

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOLFEBORO, NH

December 22, 2023 | Volume 17, Issue 51
The Fourth Sunday of Advent/ Year B

Ministry Assignments

Click link for

Month of [December](#) Schedule

Sunday, December 24th The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Eucharistic Ministers

9am

Cate McMahon

Lector

Jane Nielsen

Altar Guild

Susan Harding

Lucy Hancock

Candace Tordonato

Usher

Jones

Flower Guild

Poinsettias

Flower Delivery

Meg Sislane

Greeter

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve Services

Eucharistic Ministers

5pm

Jane Nielsen

Bill Woodard

9pm

Art Slocum

Dawn DeKemper

Usher

Hancock



Beloveds of All Saints,

In winter's deepest night, the weary world rejoices as we welcome the incarnation of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole weary world.

The grace of God given through Jesus Christ

Quick Links



click to Link to [All Saints' Website](#).
or Scan the QR code with your phone

Link to [Episcopal Church of NH](#).

Link to [The Episcopal Church](#).

Link to [Contact Us](#).

Links to All Saints' Facebook and YouTube Channel Click on Buttons Below




Worship Links for Sunday

Link to [Live Stream at 10:00 am](#)

Link to [Worship Links](#)

Link to [Bulletins](#), please click on the pictures.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Year B
December 24, 2023



Advent carries two simultaneous visions of our expectations: we await yet again the birth of the babe in the manger, and we also await Christ's coming again to fulfill all things. We often prepare for Advent by "getting ready": planning, organizing, and ordering supplies for various gatherings and worship services. Yet preparing for the coming of Christ is not a matter of having everything under control. Christ's arrival disrupts—disrupts injustice, sin, and brokenness in a society in which we are deeply embedded. A prayer for Christ to come to us is a prayer for a holy disruption of our lives that we cannot control and that we might struggle to accept.

9 a.m., The Holy Eucharist, Rite II
The Rev. William Petersen, Celebrant
Holly Simons, Minister of Music

brings salvation to all people and one of my theologically favorite hymns that sings this is "Savior of the nations, come" (Hymnal 1982 #54):

Savior of the nations, come; virgin's son, make here your home.

Marvel Now, O heav'n and earth: God has chosen such a birth.

This Advent hymn, attributed to Ambrose of Milan and Martin Luther, takes us as singers to the manger "shining bright."

Now your manger, shining bright, hallows night with newborn light.

Night cannot this light subdue; let our faith shine ever new.

This hymn resounds with the magnitude of Jesus' birth, Emanuel—God with us:

Not by human flesh and blood, but the mystic Breath of God, was the Word of God made flesh.

I invite you to imagine the mystic breath of God giving voice and filling the lungs of all who will gather at All Saints' this Christmas Eve so that "*the heavens rejoice*" and "*the earth be glad*", echoing Psalm 96:11. This is a powerful image for a world wearied from Covid, RSV and war which all take our breath away! And yet, through our breath, God's love is shared and salvation comes.

Awaiting the very breath of God,

Bill+

P.S. Here is the video invitation link to Christmas worship from our web and facebook pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsWolfeboro/videos/669349601741642>

Update on Efforts to Sponsor Afghan Refugees in Pakistan to Immigrate to Manchester

Several months ago, Amadou Hamady, Warren Muir, and Sarah Day briefed the parish about an effort to sponsor a family of seven Afghan Hazara refugees who fled Afghanistan to Pakistan, where they remain at great risk. (**Grandma Feroza**, [her daughter, **Rana**, son-in-law, **Ali**, and their son, **Amir**], [her daughter-in-law and widow, **Nasiba**, with children, **Maisam** and **Maryam**].) Warren has been tutoring Ali and Maisam for over eight years.

