

**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON THIS SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 4, 2026**

**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
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DIGITAL CONTENT MANAGER: COURTNEY PITTMAN

NURSERY: COURTNEY CRUM

STAFF & CONGREGATION SUPPORT: BETH PITTMAN

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: BRENT WELCH

2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

10:00 A.M.

JANUARY 4, 2026

INTRODUCTION

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

PRELUDE

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

arr. Stevens

Jean Pontious

You may remain seated or stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

C **we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

P God's grace upon grace flows over you. ✙ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Angels from the Realms”

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain


Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a main body of music and a refrain. The main body has three systems of staves. The first system contains the first three lines of the lyrics. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the final line of the main body. The refrain is marked with a bracket and the word 'Refrain' above it. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system of the refrain contains the lyrics 'Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.' The second system of the refrain contains the final line of the refrain. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and single notes.

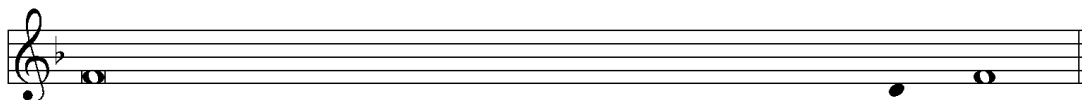
GREETING

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.



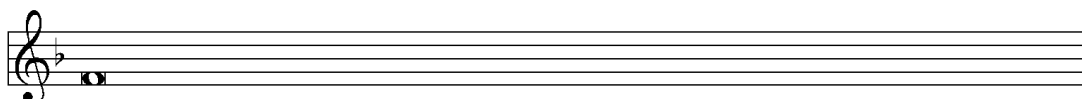
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



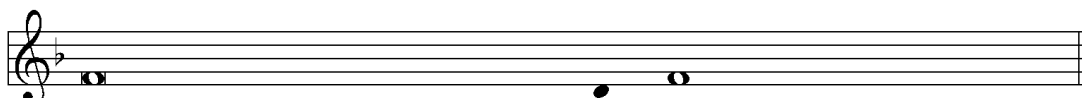
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



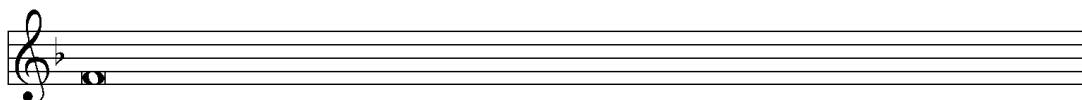
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,




and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



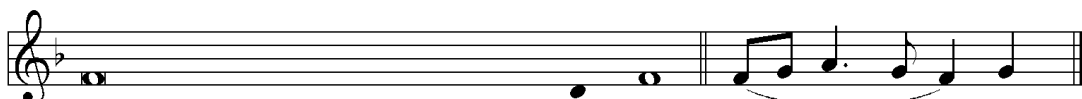
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE



▲ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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.



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.



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

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 **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Sit

WE HEAR THE WORD

The pericopes readings for this week are: Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20, Ephesians 1: 3-14, John 1:1-18

READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147

“Immortal, Invisible”

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, and God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You may remain seated or stand.

ALLELUIA VERSE



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

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’

Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN

SPECIAL MUSIC

”SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS”

by Patterson

THE ESTATES @ KNIGHTSBRIDGE 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 remain seated or 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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, 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 Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

- A God of grace, you show us mercy not according to our worthiness, but according to the abundance of your steadfast love. Grant us the courage to go into the world and do likewise. Guide and grant wisdom to our Bishop Suzanne and national Bishop Rev. Yehiel Curry. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A God of abundance, the sun and moon praise you and the shining stars sing of your love. Where we have desecrated your creation, make us into a healing balm for what we have broken. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A God of righteousness, when leaders fail to fulfill their calls to enact justice, you suffer alongside us. Propel those in power to see you reflected in the faces of all they serve. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A God of life, you claim us as your own and care for us as Christ's siblings. Pour out your compassion in every place your people suffer, and protect them in the palm of your hand. We take a moment now to pray for those in need of healing; family members, friends, co-workers, casual acquaintances and those we know by name, either out loud, or silently in our hearts (**pause**). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of compassion, you nurture children as the apple of your eye. As you sheltered your son Jesus from Herod's grasp, shelter all children in danger. As you comforted Rachel, comfort all who have lost children to violence. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of peace, lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. Remake implements of war to sow peace. We lift up Tanzania, Sudan, Ukraine, Gaza bless them with peace and safety. Guide the leaders of Israel and Russia in the way of peace, quell their violent ways. Be with all who are living in the valley of death. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of today and tomorrows, grant us and our call committee wisdom, patience, freedom from anxiety, and reassurance as we await your Spirits voice and revelation concerning a new leader who will walk with us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of love, you console those who weep for lost beloved ones. Even as we mourn, we offer thanks for those who have gone before us, trusting in your comfort and protection. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

