



# ADVENTures a weekly newsletter

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May 10, 2020 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Worship with the Diocese of Albany at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjVmrEwtur7R8akk7Drd9TQ>

## At Advent

All services at Advent are suspended until further notice. You may call the church office (440-871-6685) and expect to have your call answered between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday. If you call outside of those hours, please leave a message and we will respond as soon as we receive it. In case of emergency, please contact Dick McCormick (440-413-0189) directly.

## I John 14:1-14 Jesus is a Mirror of the Father

*John 14:9<sup>b</sup> He who has seen Me has seen the Father.*

Jesus proclaims an amazing revelation in this passage. The Son is a mirror image of The Father. *He who has seen me, has seen the Father.* For Jesus to make such a declaration in Israel was blasphemy. For us it is life-changing. Through Jesus we are released from the separation that happened in the Garden of Eden.

In John 14, Jesus is with His disciples sharing His Last Supper. He has told them that He will be with them only a little while longer, and just as importantly that where He is going, they cannot come. No wonder the disciples are troubled. Their teacher is leaving them, one of their own has turned against them, and Peter who is the strong leader among the disciples is said to be on the edge of a great failure of loyalty. It is as though the ground is shifting beneath their feet. Jesus calls them back to a fundamental relationship of trust and assures them that He is not abandoning them. Rather, in speaking of His ascension to the Father, Jesus assures his disciples that this is also their ultimate destination. But the disciples still don't grasp what Jesus is saying. Thomas takes Jesus quite literally. He wants directions, a road map to this place. Jesus responds by saying that He Himself is the way: *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

There is no need to panic, no need to search desperately for a secret map. Jesus adds, *"If you know me, you will know my Father also."* The conditional phrase in Greek is a condition of fact: *"If you know me (and you do), you will know my father also."* There can be no misunderstanding.

Now Philip responds: *"Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."* Jesus' response contains perhaps a hint of exasperation: *"Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."* Here Jesus echoes an affirmation from John chapter one: *No one has ever seen God. But God the only Son is very close to the Father, and he has shown us what God is like. (John 1:18 NCV).*

This is the foundation of Jesus' mission: to make known the Father, to reveal who the Father is. Jesus is the fullest revelation of the person and character of Father God. If we want to know who the Father is, we need look no further than Jesus.

Jesus is a mirror who reflects our Heavenly Father. That insight to me is absolutely incredible. The Creator of all that is, is seen in Jesus in His incarnated body. All that Father God is, the Son is.

Now the extension of that for us is fairly obvious. As disciples of Jesus, we are a reflection of Him. Not a perfect mirror image, but when others see us, they see something of what Jesus is. For me, that shapes how I live and interact with other people, even if right now, it's mostly over Zoom. When I say to another individual that I am a Jesus follower, I am saying, look at me if you want to catch a glimpse of Jesus.

**2 Corinthians 3:18 (NASB)** *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.*

**Colossians 3:15-16** *The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.*

Pastor Paul Laursen

## Mother's Day 2020

Thank you, Father,  
for our mothers, grandmothers, and aunts! Amen.



## This Week at Advent

### Sunday, May 10 Mother's Day

8:00 a.m. SERVICE SUSPENDED  
10:00 a.m. SERVICE SUSPENDED

### Wednesday, May 13

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Advent  
9:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

### Sunday, May 17

8:00 a.m. SERVICE SUSPENDED  
10:00 a.m. SERVICE SUSPENDED

## What to do about our normal giving to Advent?

These are extraordinary times we are living through – and we will get through them! Some have lost wages and salaries. All are experiencing hardship, fear of health issues, social isolation and perhaps loneliness. So, it is with mixed feelings that I ask you to fulfill, as best you are able, your normal giving to Advent. We are paying our people even though we are not open for services – we believe that is the right thing to do. Please mail your checks to JoAnn at the office or use whatever other means to contribute normally. If your finances allow it, please consider forward-paying some portion of your pledge to cushion the shortfall we will experience from others not being able to keep up financially. Please pray about what the Lord lays on your heart and respond according to His will.

Thank you.

Dick McCormick and Ray Busony

## Prayer for the week

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every Altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to You praise and thanksgiving.

I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory.

And since I cannot receive You today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart..

Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you.

May I live in You and You in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

**Armed Services prayer book, words intended for those service members unable to physically partake of the elements.**

## Prayer Request

### Health and Recovery

Lillian Kwasny	Dave Luptak	Joan Joye
Mary Lou Dixon	Marilyn Decker	Velta Sanborn
Bob Allen	Karen Zolar	Rose Walker
Barb Frank	Lois Zolar	Arthur Beel
Michael Uhrich	Sharon Rice	George Belinsky
Bill & Judy Arkley	Steve Boyce	Shirley Moore

### Friends of Advent

Toni Kulma, wife of Pastor Kulma	Fr. Richard Lutz
Ken and Jim	Richard Ward, Jr

Eliza Jennings residents

Trevor, grandson of Art Beel

Liz Schilling, friend of JoAnn Beck

Laura Lenis, friend of JoAnn Beck

### Safety Protection

David Arkley, Detective for Cleveland Police

Son of Bill & Judy Arkley

Rachel Moffitt, ER Nurse daughter of Bill & Judy Arkley

*Please contact the church office if you would like your name added or removed from our list.*



## Calling all Graduates!

Is your son or daughter graduating this year? We will be honoring high school and college graduates from Advent when we resume services. If your son or daughter is graduating this year, submit

a short bio on what they accomplished in high school/college and what their plans are for the future.

This information needs to be turned into JoAnn at the Parish Office by Sunday May 24, or emailed to:

[advent.church@sbcglobal.net](mailto:advent.church@sbcglobal.net)

Thank you.

