A Warm Welcome to Advent Lutheran Church on this

25th Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. November 15, 2026



Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Advent Lutheran Church
3660 Kenny Rd, Columbus, OH 43220
Pastor Joel Richter
Website: **Adventelc.org**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ***Let There Be Peace on Earth***
by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, arr. Craig Courtney
Eliza Van Kan, piano

You may stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

C we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Christ, Be Our Light* *ELW 715, vs. 1,2, & 5*

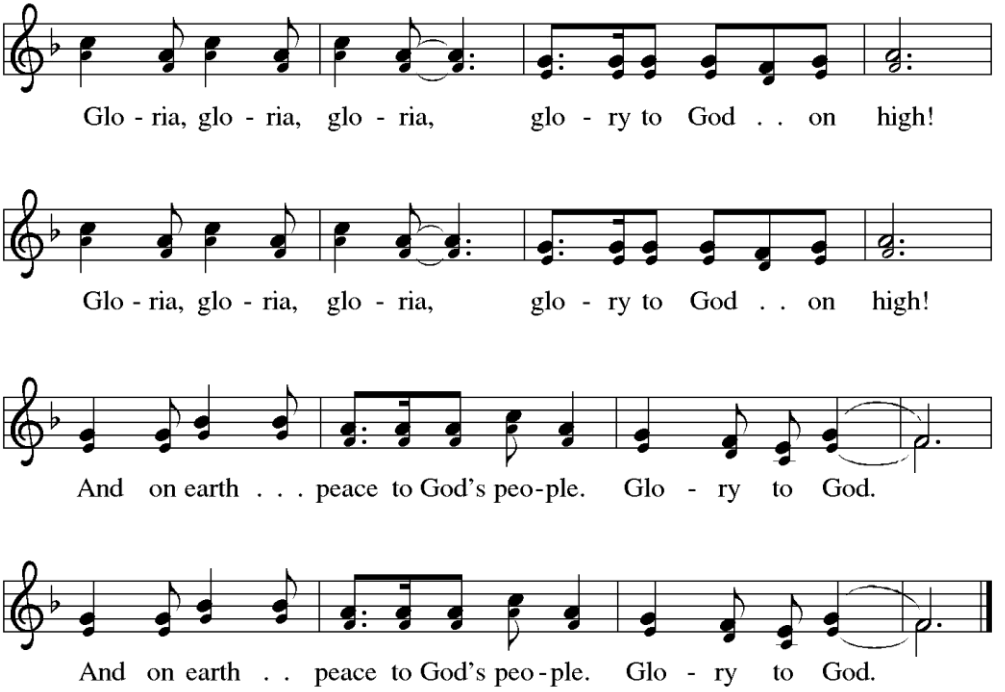


GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



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 Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

You may be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD

The pericopes readings for this week are: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8[9-11]12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand!
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.
14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM ***We Praise You, O God*** *ELW 870, vs. 1 & 2*



SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

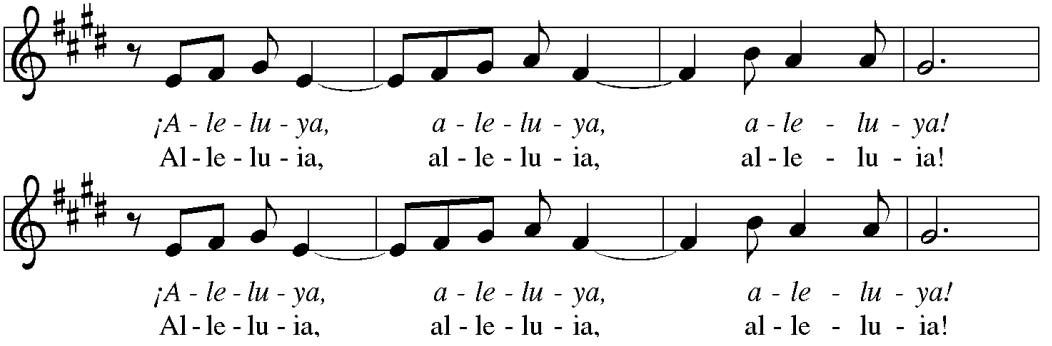
[1] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to
have anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well that the day of the
Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] When they say, "There is peace and security,"
then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant
woman, and there will be no escape! [4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in
darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; [5] for you are all children of light and
children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6] So, then, let us not fall
asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep sleep at
night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let
us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of
salvation. [9] For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through
our Lord Jesus Christ, [10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we
may live with him. [11] Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as
indeed you are doing.