Christmas Eve
Family Worship



Welcome to All Saints Episcopal Church

December 24, 2023
5:00 pm

The Rev. William Petersen, Celebrant
The Rev. Elizabeth Preysner, Preacher
Holly Simons, Minister of Music

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Worship



Welcome to All Saints Episcopal Church

December 24, 2023
9:00 pm

The Rev. William Petersen, Celebrant
The Rev. Elizabeth Preysner, Preacher
Holly Simons, Minister of Music

Sunday December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Links to the Readings

- [2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#)
The Lord's promise to David
- [Romans 16:25-27](#)
The mystery of God revealed in Jesus Christ
- [Luke 1:26-38](#) *The angel appears to Mary*
- [Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26](#)
Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing

The Collect of the Day

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones. As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed,

They are wonderful people with talents and desire to contribute to a new country where they can live in safety. (See <https://www.wolfesaints.com/afghan-family-welcome-corps> for more information about the family and their conditions.)

The second phase of the new US Welcome Corps program, which is imminent, will enable groups of US citizens to sponsor refugees known to them. This is the first possibility for the Afghan Hazara family member to immigrate to the US. With the support of the All Saints community and others, a group of six individuals (including Warren, Sarah, and Amadou) will make a formal Welcome Corps application to sponsor the family to immigrate to Manchester. We anticipate that approval of the group may take two or three months, then the proposed refugees will be vetted thoroughly by Federal Agencies prior to approval. If approved, the Welcome Corps group will need to raise enough money to support the family for their first three months prior to their arrival.

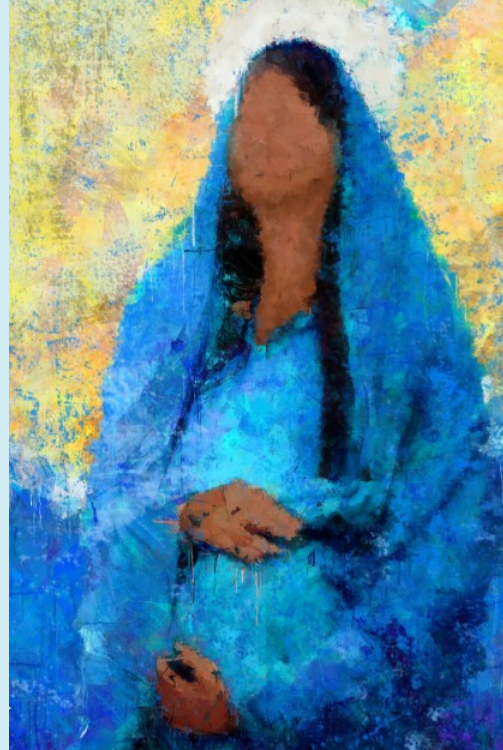
Afghan family updates:

- 1) In October, the Government of Pakistan announced that it was going to deport many hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees in the country back to Afghanistan by November 1. Many Afghans have been forced to go back from where they fled. So far, our family has not been deported and have UNHCR Refugee-Seeking Identification that hopefully will spare them.
 - 2) Rana and Ali had a second son, **Omid**, born on Oct 26, 2023. So, the family now has eight members.
 - 3) Maryam graduated this week from the local co-educational (non-Madrassa) high school. Every year she has been either first or second in her class. While also a gifted artist, she has no status in Pakistan to be able to further her education.
-

so we dream and wait for you. Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these candles, and more dear than all else we seek. Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good, and banish all our fears. We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and our Savior. Amen.

Flower Dedication

The chancel Poinsettia dedications have been listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins.



**God loves you.
No exceptions.**



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.

