

A Warm Welcome to Advent Lutheran Church on this

15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

September 6, 2026



Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Casey Cook

You may stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,

C **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

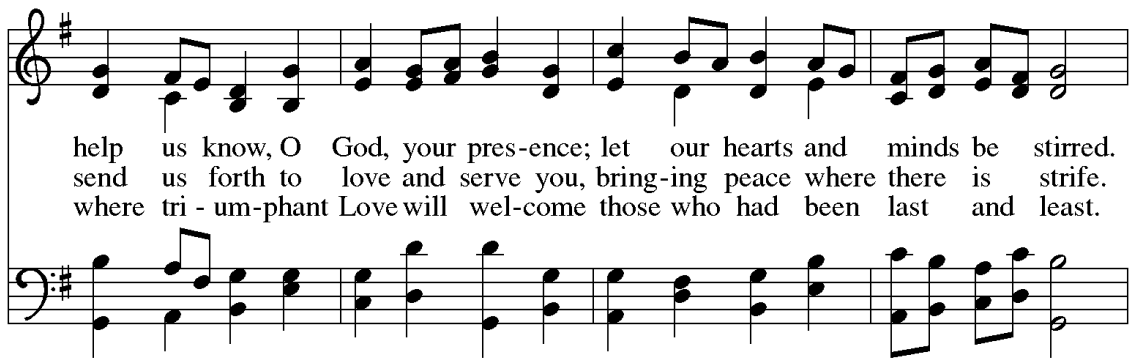
C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

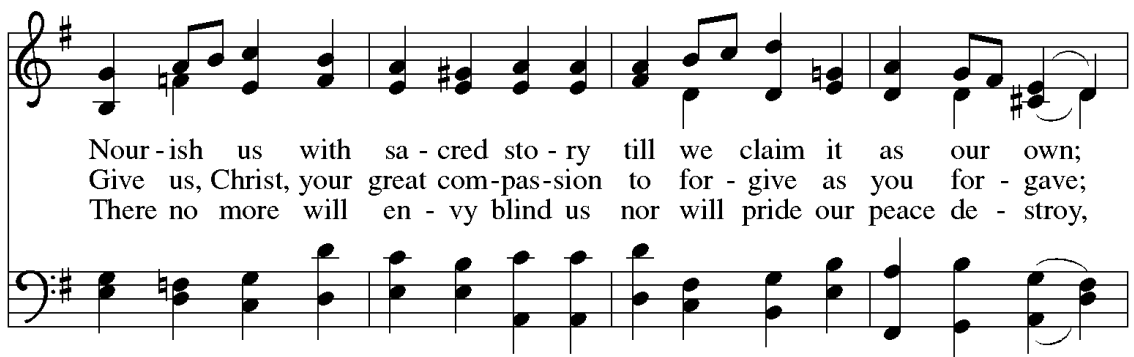
As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

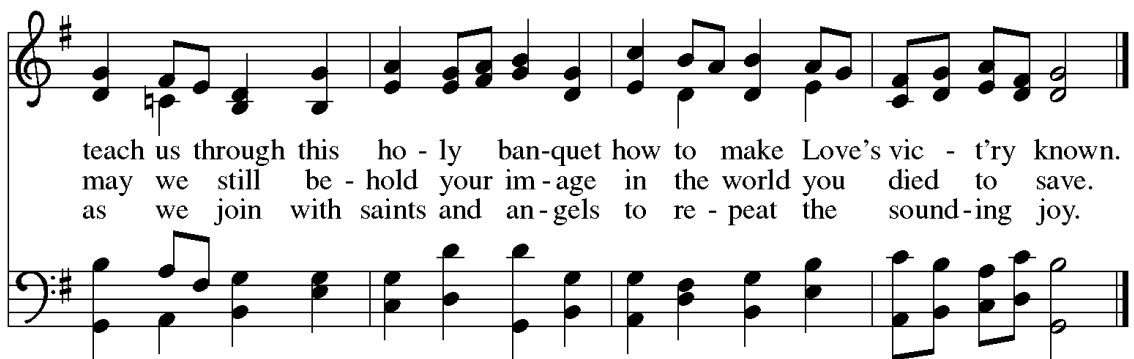
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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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



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

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 **O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

You may be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD

The pericopes readings for this week are: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119

Earth and All Stars

ELW 731, vs. 1 & 5



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
5 Classrooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to

wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You may stand.

