



**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**3660 KENNY RD, COLUMBUS, OH 43220**  
**PHONE: 614.451.3639; EMAIL: [OFFICE@ADVENTELC.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@ADVENTELC.ORG)**  
**WEBSITE: [ADVENTELC.ORG](http://ADVENTELC.ORG)**

**INTERIM PASTOR DAVE HINKELMAN: 270.543.8060**  
**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**

**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 21, 2025

### INTRODUCTION

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

### PRELUDE

"JOY TO THE WORLD" arr. Wesson

Jean Pontious

*You may remain seated or stand.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose home is heaven and earth,  
whose salvation is sure.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

C Long-expected God,  
**we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

P God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✙  
You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### “Savior of the Nations Come”

1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,  
3 Won - drous birth— oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!

Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Savior of the Nations Come". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and a bass staff. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains two verses of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and some moving lines.

## 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.**

## Fourth Sunday of Advent - *Hope for Those Who Are Wounded*

### *Responsive Litany*

- P Advent is a time to bind up the broken hearted.  
C **Come, Lord, and make all things new.**  
P For past wrongs that prevent us from moving forward:  
C **Come, Lord, and make all things new.**  
P For any bitterness that scratches our soul:  
C **Come, Lord, and make all things new.**  
P For relationships left in decay and neglect:  
C **Come, Lord, and make all things new.**  
P For any action that has wounded us or by which we have wounded others:  
C **Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

### *Candle lighting*

P This morning we light four candles. The **first candle** is the light of hope for those in times of waiting. The **second candle** is the light of hope for those who are wearied by the circumstances of life. The **third candle** is the light of hope for those eagerly watching for God's promised glory. The **fourth candle** is the light of hope for those who carry the wounds of life. Today we acknowledge our pain and the pain we have caused others. As the light shines, we turn to the Savior who came to rescue the lost, to help the hurting, and to bind up the broken.

**8:30** Donna Krivak and Kristy Smith

**11:00** Bob and Bev Goldie

## HYMN

## "Christ Be Our Light", vs. 4

4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for

warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,

shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.

*Refrain*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

church gath - ered to - day.

## 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 **Merciful God, Advent reminds us that you left heaven's majesty to walk among wounded people in a broken world. We thank you that your love knows no boundaries or limitations. No wound of this earth is greater than the wounds you came to heal. For all who suffer this day, light the way, O Lord, towards the promise of healing and wholeness made known in you. Amen.**

Sit

## WE HEAR THE WORD

*The pericopes readings for this week are: Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25*

### **READING: Isaiah 7:10-16**

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

*After the reading:*

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

# PSALM 80

## "We Praise You O God"

1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers, we bless you;

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

You may remain seated or stand.

## ALLELUIA VERSE



**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

### GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

*After the reading:*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## MESSAGE

**PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN**



## SPECIAL MUSIC

**8:30 A.M.**

**"SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS COME"**

arr. Wesson

**JEAN PONTIOUS**

**11:00 A.M.**

**"GOD REST YE MERRY GENTLEMEN/WE THREE KINGS"**

by BNL

**ADVENT PRAISE & WORSHIP BAND**



**TO SUPPORT ADVENT'S MINISTRIES, POINT CAMERA HERE**



**OR put your donation in one of the pew envelopes and put in the offering plate.**

*We give thanks that God has called us to serve our community and those throughout the world with our gifts of time, talent and financial resources. As our commitment to serving in response to "Here am I send me" unfolds in the weeks and months ahead bless all that we give and do with the addition of your love and spirit. We are thankful for all your blessings that fill our lives and ask that you encourage us to be grateful and generous.*

*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 In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence*

A God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you. Guide and grant courage to our Bishop Suzanne and national Bishop Rev. Yehiel Curry. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing. 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*). In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith. God of grace,

**C     hear our prayer.**

A     When people are imprisoned or held captive, break the chains and offer release. Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice, breaking cycles of poverty, and welcoming the immigrant; especially we pray for Global Refuge and Lutheran Social Services. God of grace,

