits of his Sonship, including and especially his “dearly beloved-ness.” Dearly beloved Advent, remember who you are and how God thinks of you, and don’t let those words move by too quickly.

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God.

- Zac

This Sunday:

March 1, 2020

7:30 a.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Canon Schneider

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Preacher: Canon Schneider

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
In the Nave. Preacher: Canon Schneider

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
In the Refectory. Preacher: Dean Pearson

5:00 p.m. Holy Communion
Preacher: Dean Pearson

Adult Education: 10:10 - 10:50 a.m.
The Dean’s Class (Nave) – Ephesians – Dean Pearson
Inquirers’ Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – Prayer – Michael Weeks
Transfiguration to Calvary: Readings for Lent
(Living Room) – Transfiguration – Jonathan Harbuck and Steve Tilghman
Portraits from the Gospels (Assembly Hall) – Friend of Sinners – Gil Kracke
Faith and Family (Lower School Library) – Parent Traps: Being the Buddy vs. Being the Boss – Cameron Cole

Sermon and class recordings are available at AdventBirmingham.org.
The 9:00 a.m. service is broadcast live on WERC 960 AM, 105.5 FM, and AdventBirmingham.org/Live.

Children’s & Youth Education:

Classes are offered for 3-years and older. See Sunday’s service bulletin for details. The Nursery is open 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. At the Five O’Clock service, childcare is available for 4K and younger.

Lecitio:

Psalm 32
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11
**Pastoral Notice:** If you are going into the hospital, have need of prayer or counsel, or have a family member unable to attend church, please call the Pastoral Care Office at 205-226-3500.

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**With Appreciation for Elizabeth Wilson**

Dear Church Family,

It is with sadness, marked with deep appreciation, that I write to you of Elizabeth Wilson's decision to end her time as our Director of Children's Ministries.

Elizabeth (right) has been with us since December of 2007, when she was a Co-Director with Mary McInnis. She became the sole Director in January 2011. Elizabeth has proven a faithful minister to our children and a blessing to our entire congregation. It was only after many months of prayerful and careful discernment that Elizabeth came to this clarity, leaving with the sense that it is time for her to discern and pursue other endeavors that God has for her. Though she is considering several things, she is not leaving with a clear landing spot but finds herself trusting the Lord's gracious promises of provision.

Please join me and all of us as we pray for Elizabeth (and continue to see her at the Advent, her church!). The words are surely spoken: well done, good and faithful servant.

Elizabeth will continue as our Director of Children's Ministries at least through VBS this summer. During this time of transition, be assured that we are working to find Elizabeth's successor. I am grateful for your prayers, both for the Advent and Elizabeth as we discern God's call on our lives and ministry.

In Christ,

Andrew

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**Parking During Lent**

During Lent the Advent's parking lot at the corner of Sixth Avenue North and Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard (21st Street) is especially hard-pressed. We must accommodate volunteers making deliveries for Lenten Lunches and other short-term visitors to the church and school. We also must maintain access for emergency vehicles and adequate space to get the shuttle bus in and out.

You can help! Please do not block any parking spaces, entrances, or exits at any time.

Parking is available at reasonable rates at meters and at a number of lots and decks within a block of the Advent. Thank you for your cooperation.

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**Youth Ministry**

**Sr. High: SOS Memphis Trip Set for June 7-12**

Sign up now for our annual trip to partner with Service Over Self (SOS), a home repair ministry in Memphis, Tennessee. This year the trip will happen June 7-12 (Sunday-Friday). Cost is $395 and scholarships are available! Spaces are limited, so sign up ASAP at AdventBirmingham.org/News. For more information, contact Rebecca Lankford (Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com).

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**Youth Ministry**

**Jr. and Sr. High: Night of Prayer and Worship this Sunday**

All Junior and Senior High youth are invited to join us for our second Night of Prayer and Worship this Sunday, March 1. In lieu of the usual Family Dinners, we will meet at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209) from 6:00-7:15 p.m. (note time change for Senior High) for a dedicated time of prayer and worship led by a live band. We hope you can join us for this special event! Find out more by contacting Tucker Fleming (Tucker@CathedralAdvent.com) or Rebecca Lankford (Lankford@CathedralAdvent.com).