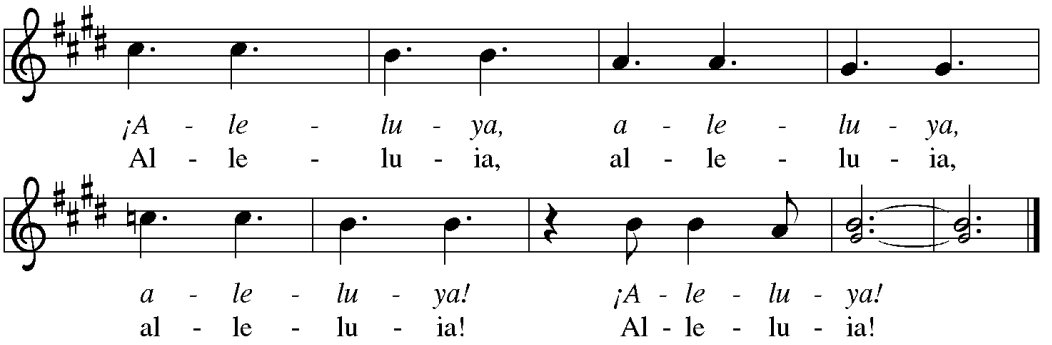
After the reading:
A The Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You may stand.