**C     hear our prayer.**

A     God of blessings, as your Advent family, we are deeply grateful that we were able to witness to the birth of your Son during our live nativity sharing. Pour out blessings on all those who gave of their time and talent in participation, from the setting up to the last swipe with the vacuum cleaner at the end. God of grace,

**C     hear our prayer.**

A     God of calling, be present in us, as your Advent family, as we reflect and respond to your call with “Here I Am, Send Me”. God of grace,

**C     hear our prayer.**

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

**C     hear our prayer.**

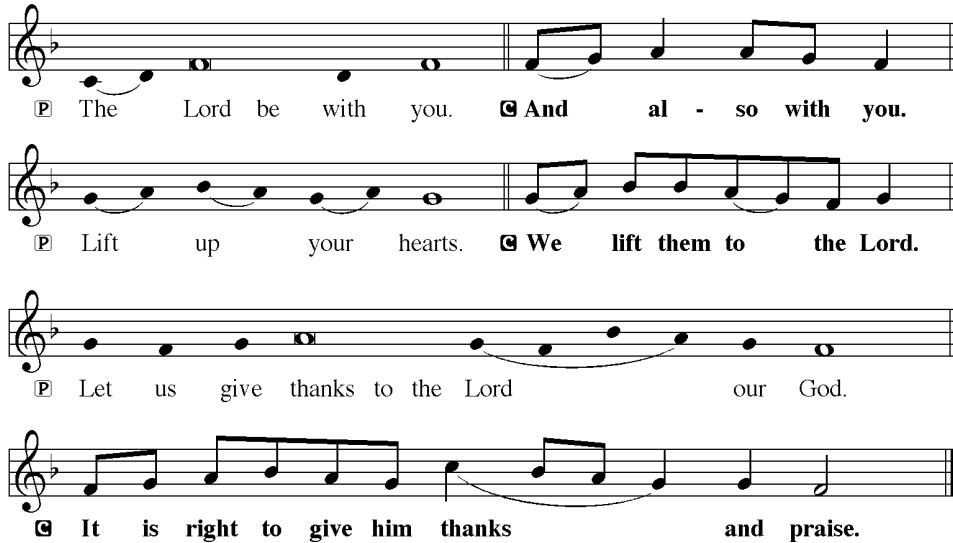
A     As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith. May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. God of grace,

**C     hear our prayer**

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



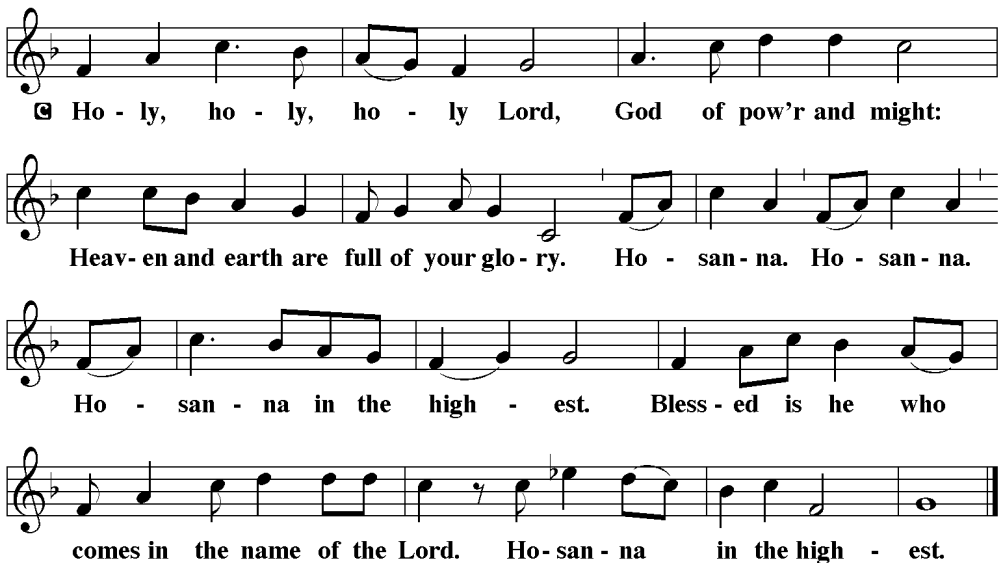
**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