This week we pray for:

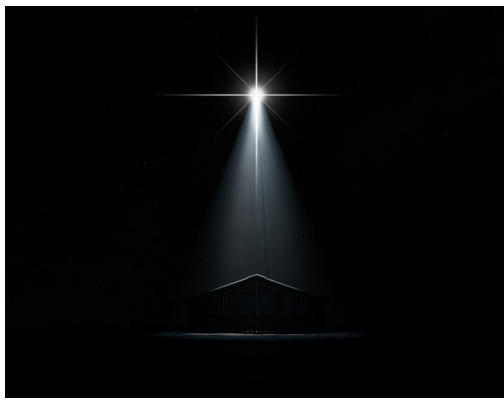
For our Parish

Howard Blaney, Jim & Anne Bullitt, Prue Fitts, Felicity Freund, Louise Graham, Judy Hess, Don & Sandi Johnson, The Jeffers Family (Polly, Dave, Rachael), Zell Kellogg, Bhupendra & Judy Khetani, Norma Lunney, Jacqueline McLaughlin, Penny Meyer, Connie Mitchell, Warren Muir, Carol Pearson, Bree Schuette, Sebastian Tordonato, Inger Woerheide.

For our Family & Friends

Basil Brown, Rebecca DeNeault, Candy Desrocher, Michael Dowd, Anne Fish, Stephanie Fullam, Ruth Gray, Linda Hall, Susan Belt Hartson, Dillon Johnson, Faye Juul, Jim Lunney, Margie, Tom Southern, Marguerite Truesdale, Kyle Williams Peggy Young.

From The Music and Tech Corner...



What does the word “yearning” conjure in your thinking? My best attempt is “intense longing” and “deep desire”. This Christmas Eve morning, our choir sings an impactful anthem while we all receive Eucharist. It is entitled “The Yearning” (by prolific composer Craig Courtney).

Find a quiet space, a few moments to listen here, and follow the text below. Young high school singers, our future hope, sing this with such meaning. Maybe ponder the questions: What am I yearning for in this season of the year? Of our world? Where do I turn to satisfy or aid these almost painful longings? May our infant King and Risen Lord be a guide in your journey....

The Yearning – Craig Courtney

<https://youtu.be/tCUw45rYzDY?si=aLqzXAQKVd-VQK6B>

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow. There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning, a yearning for the Promised One, the Firstborn of Creation. There is a yearning for the Lord Who visited his own, and by His death for sin atoned to bring to us salvation.

CHORUS: Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of his appearing. There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One Who placed within our hearts the yearning. CHORUS

May the yearnings of your heart be met by the One we celebrate, the One we wait for,

Holly



ALL SAINTS
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR

Epiphany Pot Luck

and De-Greening of the Church



Saturday, January 6 at 4:00pm

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP TAKE DOWN DECORATIONS
DINNER TO FOLLOW.
BYO BEVERAGE. WINE GLASSES WILL BE PROVIDED.



Help Needed

We have a family of two that could use assistance with meals and in other ways. Visit <https://mealtrain.com/k0o18v> and/or contact Bree Schuette to see how you might be able to assist.

2024 Altar Flowers reservation is now open online.

<https://ttsu.me/2024altarflowerrequest>

You can also drop a dedication slip in the office or email your request to allsaints@metrocast.net.

We also have more dates available at the end of this year to fill.

<https://ttsu.me/allsaintswolfe>.

*Please remember to drop your payment to the office prior to your dedication.
Thank you.*



VESTRY NOTES

The Vestry met on Monday, December 18th. Here's a quick summary of our meeting. Please ask questions of any member if you'd like more information.

Celebrate: A very successful "Many Members, One Body" campaign designed by Debra Hoyt and Pastor Bill has resulted in a significant increase in the number of pledges to All Saints. This helps put us in a positive financial outlook for 2024.

Challenge: Rain, rain, wind ---and an unwelcome water situation in Holly's office. This along with the deterioration of the front steps and the painting of Lord and Taylor will keep Bob Christmas, our junior warden, busy into the spring.

Something to Anticipate: Claudia Bissett is working on a new catalog system for the Beck Library. This should be ready to go in January. Check it out!

-Clerk, Lyn Healy



BIBLE STUDY TOGETHER!