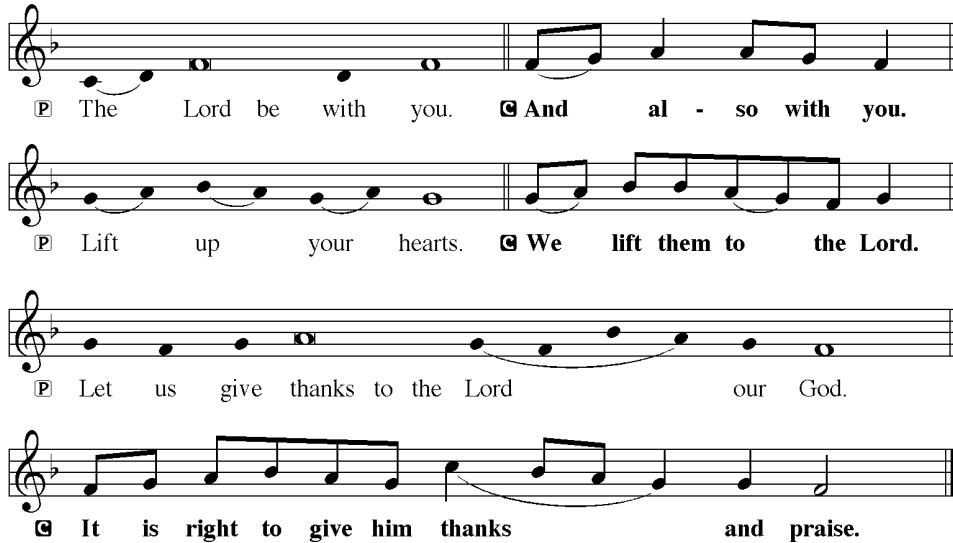
A With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

A Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



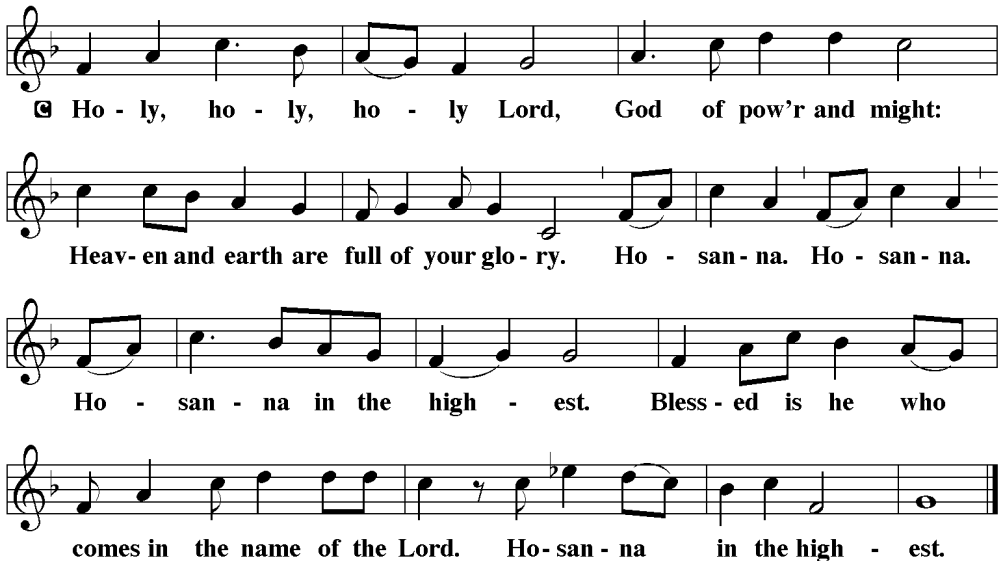
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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, our duty and our joy.... 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:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

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.

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.

