

A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
On the 25th Anniversary of the Dedication of this Sanctuary
All readings and hymns today are those that were read 25 years ago

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:30AM & 11:00AM

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

INTRODUCTION

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

PRELUDE

"All Hail the Power"

arr. Raney

JEAN PONTIOUS

Stand or remain seated

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful and loving God,
C **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Lift High the Cross"

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Built on a Rock”

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not

fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly

chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -

souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.

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 God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

WE HEAR THE WORD

READING: 1 Kings 8:22-30

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven and said:

“Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today.

“Now Lord, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, ‘You shall never fail to have a successor to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants are careful in all they do to walk before me faithfully as you have done.’ And now, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.

“But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, ‘My Name shall be there,’ so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84

“I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR”

1 I need thee ev - 'ry hour, most gra - cious Lord;
5 I need thee ev - 'ry hour, most Ho - ly One,
no ten - der voice like thine can peace af - ford.
oh, make me thine in - deed, thou bless - ed Son.

Refrain

I need thee, oh, I need thee, ev - 'ry hour I need thee;
oh, bless me now, my Sav - ior, I come to thee.

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G minor (three flats). It consists of six systems of staves. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system is the refrain, marked with a bracket and the word 'Refrain'. The fourth system contains the final two lines of the hymn. The music features a mix of eighth, quarter, and half notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1 and 5 corresponding to the first and fifth lines of the hymn.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Listen, God Is Calling



Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,



of - fer - ing for - give-ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.



- 1 Je - sus gave his man-date: share the good news
- 2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
- 3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,



that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk-ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC

8:30AM **"CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER"** **ARR. RANEY** **JEAN PONTIOUS**

11:00AM **"WITH A VOICE OF SINGING"** **SHAW** **ADULT CHOIR**

TO SUPPORT ADVENT'S MINISTRIES, POINT CAMERA HERE



God has given Advent congregation a multitude of gifts. Gifts that include music, hospitality, leadership, and especially time to volunteer, giving our talents for use by the Spirit. In your passionate love, and infinite wisdom, take the gifts we share today and multiply them with the gifts from Lutheran congregations around the world to serve those of your children that long for your care. Your congregation council, the Call Committee, the Administration Committee, the Worship and Witness committee thank you for your financial support.

OFFERTORY



☞ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - 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.

A Let us pray.

C Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us as individuals and as your little flock, Advent, for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. Send your Spirit to guide our Bishop Suzanne. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us as individuals and as your little flock, Advent, for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. Send your Spirit to guide our Bishop Suzanne. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. Be the voice of reason among world leaders and proclaim peace for all those areas of our world that live with hate and violence. We lift up Ukraine, Gaza, as well as Israel and Russia as they seek to destroy. Be with all who are living in the valley of death. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain. Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. We pray aloud and silently for those in need of healing; family members, friends, co-workers, casual acquaintances and those we know by name only (leave a time of silence for people to name those for whom they pray). God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Merciful God, we are thankful for those who made it possible for us to worship in this sanctuary, where we gather each Sunday. For the insight and open commitment of the congregation 25 years ago that we still affirm today. Their trust in the Holy Spirit that is still born out in wood, stained glass, and mortar may it serve as a reminder to us that we need to trust as they did. Bless our congregation, council and call committee with patience, wisdom, and freedom from urgency as the Spirit leads us into relationship with our next called pastor. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

- A We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
- C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord is with you
- C **And is 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 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

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.

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.

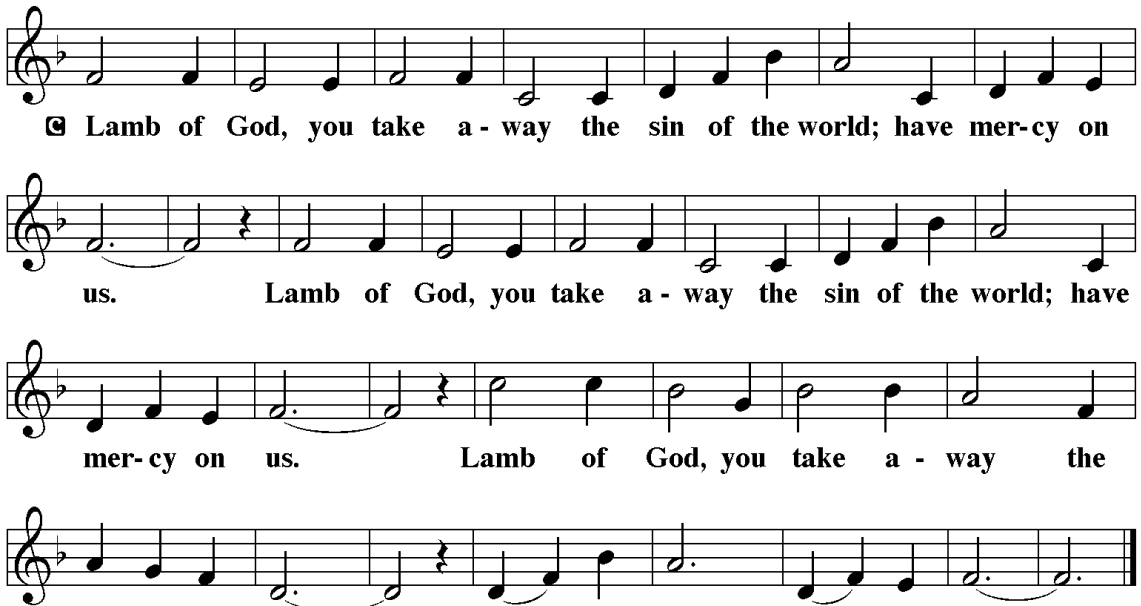
After receiving the elements, you may return to your seats.

*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.***

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.



☞ 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.

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

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion. vet one o'er all the earth.
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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		MATTHIAS BUNCH
ASSISTING MINISTER	BETH PITTMAN	ANNA LAYNE
PASTOR	INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN	

The Altar Flowers are given in memory of Fritz Reed, on what would have been he and Jane’s 34th wedding anniversary; and in memory of Robert & Betty Goldie, from Bob and Bev Goldie.



Please check the 2025 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. Available dates coming up are September 21 and October 12, 19 & 26.