

# A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

AUGUST 31, 2025

## INTRODUCTION

*Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ’s banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.*

## PRELUDE

“Gather Us In”

arr. Hayes

JEAN PONTIOUS

*Stand or remain seated*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name, Father ✙ Son ✙ Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Merciful God,

C **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✙ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C **Amen.**

**Background on Gathering Hymn, “Gather Us In”**

## GATHERING HYMN

### "Gather Us In"



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.

---

## 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.

## Background on Hymn of Praise, “What Wondrous Love”

### HYMN OF PRAISE

### “What Wondrous Love”

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Alto) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the alto part providing harmonic support. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves, with two verses indicated by the numbers 1 and 2.

## 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, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sit

**Background on the hymn, “When Morning Gilds the Skies”**

# PSALM

## "WHEN MORNING GUILDS THE SKIES"

1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:  
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
 4 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
 than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word

this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"  
 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

*After the reading:*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Background on the Hymn of the Day, “Here I Am, Lord”**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## “Here I Am, Lord”



1 “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
3 “I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”

*Refrain*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.



TO SUPPORT ADVENT'S MINISTRIES, POINT CAMERA HERE



*Offering plates are at the entrance to the worship area.*

Our giving supports God's mission through the ELCA, the Southern Ohio Synod and of course Advent congregation. As God's little flock we are blessed with many talents, time to use them, and our financial resources. Your gifts in response to God's gifts make witness, mission, and care possible. Your staff, the choirs, Sunday school, the dynamic youth program, the forum ministry, and our Bishop Suzanne thank you.

## OFFERTORY



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.

A Let us pray.

C Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

- A For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Grant your wisdom and spirit in generous measure to our Bishop Suzanne. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence. 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). Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Strengthen the Christian community and other religious groups to be a witness for peace and wellbeing for all people. Be a 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. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**

- A For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.
- 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.

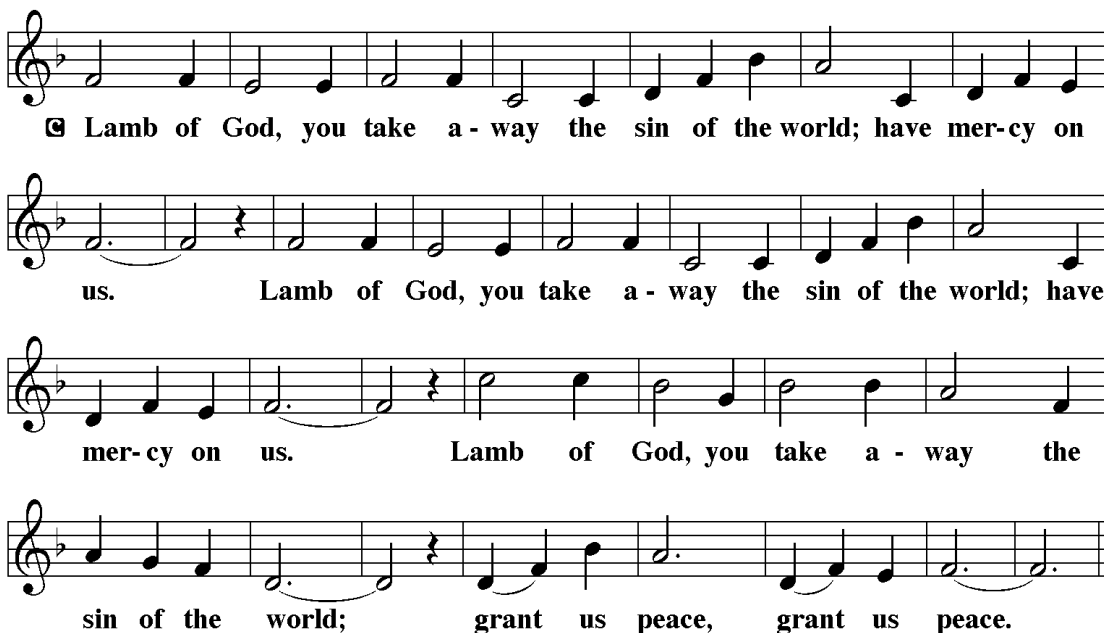
**C** Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.



## 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 baptized persons are welcomed to Communion when they are worshipping with 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.*

***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.***

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

**C** **Amen**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A** Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**C** **Amen.**

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

**Blessing for Amy Lytle**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

**Background on Sending Hymn, "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise"**



# SENDING HYMN

## “Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise”

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise  
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,  
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,

then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.  
that in this house have called up - on your name.

### DISMISSAL

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

ACOLYTE	CECE BUNCH
ASSISTING MINISTER	AMY LYTLE
INTERIM PASTOR	DAVID HINKELMAN



*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Roy & Jane Hart.*

*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 7 & 21 and October 12, 19 and 26.*

## **Coming Soon:**

### **Join Us for Rally Day! September 7, 2025, 9:45am-10:45am**

All ages will gather in the fellowship hall for donuts, music & activities for all! K-5 will then go to their Sunday school rooms to meet their teachers!

### **Our Sanctuary Is Turning 25!**

The 25th anniversary of the dedication of our sanctuary is Sunday, September 14! The celebration in honor of this special event will take place shortly after the conclusion of the 8:30 AM service. It will be a joyful time of worship, gratitude, and sharing together. Please sign up to bring your favorite dish to help make this milestone celebration even more special.

\*\*\*Note: This celebration will replace our traditional First Sunday Fellowship for the month, so we will **NOT** have First Sunday Fellowship on Sunday, Sept. 7.\*\*\*

Please share this news with your Advent friends and family. We look forward to commemorating this meaningful occasion with you!

### **Are you a guest or new to Advent?**

Please fill out the information card in the pew and place it in the offering plate at the entrance to the worship space. Thank you!