VERSE





P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with

the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

8:30 ***Abide With Me***

William H. Monk, arr. Sean Paul

Eliza Van Kan, piano

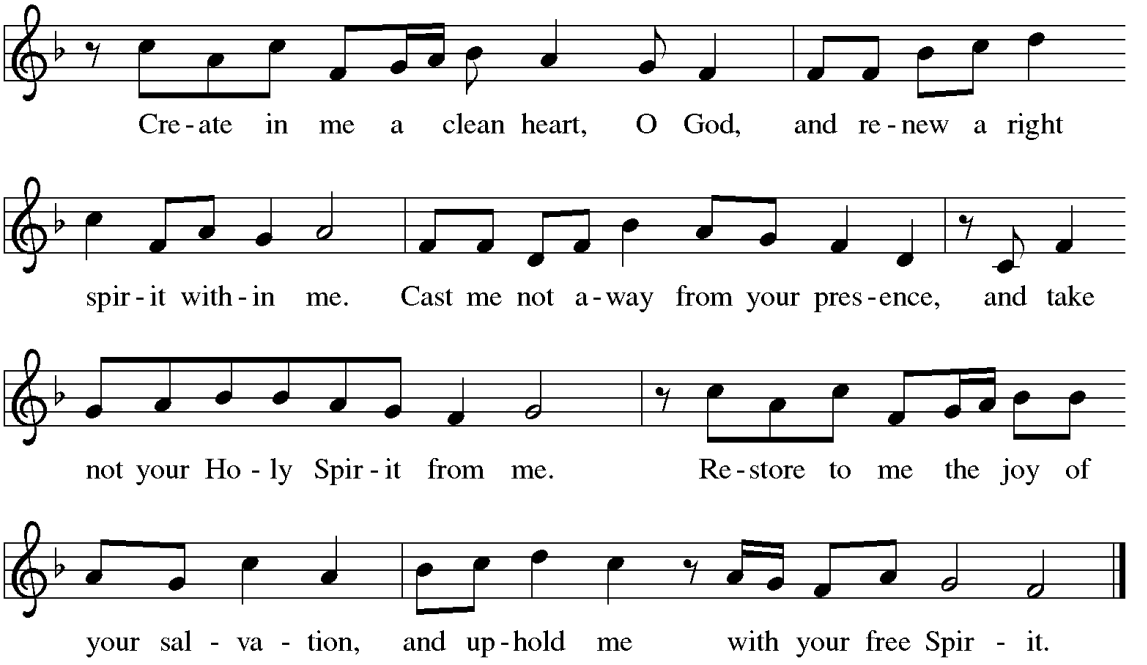
11:00AM ***Hold Us Together***

Matt Maher and Steve Wilson

Advent 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.



OFFERING PRAYER

P Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

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 United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

A God of all generations, you gather the church as a community of faithful witnesses. Breathe new life into our worship, our outreach, and our service, so the hope of your good news shines through us. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Creator God, as the nights grow longer, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals and show us how to care gently for vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of justice and peace, rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Stir the hearts of leaders near and far and help our communities turn systems that divide into ones that welcome and unite. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Merciful God, in your embrace we find refuge from every trial. Hold families who are separated or estranged. Walk with those undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and comfort all who are ill or despairing especially Amy, Brenda, Jerry, Jen, Jean, and those we name on our lips and in our hearts (*pause for prayers*). God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Generous God, bless those who serve in leadership among us—council members, committees, volunteers, and property teams. Encourage healthy stewardship of our time, talents, and resources for the sake of the gospel. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Eternal God, the faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

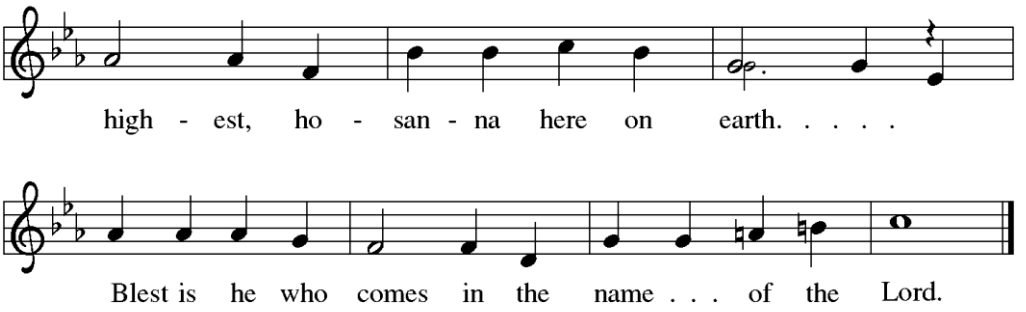
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P 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.

THE 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 In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

You may be seated.



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 Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.

C Amen.

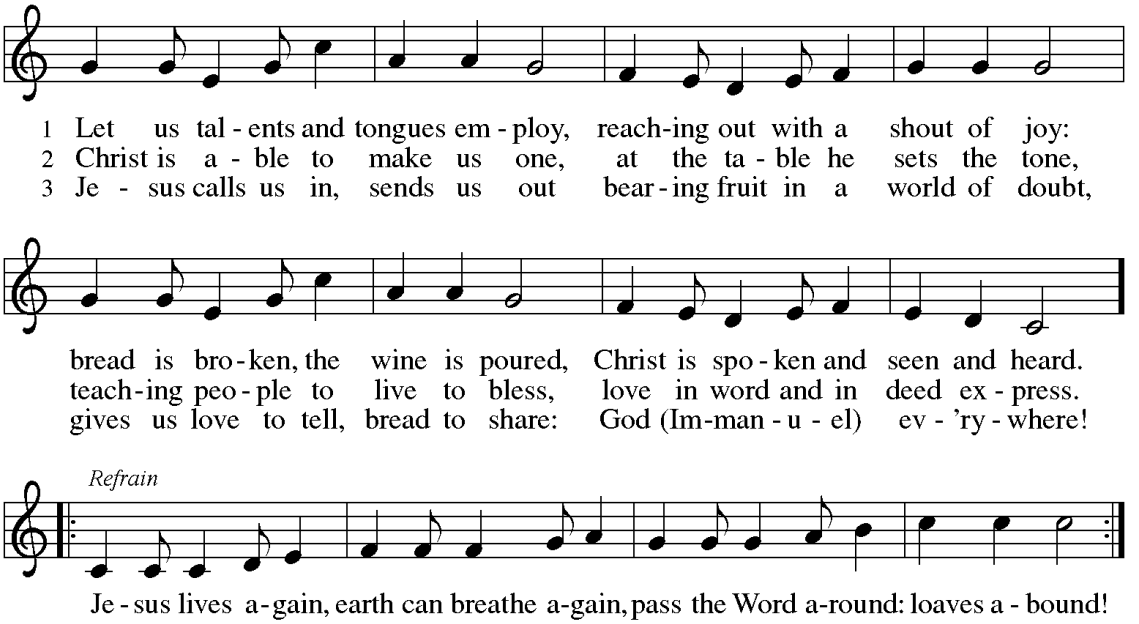
WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

