



**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON THIS SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 17, 2026**

**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
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**PRESIDING TODAY: THE REV. KATHY HAU EISEN
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: JEAN PONTIOUS
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES: MARCY LAYNE
DIGITAL CONTENT MANAGER: COURTNEY PITTMAN
NURSERY: COURTNEY CRUM
STAFF & CONGREGATION SUPPORT: BETH PITTMAN
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: BRENT WELCH**

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:00 A.M.

MAY 17, 2026

INTRODUCTION

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

PRELUDE

“Day by Day”

arr. Porter

Jean Pontious

You may remain seated or stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“I Come With Joy”



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

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 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



B Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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 of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

READING: Acts 1:6-14

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 68

“Day by Day”

1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing

The first line of music features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line is a simple accompaniment of chords and single notes.

com - fort to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you

The second line continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble clef.

send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.

The third line continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble clef.

Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to

The fourth line concludes the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble clef.

naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I

treasure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You may remain seated or stand.

VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 17th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE
PASTOR KATHY HAUEISEN

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Raise Up” Anderson/Semler
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 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 dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. 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 Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence

A O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops, including our Bishop Suzanne and national Bishop Curry, to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. We lift up especially Ukraine, Israel, Iran, Gaza, Tanzania, China, North Korea, United States, and Russia - may they all learn the ways of peace. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

A Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick. We pray especially for family members, friends, co-workers, casual acquaintances and those we know only by name, either out loud, or silently in our hearts (*pause*). Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

- A Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and new living arrangements, especially Pastor Joel Richter, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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 Him 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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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 Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.



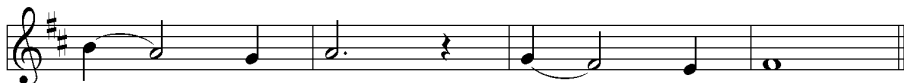
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

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.***

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 One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

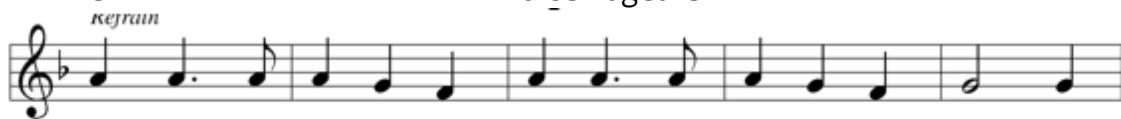
BENEDICTION

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✝ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Bind Us Together”



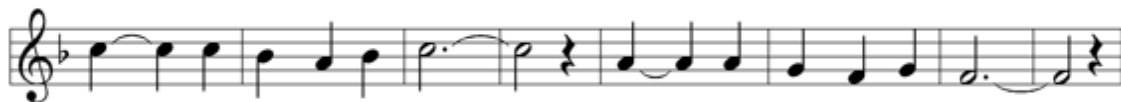
Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that



can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,



bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.



1 There is on - ly one God.

There is on - ly one King.

2 You are the fam - 'ly of God.

You are the prom - ise di - vine.



There is on - ly one Bod - y;
You are God's cho - sen de - sire, . .

that is why we can sing.
you are the glo - rious new wine.

Refrain

DISMISSAL

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

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

<u>Sun May 17, 2026</u>	10:00 am
ACOLYTE	PRESCOTT EISELSTEIN
ORGANIST	JEAN PONTIOUS
ASSISTING MINISTER	MADISON SCHROER
PASTOR	THE REV. KATHY HAUEISEN



The Altar Flowers are given in celebration of Matt & Beth Pittman’s 29th wedding anniversary, and in memory of Charles Marks, from Jean Pontious.

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 May 17	Confirmation/Youth Picnic @Fancyburg Park	11:30am
Mon May 18	Men's SALT Bible Group	2:30pm
	Church Council meeting	6:00pm
Tue May 19	Isabel's Quilters	9:00am
	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
Wed May 20	Women's Bible Study	1:00pm
	Worship at The Estates	2:00pm
Thur May 21	Advent Choir rehearsal	7:30pm

Looking Ahead:

Sun May 24	Pastor Joel Richter's First Sunday at Advent	10:00am
Sun June 7	Pastor Joel Richter's Installation	10:00am
June 22-26	Advent's Vacation Bible School	9:00am – 11:30am
June 28	Jean Pontious' retirement celebration	11:00am

Commemorations This Week:

Mon May 18, 2026: **Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160**

Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.

Thur May 21, 2026: **Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330**

Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.

“White Paraments”

by Melissa Richeson-O’Neil, Artist

Think of open windows and the great gladness of an awakening earth! White paraments are used for the church’s high celebrations, Easter and Christmas. Easter is the Church’s most ancient and beautiful season, announcing resurrection and calling us to live as if God’s rule of justice and peace were fully with us. Christmas announces the glorious appearing of God on earth, the radiance of Christ’s birth bursting through the darkness of our lives. Both seasons call us to breathe deeply, live fully, and celebrate life.

While brainstorming the white paraments for Advent Lutheran, the Liturgy Committee concurred that we would limit the color scheme of the designs to whites and golds. Gold has long represented richness and splendor, while purity and completeness. The five pieces of Advent’s white altar parament may be hung in different arrangements and numbers. The entire payment was constructed to reveal the altar itself and the crosses on top.

The appliqued fabric designs depict ancient symbols from Church history. The palm leaf recalls the joyous celebration of Palm Sunday – throngs of people waving palms in delight as they witnessed Christ’s triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The palm curves just as an actual frond would bend while being waved.

The *Chi Rho*, which looks like the letters “P” and “X” superimposed on one another, is one of the earliest cruciform symbols. It is a combination of the first two letters of the word “Christ” in Greek- *chi* for “Ch” and *rho* for “r”.

Another panel depicts an abstracted sheaf of wheat, bordered on one side by deep blue stitching of flowing waters. Water brings to mind our births and baptisms; the wheat symbolizes Christ as the bread of life.

Water images also appear behind appliques of fish. The fish, or “*ichthus*”, is an acrostic of the first letters of the Greek words for “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior”. Two semi-circles, overlapped to form a fish shape, were a symbol often used among early Christians to identify one another during the times of Roman persecution.

The sun radiates from an upper corner on the final panel. We call Jesus “the Light of the World” and refer to the purity of God’s love. The sun’s rising marks each new day – especially those of resurrection and birth – and an Isaiah reading for Advent cries, “Oh, that you would tear open the heavens and come down!”

Finally, each individual panel is quilted, binding together layers of silk and batting just as God’s love binds our lives together as the children of God. The stitches are like the prayers of God’s children, shared love filling lives with joy and compassion.