

AdventELC's



**A WARM WELCOME TO ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON THIS 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF MINISTRY
MAY 3, 2026**

**ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
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STAFF & CONGREGATION SUPPORT: BETH PITTMAN
COUNCIL PRESIDENT: BRENT WELCH**

60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

10:00 A.M.

MAY 3, 2026

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

PRELUDE “All Creatures of Our God and King” arr. Mallory **Advent Bells**

You may remain seated or stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

May 1, 1966 – Organization Day

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God,

C **unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.**

P Let us make confession unto God, imploring his forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silence is kept for reflection.

O God, our heavenly Father,

C **I confess unto thee that I have grievously sinned against thee in many ways; not only by outward transgressions, but also by secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully understand, but which are all known unto thee. I do earnestly repent, and am heartily sorry for these my offences, and I beseech thee of thy great goodness to have mercy upon me, and for the sake of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to forgive my sins, and graciously to help my infirmities. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us, and for the sake of the sufferings, death and resurrection of his dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord forgiveth us all our sins. As a Minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you who do truly repent and believe in him, the entire forgiveness of all your sins: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “Built on a Rock” **Choir/Bells/Congregation**
September 10, 2000 – New Sanctuary Dedication

Vs. 1 & 2 – Choir only; Vs. 3 – ALL SING



3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, built for his own hab - i -



ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones; grant - ing us



life and sal - va - tion. Yet to this place, an earth - ly frame, we come with



thanks to praise his name; God grants his peo - ple true bless - ing.

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 a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



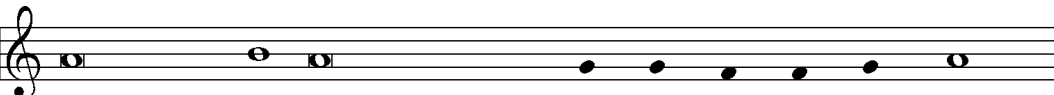
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty 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 wor - ship and praise,



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



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



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



Ⓑ 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, you have promised through your Son to be with your church forever. We give you thanks for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your presence in our Advent congregation. Increase in us the spirit of faith and love, and make our fellowship an example to all believers and to all nations. We pray 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 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

READING: Isaiah 40: 25-31

May 1, 1966 – Organization Day

To whom, then, will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted, but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

May 1, 1966 – Organization Day

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.

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 10th chapter.

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

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

December 1986 – Sunday School Wing Dedication

At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand. The Father and I are one.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

THE REV. DR. CONNIE MENTZER

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

OFFERTORY

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Nov. 21, 1965 - First Worship Service at Kenwood School

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
 who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
 who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

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 God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops – including our Bishop Suzanne and national Bishop Rev. Curry - to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

- A God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. We lift up especially Ukraine, Israel, Iran, Gaza, Sudan, Tanzania, China, North Korea, United States, and Russia - may they all learn the ways of peace. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick. We take a moment now to pray for those in need of healing; family members, friends, co-workers, casual acquaintances and those we know only by name, either out loud, or silently in our hearts (**pause**). Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A God of community, you called us and those who were before us to be mutual support for one another and to witness to your love in the world. As your Spirit and presence has been with Advent congregation these past 60 years, be the heart and spirit of Advent's mission and ministry for the hours, days, and years to come. We give thanks for all those who have served You through Advent, both lay and rostered clergy. Spirit of God be present in our new called Pastor Joel Richter as he and we prepare with hope and joy for his presence at Advent. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. 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 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, and our duty and our joy... And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, with the angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C 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.



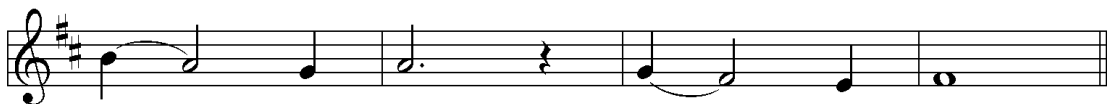
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

BLESSING “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” **Advent Choir (and former members)**

SENDING HYMN “Praise to the Lord the Almighty” *May 5, 1991-25th Anniversary*

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus-tain - ing.

Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been

join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

	10:00 AM
ACOLYTE	TEDDY DENNETT
CANTOR	MATTHEW PITTMAN
ORGANIST	JEAN PONTIOUS
READINGS & PRAYERS	THE REV. WILLIAM SAUNDERS
GOSPEL & SERMON	THE REV. DR. CONNIE MENTZER, ASST. TO THE BISHOP FOR DISCIPLESHIP, LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT
ASSISTING MINISTER	JENNIFER PARKER
PRESIDING MINISTER	INTERIM PASTOR DAVID HINKELMAN



The Altar Flowers are given to celebrate Advent's 60th Anniversary of ministry and 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 May 3	Anniversary Celebration Picnic	11:00am
Mon May 4	Men's SALT Bible Study	2:30pm
Tue May 5	NO SCHOOL	
	Isabel's Quilters	9:00am
	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
Wed May 6	Women's Bible Study	1:00pm
	Worship at The Estates	2:00pm
	School Program	4:00pm
	Wednesday Night Zoom Worship	7:00pm
Thur May 7	Angel Choir rehearsal	6:30pm
	Advent Choir rehearsal	7:30pm
Sat May 9	Bed Brigade Delivery	9-11am

Looking Ahead:

Sun May 10	Pastor David Hinkelman's last Sunday with Advent	10:00am
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 4, 2026: **Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387**

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

Fri May 8, 2026:

Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, died around 1416

When she was about thirty years old, Julian (or Juliana) reported visions that she later compiled into a book, *Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love*, now a classic of medieval mysticism. The visions declared that love was the meaning of religious experience, provided by Christ who is love, for the purpose of love.

Victor the Moor, martyr, died 303 (TFF)

Also known as Victor Maurus, this native of the northwest African nation of Mauritania was a soldier in the Roman Praetorian Guard. Under the persecution of Maximian, Victor died for his faith at Milan.

Sat May 9, 2026: **Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter, died 1760**

When he was 22, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on Zinzendorf's land. He agreed, and eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions, and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith.

“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 “*ichthys*”, 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.