

**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ON THIS 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 5, 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 (PASTOR@ADVENTELC.ORG)  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES: MARCY LAYNE  
ORGANIST/PIANIST: NATE KRNAC  
DIGITAL CONTENT MANAGER: COURTNEY PITTMAN  
NURSERY: COURTNEY CRUM  
CHURCH LIFE COORDINATOR: BETH PITTMAN**

## 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 A.M.

JULY 5, 2026

### INTRODUCTION

*The mystery of God’s ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God’s mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ’s invitation: “Come to me, all you that are weary.” Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.*

### PRELUDE

“The Summons”

by John L. Bell

Nate Krnac

*You may stand.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

C **Amen.**

P Let us bring every burden to God.

God of all mercy,

C **we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of ✚ Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit’s power strengthen you in doing what is good.

C **Amen.**

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav-y - lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?  
 Do your friends de-spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

## 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;



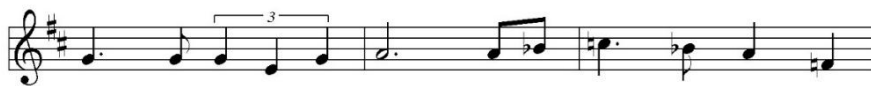
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ 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 **You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

## WE HEAR THE WORD

*The pericopes readings for this week are: Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

### **READING: Zechariah 9:9-12**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

*After the reading:*

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 145

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

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 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*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**

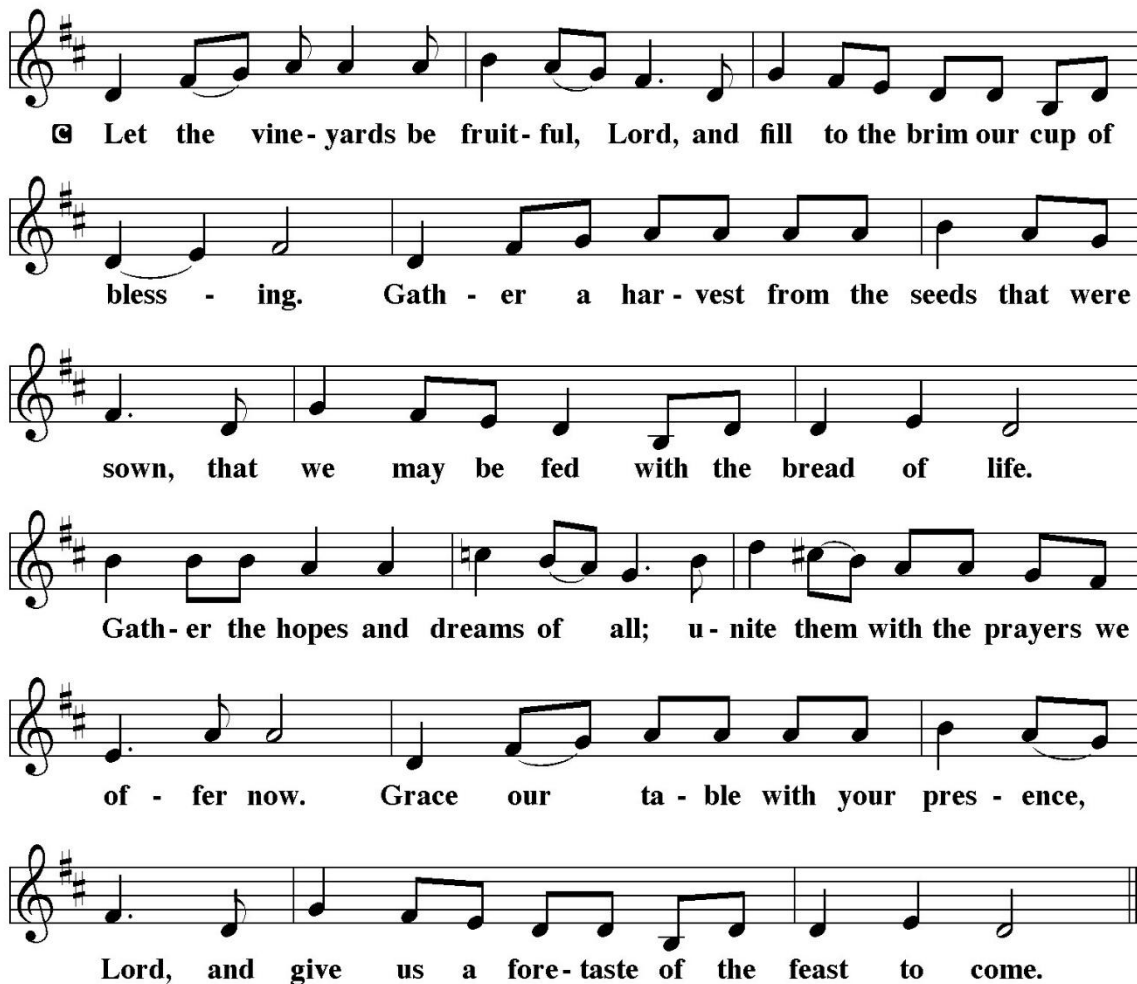
“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” arr. Martha Mier

**Charlie Pforsich, piano**

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.