THURSDAYs at 3:00 pm

**In person
in the library**

**Online
via Zoom**

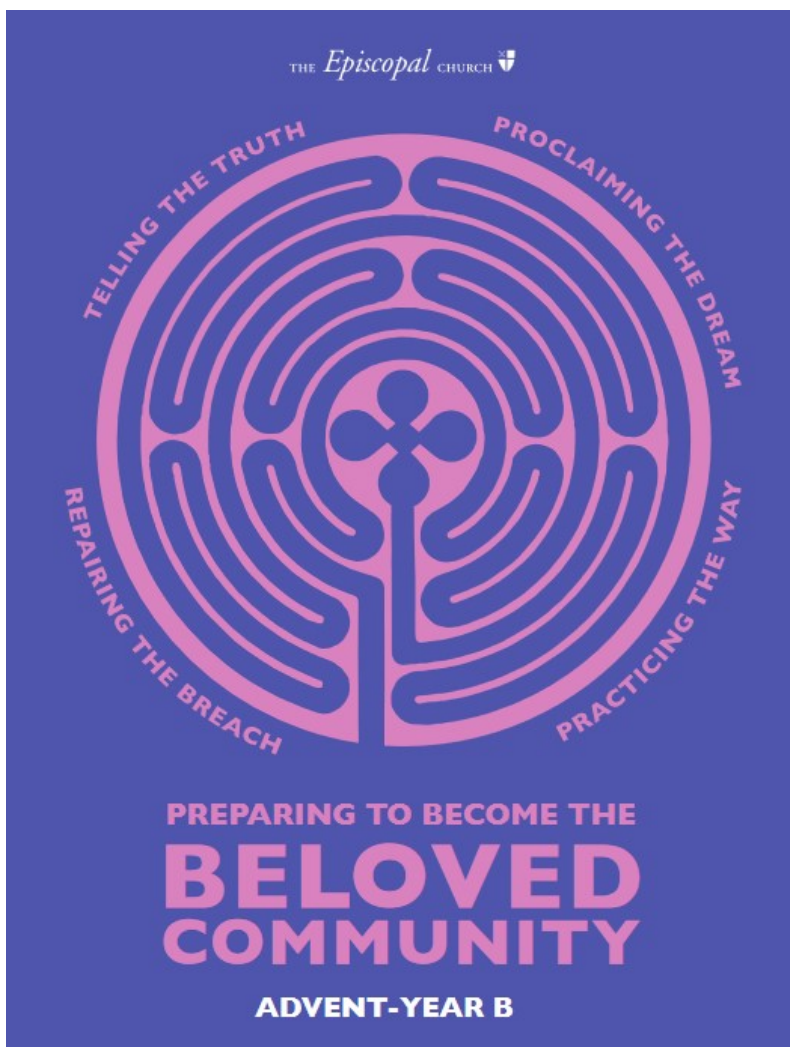
Thursdays in the Beck Library and online via Zoom at 3:00 pm,
followed by Eucharist

Thursday Afternoon Bible Study meeting December 28th

*In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert
a highway for our God... Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together. - Isaiah 40:3, 5*

Advent is a season of preparation: shopping for gifts, decorating our homes and sanctuaries. Advent is also a time to prepare our hearts and communities for the coming of Christ, the Almighty God who came among us poor and homeless, a stranger and a child. There may be no better time to reflect on how we as the Episcopal Church embrace the Holy One who continues to draw near in the neighbor, the stranger, the refugee, or the one who seems most “other” to you. It is the ideal season to commit to becoming Beloved Community and growing loving, liberating, life-giving relationships across the human family of God.

We gather at 3:00 pm in the Beck Memorial Library and follow our Bible Study of Advent texts and discussion with a brief service of Holy Eucharist. Join us for one or all four Thursdays in December.