VERSE

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Coming Home

Kirkpatrick/Paul

Advent Choir

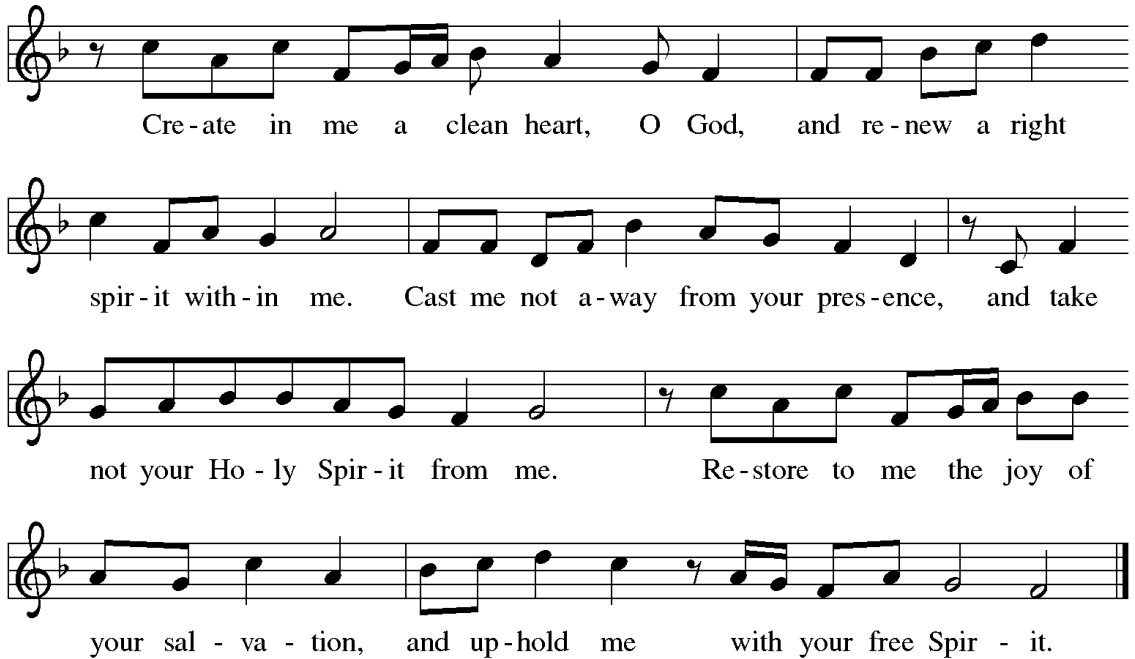
Offering is taken and the offering plates will be passed. You may put your donation in one of the pew envelopes and put in the offering plates, or use the “Online Donator” card, found in the pew rack. You can also support Advent’s Ministries by using this QR code:



You may stand.

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence

A Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us and carry those words into action. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us,

especially for those we now name out loud or in our hearts. *(Pause for prayers.)*
Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known through our imperfections. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