**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 Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

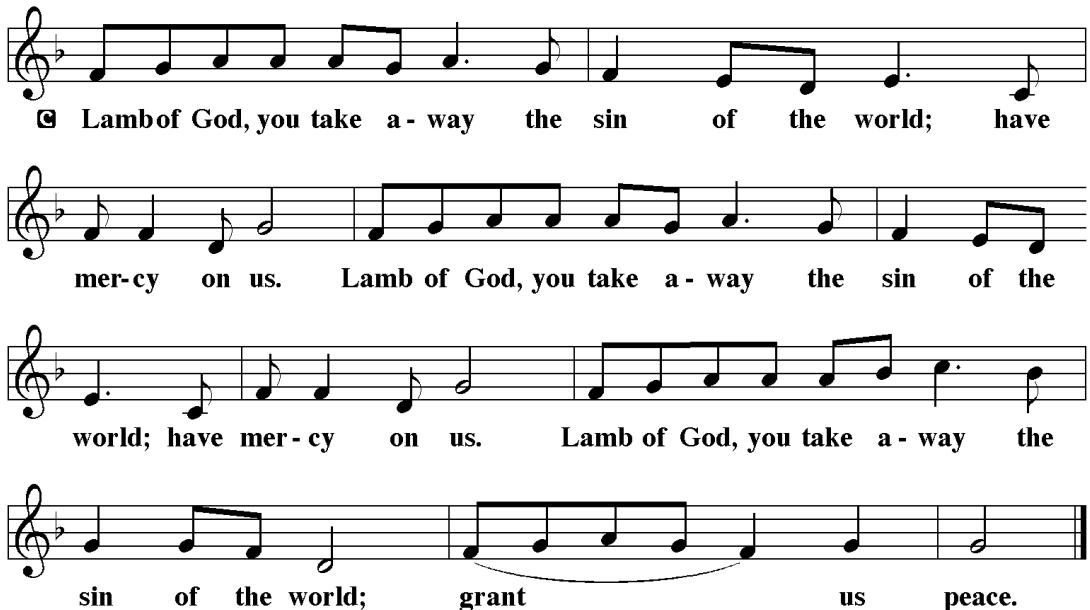
## DISTRIBUTION

***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.***



**☒ 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** God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

**C** **Amen.**

## WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

### BENEDICTION

- P May God who comes among us, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.
- C Amen.

### SENDING HYMN

#### “Joy to the World”

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
and heav'n and na - ture sing, and  
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
heav'n and na - ture sing,



**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		SAM WITTEN
ASSISTING MINISTER	SUSAN COCKERILL	XAVIER TOLIVER
PASTOR	INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN	



*The Altar Flowers are given by Kristy & Rich Smith – in honor of daughter Courtney Clark’s birthday, along with the beloved Clark family – husband Chad and children Madelyn and Andy*

*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>Sun Dec 21</b>	Youth/Parent meeting	12:15pm
<b>Tue Dec 23</b>	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
<b>Wed Dec 24</b>	Worship at The Estates	2:00pm
	Family Christmas Eve Worship	4:30pm
	Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship	7:00pm
<b>Thur Dec 25</b>	Christmas Day Worship (in person only)	10:00am
	Office Closed	
<b>Fri Dec 26</b>	Office Closed	

### **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 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!	

### **Commemorations This Week:**

#### **Fri Dec 26: Stephen, Deacon and Martyr**

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

#### **Sat Dec 27: John, Apostle and Evangelist**

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.