



**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON THIS 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 21, 2026**

**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
3660 KENNY RD, COLUMBUS, OH 43220
PHONE: 614.451.3639; EMAIL: OFFICE@ADVENTELC.ORG
WEBSITE: ADVENTELC.ORG**

**PASTOR: THE REV. JOEL RICHTER
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: JEAN PONTIOUS
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES: MARCY LAYNE
DIGITAL CONTENT MANAGER: COURTNEY PITTMAN
NURSERY: COURTNEY CRUM
CHURCH LIFE COORDINATOR: BETH PITTMAN**

4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 A.M.

JUNE 21, 2026

INTRODUCTION

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

PRELUDE

“How Firm a Foundation”

arr. Carter

Jean Pontious

You may stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

C **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“How Firm a Foundation”



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 What more can he say than to you he has said
 I’ll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.”

GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all.
- C **And is also with you.**



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



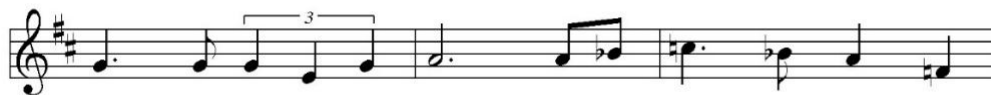
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



I
II For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther, A - men.



C Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ is with you always.

C And is also with you.

Please take a moment to share the peace

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

C **Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

You may be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD

The pericopes readings for this week are: Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 69

“Seek Ye First”

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you: seek and

Chords: D, F#m, G, D, G

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be

Chords: D, Em, A7, D, F#m

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Chords: G, D, G, D, Em, A, D

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You may stand.

VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 10th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 10: 24-39

[Jesus said to the twelve:] “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. “Whoever loves father or

mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

You may be seated.

MESSAGE
Pastor Joel Richter

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Beautiful Things”

by Gungor

Advent’s Praise & Worship Band

Offering is taken and the offering plates will be passed. You may put your donation in one of the pew envelopes and put in the offering plates, or use the “Online Donator” card, found in the pew rack. You can also support Advent’s Ministries by using this QR code:



You may stand.

C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
 sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
 Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
 Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

APOSTLES' CREED

A Christians, what do we believe?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence

A Life-giving God, we remember the martyrs and all who have given their lives while following you and living your costly grace. Strengthen your church to remain faithful in times of difficulty, and let your grace guide us in all we do. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground and every hair upon our heads. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and the habitats as they depend upon you. Empower us to be faithful stewards of your creation and to care for every living creature you have made. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings with faith and courage. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they may reflect your compassion, wisdom, and care. We also pray for all those for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Illuminating God, you teach us to live by abiding in your presence. Bless the youth, adults, volunteers, and leaders participating in Vacation Bible School this week. Reveal the love of Christ to them, and illuminate their hearts with your grace and truth. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Sovereign God, you call us to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Draw near to those who have experienced exclusion, prejudice, or rejection and have not felt the fullness of Christ's love. Make us witnesses of your welcome and instruments of your peace. Bring an end to oppression and discrimination in all their forms. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Sustaining God, you promise to provide for your people and care for every detail of our lives. Strengthen those living with disabilities. Comfort those who are ill, suffering, grieving, or burdened in any way. Surround them with your healing presence and steadfast love. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Listening God, you bring us to this moment of stillness to hear the prayers spoken aloud, the prayers held in silence, and the prayers for which words cannot be found. (*Pause for silent prayer.*) God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Faithful God, we give thanks for the saints who have gone before us and fulfilled their baptismal calling through lives of faith and service. Inspire us to follow their example as we live out our own baptismal promises. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Trusting that you receive all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, we commend them to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

A Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

You may be seated.

☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Believing in the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, this family of faith practices Eucharistic hospitality. All are welcome when they are worshipping us.

