

*On the mind of the Rev. Adrian Dannhauser...*

“I throw myself down in my chamber, and I call in, and invite God, and his Angels thither, and when they are there, I neglect God and his Angels, for the noise of a fly, for the rattling of a coach, for the whining of a door.” – John Donne.

Sound familiar? It does to me. I pray every day throughout the day – giving thanks for a bit of good news over email, asking for patience when I can’t seem to get my daughter out the door and off to school, offering up “Lord, have mercy” when I see an ambulance pass by on the street. Prayer is an ongoing conversation with God, and we can pick up where we leave off. Yet, settling down into prayer and giving God our undivided attention for more than a few minutes is not always easy.

Despite our desire to be still and fully present to God, most of us experience some level of resistance to prayer at times. If this is true for you, look at what might be causing that resistance. It could be more than a busy schedule or difficulty focusing.

I once heard that the places where we are resistant to God are similar to the places where we are resistant to the closest person in our lives. Think about the parallels. Do you have trouble voicing your own needs? Are there things you don’t want to reveal about yourself? Are you afraid to hear what’s being asked of you so that you end up assuming what’s being asked of you? Whatever it is, go there in prayer. Offer that place of resistance to God and see what sort of invitation you get back. It might help those rattling coaches and whining doors fade into the background.

Adrian+

---

**TODAY AFTER CHURCH**

Visitors are invited to pick up a welcome bag at the back of the church.

All are welcome to Coffee Hour in the Parish House following the 11:00 a.m. service.

**COMMON CHORD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Pledges keep climbing for the Common Chord capital campaign for restoration of the organ. As of today, the total is **\$743,759**. Will you help us reach our \$800,000 goal with a pledge and/or gift to the campaign? Pledges are payable over three years. Pick up a campaign brochure and pledge card at the back of the church or go to [givingsites.com/commonchord](http://givingsites.com/commonchord) to learn more.

**LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING – HYMNAL DEDICATION**

*Sing to the Lord a new song!* (Psalm 96:1)

With our organ undergoing restoration, we are using the piano in worship. Perhaps you’ve noticed an expansion of our congregational singing repertoire? That’s because the piano lends perfectly to pieces from the African American and gospel traditions found in the Episcopal hymnal “Lift Every Voice and Sing II” (LEVAS). Soon we’ll be purchasing copies of LEVAS for the pews! We are excited to present these hymnals to the glory of God and for service in the life of our congregation.

Read what Incarnation Choir member Layke Jones, who first plied his singing career after graduating from college as a travelling gospel singer, has to say about this undertaking: “Gospel music has long been a part of my musical ‘diet’, and I am a better musician, believer and human being for having consumed its impactful words and melodies. From work songs, to spirituals, hymns and more, Gospel music’s origin is as valuable

as its musical relevance. Having spent a few years touring and performing alongside Gospel music pioneers, Bill and Gloria Gaither, I take great pride in knowing that Church of the Incarnation recognizes the importance of keeping this music alive!

You are invited to dedicate a LEVAS hymnal to honor someone special or a special occasion. The dedication cost is \$25 per hymnal, and there will be a book plate placed on the inside cover to note the dedication as well as the donor. To donate \$25 and dedicate a hymnal, scan the QR code below or go to [churchoftheincarnation.org/donate](https://churchoftheincarnation.org/donate) and select “Lift Every Voice and Sing” from the dropdown menu. Be sure to type your dedication in the memo line.



### **ECCLESIA MINISTRIES**

**Sunday, July 21, 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.** Come to the Parish House Dining Room to help make sandwiches and pack lunches for Ecclesia Ministries of New York, which serves those who are food and housing insecure. The Rev. Canon Deacon Denise LaVetty serves an Ecclesia congregation that currently worships in the courtyard of Church of the Transfiguration (29th Street, between 5th and Madison) every Sunday from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Parishioners are also invited to attend this 2:00 p.m. service of Holy Eucharist and then distribute the lunches.

### **HELP MAKE WORSHIP MEANINGFUL**

Liturgy is the “work of the people” and requires a village of volunteers – ushers, lay readers, chalice bearers, altar guild, church tour guides, and Coffee Hour hosts. If you would like to serve in leadership at any of our Sunday or weekday worship services, please contact the Rev. Adrian Dannhauser.

### **SUMMER SCHEDULE**

Incarnation’s program year runs from mid-September through early June. This means that our Sunday morning Bible Study, Children’s classes, and certain other ministries go on hiatus for the summer. The Incarnation Choir also takes a break, and we enjoy individual soloists at the principal Sunday service. The 2024-2025 program year will start up on Homecoming Sunday, the first Sunday after Labor Day.

### **WEEKDAY WORSHIP AT INCARNATION**

**Wednesday Holy Eucharist:** Join us each Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. for this Rite I spoken service of Holy Eucharist, which includes a brief homily, organ music, and healing prayer with holy oil.

**Thursday Candlelight Communion:** Join us each Thursday at 6:15 p.m. for Candlelight Communion, a service of Holy Eucharist that incorporates chant and silence as well as elements of contemporary worship. This service is informal and contemplative, with music led by a Cantor and a brief reflection by one of the clergy. You can also stream this service at [youtube.com/churchoftheincarnation](https://youtube.com/churchoftheincarnation).

**Daily Office:** Services of Morning Prayer and Compline are held via Zoom. To view the weekly schedule, go to [churchoftheincarnation.org/worship](https://churchoftheincarnation.org/worship).