P The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN ***Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*** *ELW 674*



Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
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DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

	8:30 am	**11:00 am**
Acolyte		Prescott Eiselstein
Assisting Minister	Madison Heinze	Tyler Witten
Pianist/Organist	Eliza Van Kan	
Pastor	The Rev. Joel Richter	

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God, from Kristy Smith, "celebrating my beloved husband, Rich Smith, on his 80th birthday", and in memory of Heather's dad, Tarry Nehls, 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. Open date is December 27. Price is $25.00 per vase.

This Week at Advent

Sun Nov 15	Worship Service	8:30am
	Sunday School/Adult Learning	9:45-10:45am
	Worship Service (livestreamed)	11:00am
	Baked Goods with Pastor	12:30pm
Mon Nov 16	Men's SALT Bible Study	2:30pm
	Church Council meeting	6:30pm
Tue Nov 17	Isabel's Quilters *(offsite)*	9:00am
	Advent serves @*Faith Mission*	4:30pm
	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
Wed Nov 18	Women's Bible Study	10:00am
	Worship @*The Estates*	2:00pm
	Y^2 group meets	6:30pm
Thur Nov 19	Church Staff meeting	5:00pm
	Bell Choir rehearsal	6:30pm
	Advent Choir rehearsal	7:30pm

Looking Ahead:

Tue Nov 24	Bell Choir rehearsal	6:00pm
	Thanksgiving worship service	7:00pm
Sun Dec 6	First Sunday Fellowship	in between services
	Live Nativity!	**5:00pm - 7:00pm**
Thu Dec 24	Family Christmas Eve Worship Service	4:30pm
	Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service	7:00pm
Sun Dec 27	One Worship Service – Lessons & Carols	10:00am

Upcoming Commemorations:

Tue Nov 17, 2026: **Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231**

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four

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ADVENT'S STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

THE NATIVITY WINDOWS – CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY

Two nativity lancet windows are in the western walls below and to either side of the Advent Isaiah window. Each is 6 feet tall and 12 inches wide.

Left – This window depicts the Star of Bethlehem over a representation of the village of Bethlehem nestled in the Judean hills. Upon close inspection, the infant Jesus can be seen lying in a manger.

Right – This window features the Star of Bethlehem over three crowns representing the three Wisemen or Magi. Among the crowns are two shepherd staffs calling to mind the shepherds who received the good news of Christ's birth while keeping watch over their flocks at night.

The two windows with the rose window transform the western wall of our Nave into a visually beautiful and dramatic proclamation of the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons.

STAFF:

Pastor: **Joel Richter,** 937-527-1794, pastor@adventelc.org

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Organist/Pianist:

Digital Content Manager: **Courtney Pittman,** 614-451-3639, courtneypittman3@gmail.com

Nursery: **Courtney Crum**

Church Life Coordinator: **Beth Pittman,** 614-451-3639, office@adventelc.org