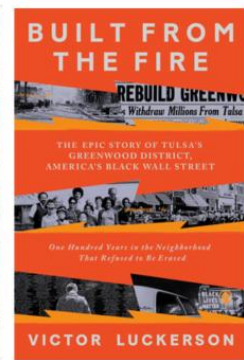
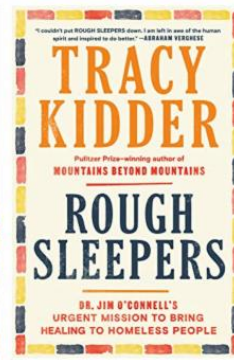
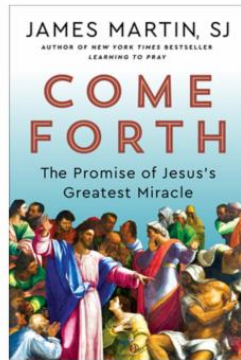
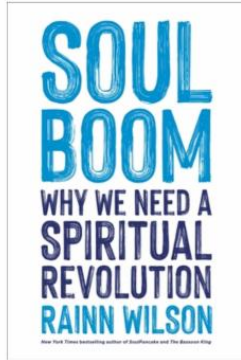
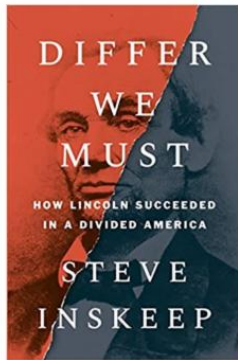




Wolfeboro Reads

Please join us for our community book group as we gather via Zoom on Tuesdays 4:00-5:15 pm for reflection and discussion. The Wolfeboro Public Library and Country Bookseller have our lists.

Winter/Spring 2024



Wolfeboro Reads *Differ We Must: How Lincoln Succeeded in a Divided America* by Steve Inskeep in January

From journalist and historian Steve Inskeep, a compelling and nuanced exploration of the political acumen of Abraham Lincoln via sixteen encounters before and during his presidency, bringing to light not only the strategy of a great politician who inherited a country divided, but lessons for our own disorderly present.

Join us Tuesdays, January 9, 16 and 23 at 4:00 pm on Zoom:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98230488609?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98230488609?pwd=QXILUjczMlp2OWlqZVlEUml2K084dz09)

[pwd=QXILUjczMlp2OWlqZVlEUml2K084dz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98230488609?pwd=QXILUjczMlp2OWlqZVlEUml2K084dz09)

Meeting ID: 982 3048 8609 Passcode: 012281



Dinner Bell

DINING IN PERSON IN THE PARISH HALL
THURSDAYS 5:00 PM

December 2023

Dinner Bell for the remainder of December has been cancelled.

Due to illness, Dinner Bell meals on Thursday, December 21st and 28th are cancelled.
Community meals resume Thursday, January 4th at 5:00 pm in the parish hall.

A reminder that our Dinner Bell program offers a community meal weekly on Thursdays 5:00-6:00 pm in the parish hall. All are welcome and donations are accepted to offset costs.

Your help is also welcome to share hospitality with our neighbors, please speak with Carol Simpson or Pastor Bill to volunteer.