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 God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

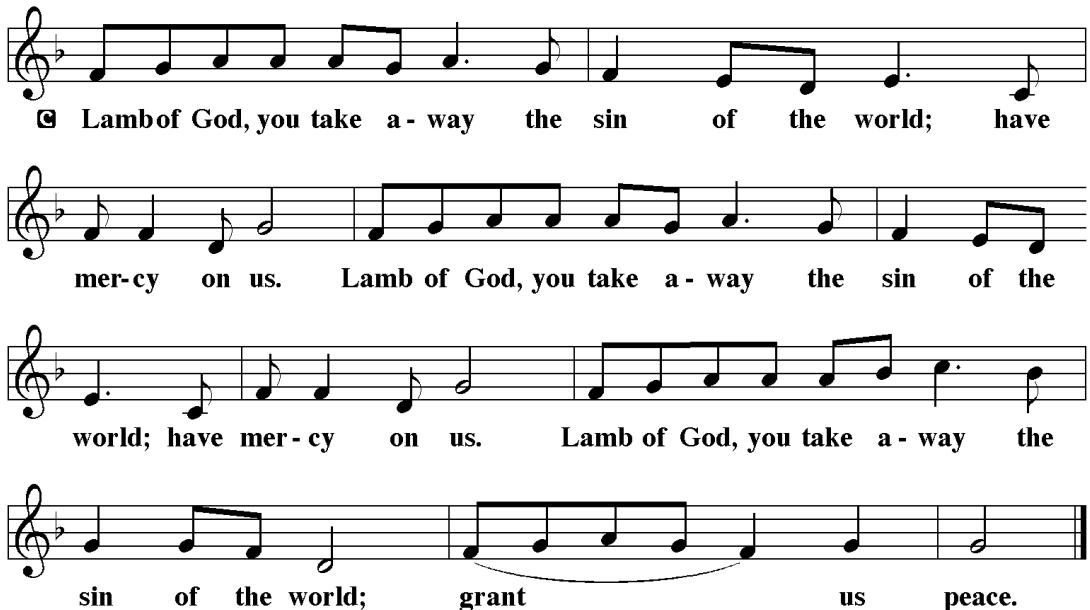
DISTRIBUTION

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.***



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "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 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace." The word "grant" is underlined in the original image.

☐ 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.

POST COMMUNION

P And now may the body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and His most holy and precious blood, strengthen you and preserve you and keep you to true faith unto life everlasting. May we depart in peace and may the Lord be with you.

C Amen

PRAYER

A Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

“Peace I Leave With You”

The Estates @ Knightsbridge Choir

SENDING HYMN

"The Bells of Christmas"

1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly

guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a

dwel - lings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.
 man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

	10:00 AM
ACOLYTE	ANNIE WELCH
ASSISTING MINISTER	ALYSHA CLOUS
PASTOR	INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God

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

Sun Jan 4	Reception for The Estates choir	11:15am
Mon Jan 5	Men’s SALT Bible Study group	2:30pm
	Building Use	5:30pm
Tue Jan 6	Isabel’s Quilters	9:00am
	Epiphany Worship service (in person and online)	7:00pm
Wed Jan 7	Women’s Bible Study group	1:00pm
	Worship at The Estates	2:00pm
	Y2 group meeting	6:30pm
	Wednesday Night Zoom Worship	7:00pm
Thur Jan 8	Adult Choir rehearsal	7:30pm
Sat Jan 10	Bed Brigade delivery	9:00am

Looking Ahead:

Sun Dec 28, 2025	One Service – Hymn Sing	10:00 am
Jan 4, 2026	One Service – choir from The Estates	10:00 am
	Reception/Lunch for The Estates choir	11:15 am
Jan 6, 2026	Epiphany Worship Service	7:00 pm
Fri Feb 13-Sat Feb 14, 2026	Fun in Faith Retreat, Grades 2-5	Hopewood Pines
Wed Feb 18, 2026	Ash Wednesday service	7:00 pm
Weds in Lent	Soup Suppers & Worship Service	6:30pm/7:15pm
Thur April 2, 2026	Maundy Thursday Worship Services	12Noon & 7:00pm
Fri April 3, 2026	Good Friday Worship Services	12Noon & 7:00pm
Sun April 5, 2026	Easter Sunday! Worship	8:30 am & 11:00 am
Sun May 3, 2026	Advent's 60 th Anniversary Celebration!	

Commemorations This Week:

Fri Jan 9: Adrian of Canterbury, teacher, died around 710

African by birth, Adrian (or Hadrian) worked with Theodore, archbishop of Canterbury, in developing the church in England. He was director of a school at which church leaders were trained.