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**Book Store Open Additional Hours During Lent**

The Advent Bookstore will open two additional days during the season of Lent, on Tuesday and Friday from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The store will continue its normal hours: Sunday, 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; and Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Contact the store (205-323-2959, Bookstore@CathedralAdvent.com) for more information.

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**Worship**

**Lenten Preaching**

**John Guest to Preach Monday-Friday**

John Guest serves as Minister-at-Large at Christ Church at Grove Farm in Sewickley, Pennsylvania. He was born in Oxford, raised and educated in England, and ordained in the Church of England. Dr. Guest and his wife Kathleen were called to Pennsylvania in 1968 to work for the Pittsburgh Experiment, through which he founded the Coalition for Christian Outreach and co-founded Trinity School for Ministry. He served as Senior Rector of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Sewickley for 20 years, and then was the first Senior Rector of Christ Church, the church plant to which he has returned as Minister-at-Large.

For more than 20 years, Dr. Guest has spoken about the Christian faith throughout the United States and around the world, addressing approximately two million people. He has authored more than a half dozen books, and was a recording artist in the late 60s (part of the British invasion).

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In Christ,

Andrew
Parish-Wide Prayer Meeting March 2

Among the ways that the Book of Common Prayer invites us to “the observance of a holy Lent” is “by prayer” (BCP pg. 265). All parishioners are invited to a prayer gathering on Monday, March 2, 7:15 p.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209). Typically held the first Monday of every month, this hour-long meeting is set aside to pray for the Advent. As Dean Pearson wrote about these gatherings, “If we are not on our knees, we are trying to do ministry in our own strength. We know that apart from the Lord Jesus we can do nothing.” We hope you can join us.

Women’s Ministry
Spring Coffee with Heidi Kinner March 10

All Advent women are invited to a Spring Coffee with Heidi Kinner (right) on Tuesday, March 10. We’ll have two sessions: 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Cranmer House (2814 Linden Avenue, 35209), and 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Sister Clapp’s house (57 Fairway Drive, 35213).

Mrs. Kinner will offer A Word on the Lord’s Prayer at both sessions. Currently the Associate Chaplain at Christ Memorial Chapel in Hobe Sound, Florida, she served on the Advent clergy staff from 2005-2011, including a term as Vice Dean. She will preach in our Lenten series Monday-Wednesday, March 9-11, at 12:05 p.m.

Nursery Provided on Mondays and Thursdays During Lent

We offer a nursery for children ages 6 weeks-4K on Mondays and Thursdays during Lent, from 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. To ensure adequate staffing, please email Lila Wooten (Lila@CathedralAdvent.com) a few days in advance to make your child’s reservation.

Advent House: Intercessory prayer is on-going at Advent House. If you would like to schedule a prayer session, please call Kathy Logue at 205-410-4622.

Above: There are one million people in the Birmingham metro area, and so it is impossible for any one church to minister to the entire population. A group of pastors representing gospel churches from different denominations gathered together recently to pray for one another and commit themselves to evangelizing and reaching out to our city. I am blessed to be a part of this godly endeavor and look forward to partnering with these dear brothers and their churches to see the gospel proclaimed in our city. - Andrew
Calendar:

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<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<td>Women's Spring Coffee - 7:00 a.m. at Cranmer House; 9:30 a.m. at 57 Fairway Drive</td>
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<td>Lenten Preaching - Mat Alexander - 12:05 p.m.</td>
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<td>Every Sunday: Breakfast – Refectory, 8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Monday-Friday: Lenten Lunches – Refectory and Clingman Commons, 12:05 p.m.</td>
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We have more Bible studies, book studies, and groups of all kinds meeting than we can list on the calendar! Please join us in praising God for this blessing and visit AdventBirmingham.org/BibleStudies for a complete list of options available to you. If you have any questions, please contact Fontaine Pope (Fontaine@CathedralAdvent.com, 443-8562).