**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 Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence*

A Gathering God, send your Spirit on the church you have called out from every nation. Knit us together into one body and heal the divisions we have caused. Overcome our timidity to witness and act in the public square when your purpose is being thwarted. Bless rostered and lay leaders with clarity and courage as they center your people in the gospel. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A All your works praise you, O God. From the Arctic to the Caribbean, from the Atlantic to the western islands, these lands and waters have sustained its peoples over many centuries. As we take our part in creation's praise, revive our wonder at what you have fashioned, and enliven our will to ensure its health for future generations. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. We come from many nations with many languages; make us a united people that delights in our many different gifts. As the United States of America marks its declaration of independence, give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, and curb every abuse of that trust, so that both here and abroad, justice, humility, and peace may flourish. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A You are the Mother of exiles, O God. Extend your arms to all who are tired, who live with poverty, the tempest-tossed, all who yearn to breathe free. Embrace people seeking refuge; those incarcerated, detained, or disappeared; and neighbors fearing those they once trusted. Give healing and hope to people in any oppression and need, especially these we name before you now (*a brief silence*). God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A We remember before you those who have died in every generation: Jan Hus, executed for protesting the ecclesial system; Benedict, teacher of a prayerful life; and those who have died ensuring the freedoms of this country: people in the armed services, peace officers, advocates, and activists. Any of those that we may personally know that we name outloud. Gather us, together with those who have gone before us, and with saints of every tribe and nation, into the holy city you have prepared. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

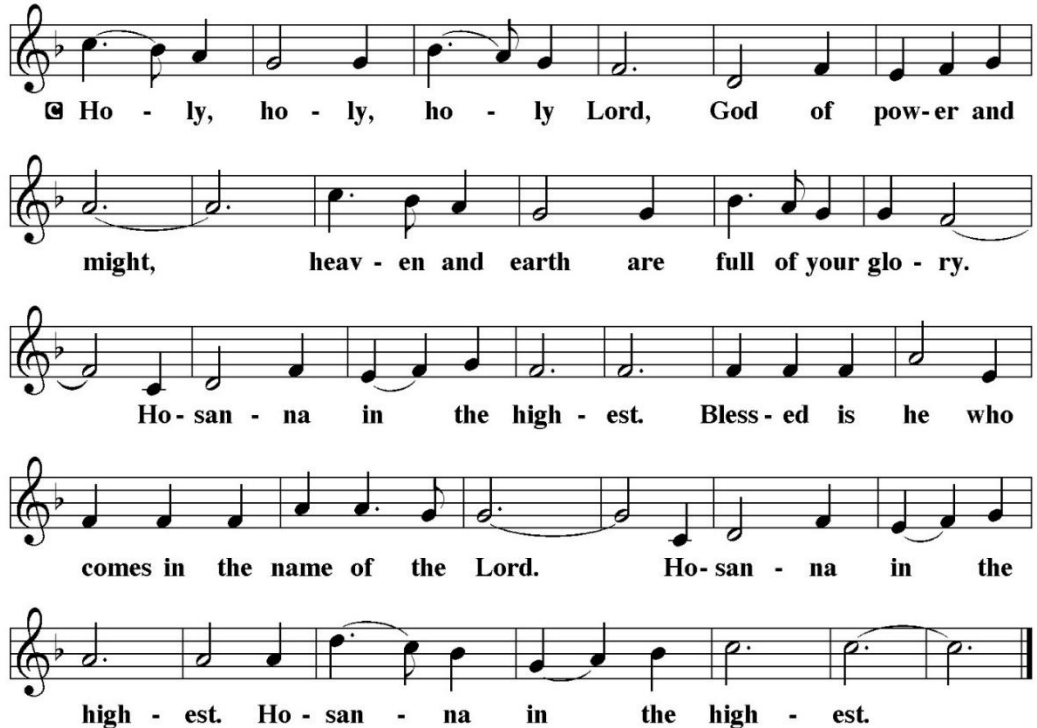
**C And also with you.**

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 our 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 Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven: Taste and know that God is good to all.

*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** We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### **WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE**

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, ✝ one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day.

**C** **Amen.**



*Refrain* Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;  
 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;  
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.  
 I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*  
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*



## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

<b><u>Sun July 5, 2026</u></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Sam Witten
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Nate Krnac
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Jennifer Parker
<b>PASTOR</b>	The Rev. Joel Richter



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and to celebrate their son's and granddaughter's birthdays and the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the USA, 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. Price is \$25.00 per vase.*

### **This Week at Advent**

<b>Mon July 6</b>	Men's SALT Bible Study	2:30pm
<b>Tue July 7</b>	Isabel's Quilters	9:00am
	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
<b>Wed July 8</b>	Worship at The Estates	2:00pm
<b>Sat July 11</b>	Bed Brigade Delivery	9:00am

### **Looking Ahead:**

July 12                      International Potluck    11:00am

## Upcoming Commemorations

*Mon July 6, 2026: Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415*

Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church, and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement. He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.

*Sat July 11, 2026: Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540*

Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.

### **“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.