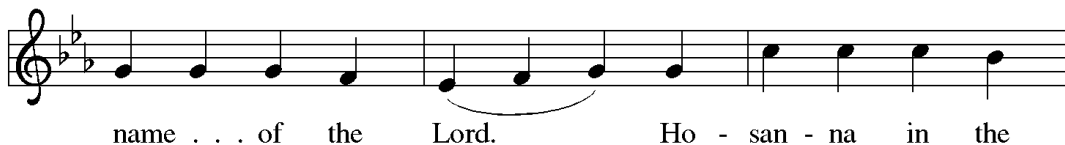
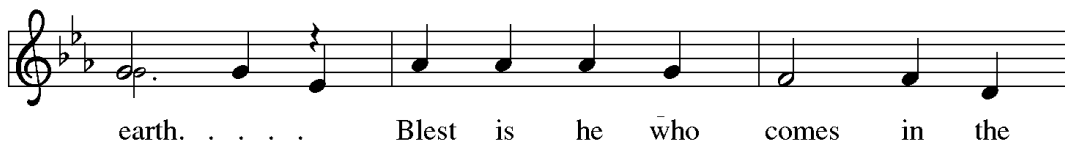
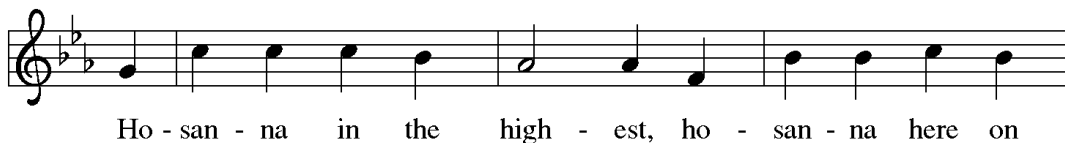
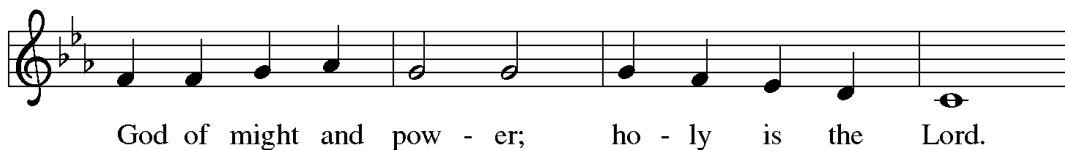
C We lift them to the Lord.

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 Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

You may be seated.

O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.

O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

grant us your peace, grant us your 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 Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Go My Children, With My Blessing ELW 543, vs. 1 & 3



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com-fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh; arr. R. Vaughan Williams

Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda

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DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Worship God, Follow Jesus, Serve Others, and Make Disciples.
C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Sun Aug 30, 2026	10:00 am
ACOLYTE	Prescott Eiselstein
ORGANIST	Casey Cook
ASSISTING MINISTER	Craig Forsyth
PASTOR	The Rev. Joel Richter

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*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of
our 48th wedding anniversary, from Bob and Dee Swinehart.*

*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 dates are September 13, &
20. Price is \$25.00 per vase.*

This Week at Advent

Sun Sept 6	Baked Goods and Punch with Pastor	11:15am
Mon Sept 7	Office Closed – Labor Day	
	NO Men’s SALT Bible Study today	
Tue Sept 8	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
Wed Sept 9	Church Staff Planning Meeting	10:30am
	Worship @ <i>The Estates</i>	2:00 pm
Thur Sept 10	NO Advent Choir rehearsal tonight	
Sat Sept 12	Building Use – Barbershop Harmony Society	8:00am – 5:00pm
	Bed Brigade Delivery	9:00am

Looking Ahead:

Sept 13	Old Time Gospel Service	10:00 a.m.
Sept 20	Rally Day – we go back to two services	8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
	Church Picnic @ <i>Thompson Park South Shelter</i>	12:00 p.m.
Oct 4	Blessing of the Quilts	8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
	Blessing of the Animals	4:00 p.m.
Oct 11	Holy Hikes! (<i>Park of Roses</i>)	12:30 p.m.

Upcoming Commemorations

Wed Sept 9, 2026: **Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654**

Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.

“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.

STAFF

Pastor: **Joel Richter**

Director of Music, Youth & Family
Ministries: **Marcy Layne**

Organist/Pianist:

Digital Content Manager: **Courtney
Pittman**

Nursery: **Courtney Crum**

Church Life Coordinator: **Beth Pittman**

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