Holy Communion Instructions

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you.	The communicant may say: Amen
The blood of Christ, shed for you.	The communicant may say: Amen

This communion bread is free from: Gluten, Dairy, Nuts, Egg and Yeast.

Grape juice is available by request at the chancel rail.

Please place your empty communion cup in the baskets provided on the first row of chairs.

***If you would like to receive communion at your seat,
please let an usher know.***

You may stand.

POST COMMUNION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

PRAYER

A Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Be Still My Soul”



1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.
2 Be still, my soul: your God will un - der - take



Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
to guide the fu - ture, as in a - ges past.



leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide;
Your hope, your con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;



in ev - 'ry change God faith - ful will re - main.
all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.



Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'n - ly friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know



through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others, and Make Disciples.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

<u>Sun June 21, 2026</u>	10:00 am
ACOLYTE	Hadley Samuel
ORGANIST	Jean Pontious
ASSISTING MINISTER	Beth Pittman
PASTOR	The Rev. Joel Richter



The Altar Flowers are given in honor of the Clark, Reed, Smith, Williams family from Kristy and Rich Smith, and in thanks to God for all of the fathers, from the Witten family.

Please check the 2026 Altar Flower Chart located above the usher stand to order flowers in honor of someone special or celebrating special occasions. Price is \$25.00 per vase.

This Week at Advent

Mon June 22	Vacation Bible School	9:00-11:30am
Tue June 23	Vacation Bible School	9:00-11:30am
	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
Wed June 24	Vacation Bible School	9:00-11:30am
	Worship at The Estates	2:00pm
Thur June 25	Vacation Bible School	9:00-11:30am
Fri June 26	Vacation Bible School	9:00-11:30am

Looking Ahead:

June 28	Jean Pontious' retirement celebration	11:00am
July 12	International Potluck	11:00am

Upcoming Commemorations

Sun June 21, 2026: Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.

Wed June 24, 2026: John the Baptist

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.

Thu June 25, 2026: Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530

On this day in 1530 the German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession were presented to the Emperor Charles of the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession was written by Philipp Melanchthon and endorsed by Martin Luther, and consists of a brief summary of points in which the reformers saw their teaching as either agreeing with or differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church of the time.

Philipp Melanchthon, renewer of the church, died 1560

Though he died on April 19, Philipp Melanchthon is commemorated today because of his connection with the Augsburg Confession. Colleague and co-reformer with Martin Luther, Melanchthon was a brilliant scholar, known as "the teacher of Germany."

Sat June 27, 2026: Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, died 444

Cyril defended the orthodox teachings about the person of Christ. After a conflict involving all of the major Christian leaders of the time, it was decided that Cyril's interpretation, that Christ's person included both divine and human natures, was correct.

“Paraments and Stole for Ordinary Time” (Green Paraments)

by Melissa Richeson-O’Neil, Artist

The words “Ordinary Time” are used to describe the weeks between church seasons – the weeks that fall between Christmastime and Easter and the weeks between Pentecost and Advent. The phrasing comes from the word “ordinal” meaning “counted” because we count these weeks to track the progression of the church year and the readings from the lectionary.

Keep in mind, however, that this time is anything but “ordinary!” Advent’s paraments for these weeks are full of energy. From the root at the base of the altar parament, four swirling masses spring forth, representing the four commitments of the people at Advent – to worship God, follow Jesus, serve others, and make disciples. The root itself mirrors the rose window above the altar which includes the stump of Jesse from which “A shoot shall come out...” (Isaiah 11:1). Flowing beneath and up the sides of the altar piece are streams of water in purples and blues – the cleansing waters of God’s love which supported and nourished Jesse and his descendants also nourish us through baptism.

The lower angles of both the altar and pulpit pieces reach upward from the center, depicting us as we outstretch our arms in praise to God. Open areas in the hangings allow sight of the shape and substance of the altar and pulpit, reminding us of the strength and love we receive from God as we share both Word and Eucharist.