December 2023 Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|------------------------|
| ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH December 2023 | | | | | 1 Pastor Bill Sabbath | 2 10am AA Mtg (PH) |
| 3 ADVENT 1 8 & 10am Worship- in person Live stream @ 10am 10am Sunday School 6pm AA (PH) | 4 10am WFOH (L) 4pm Hanging of the Greens 7pm Aikiken (L) | 5 9am Women's Worship (L) 4pm Wolfeboro Reads 7pm Nar-Anson (L) | 6 1pm Knitting (L) 4p Table Tennis 8:30am Choir | 7 9am Men's Bible Study (L) 3pm Midweek Bible Study (L) 5pm Dinner Bell | 8 Pastor Bill Sabbath | 9 10am AA Mtg (PH) |
| 10 ADVENT 2 8 & 10am Worship- in person Live stream @ 10am 10am Sunday School 6pm AA (PH) | 11 10am LAT Board Mtg (L) 7pm Aikiken (L) | 12 9am Women's Worship (L) 11a- Wolfeboro Garden Club (PH) Squad mtg (L) (sound lab) @ 4pm 4pm Wolfeboro Reads 7pm Nar-Anson (L) | 13 10am Vestry Exec 1pm Knitting (L) 4p Table Tennis 8:30am Choir | 14 9am Men's Bible Study (L) 1pm Knitting (L) 3pm Midweek Bible Study (L) 5pm Dinner Bell | 15 Pastor Bill Sabbath | 16 10am AA Mtg (PH) |
| 17 ADVENT 3 8 & 10am Worship- in person Live stream @ 10am 10am Sunday School 6pm AA (PH) | 18 7pm VESTRY (L) 7pm Aikiken (SR) | 19 9am Women's Worship (L) 4pm Wolfeboro Reads 5pm WMS Holiday party 7pm Nar-Anson (L) | 20 1pm Knitting (L) 4p Table Tennis 8:30am Choir | 21 9am Men's Bible Study (L) 3pm Midweek Bible Study (L) 5pm Dinner Bell | 22 Pastor Bill Sabbath | 23 10am AA Mtg (PH) |
| 24 ADVENT 4 One Service at 9am Christmas Eve Services: 5 pm and 9 pm 6pm AA (PH) | 25 Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED 7pm Aikiken (L) | 26 9am Women's Worship (L) 7pm Nar-Anson (L) | 27 1pm Knitting (L) 4p Table Tennis | 28 9am Men's Bible Study (L) 3pm Midweek Bible Study (L) 5pm Dinner Bell | 29 Pastor Bill Sabbath | 30 10am AA Mtg (PH) |
| 31 Service of Lessons & Carols One Service at 9am 6pm AA (PH) | PLEASE BE WORKING ON YOUR REPORTS TO SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE FOR ANNUAL REPORT. DEADLINE IS December 28th. | | | | PARISH OFFICE: 569-3453 Hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, 9am-4:00pm Thur, 9am-11:30am Fri Closed | |

Life Ministries Food Pantry (569-0202) Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday 10am-1pm & 4-6pm Lord & Tailor Thrift Shop (569-6301) Thurs & Fri 10am-3pm - Sat 10am-1pm

Click on the Calendar for a pdf copy

*There are many ways to connect with one another
to see, hear and share God online at All Saints*



E-NEWS UPDATE E-news editing has now moved to the Parish Office. Please have your submission requests to the office by Tuesday of the week you would like it in the e-news. You may email your requests to Debra at allsaints@metrocast.net.

DO YOU KNOW OF A CHILD IN NEED OF SOME EXTRA FOOD OVER THE WEEKEND?

Kid-friendly weekend food bags are distributed weekly at the schools and community-based organizations throughout the GWRSD

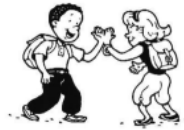
For children 3 years old through grade 6
(not yet in school, attending school, or homeschooled)

To sign up or ask a question:

PLEASE CONTACT OUR OUTREACH COORDINATOR:

Deb Bunting email: dbunting@sau49.org or text: (802) 738-0408

End 68 Hours of Hunger Wolfeboro Area Chapter;
Serving children of GWRSD Towns



End 68 Hours of Hunger is a non-profit organization that provides weekend food for children, in preschool through grade 6, at risk of food insecurity; 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners, and snacks.

LIFE MINISTRIES
FOOD PANTRY



**HAVING A HARD TIME
GETTING FOOD FOR
YOURSELF OR YOUR FAMILY?
HELP IS AVAILABLE**

DRIVE-THROUGH FOOD DISTRIBUTION –
FIRST AND THIRD WEDNESDAYS MONTHLY

10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

4:00PM TO 6:00PM

264 S. MAIN STREET, WOLFEBORO

ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION
AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

www.lifeministriesfoodpantry.com

Providing access to food security with dignity and respect

Accessing books in the Beck Library

Catalog is on LibraryThing (<https://www.librarything.com/home>).

User name: AllSaintsWolfeboro

Password: +BeckLibrary+

All Saints Church | PO Box 359, 258 South Main Street, Wolfeboro, NH 03894

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