

A Warm Welcome to Advent Lutheran Church on this

Reformation and Confirmation Sunday

10:00 a.m.

October 25, 2026



Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Advent Lutheran Church
3660 Kenny Rd, Columbus, OH 43220
Pastor Joel Richter
Website: Adventelc.org

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The Church's One Foundation

Wesley

Beth Pittman, piano

You may stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C **Amen.**

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,

C **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress

vs. 1 & 2

1 A migh - ty for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of
los - ing; were not the right One on our side, the

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe,
one of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be:

doth seek to work us woe, his craft and power are great,
Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name.

And armed with cru - el hate On earth is not his e - qual.
From age to age the same, And He must win the batt - le.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1805–1890, alt.
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray together the prayer of the day.
- C **Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

You may be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD

The pericopes readings for this week are Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Borning Cry

WOV 770 vs. 1,2 & 4



1 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.
2 “When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell.”
I’ll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.”



4 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.”

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

SECOND READING: Psalm 46

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- ³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

- ⁸ Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
 what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
 who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
¹⁰ “Be still, then, and know that I am God;
 I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”
¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

After the reading:

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

You may stand.

VERSE

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya! A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 8th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

MESSAGE

Pastor Joel Richter

SPECIAL MUSIC

I’ve Just Come From the Fountain

arr. Robert Hobby

Advent Choir

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 stand.



PRESENTATION

P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

A I present,

HADLEY SAMUEL SAMUEL HENRY WITTEN

who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Confirmand Response: I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

P You have made profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmand Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P People of God, do you promise to support **Hadley and Sam** and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in **Hadley and Sam** the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Hadley and Sam, we rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ is with you always.

C **And is also with you.**

Please take a moment to share the peace

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence

A As we celebrate Reformation Sunday, we remember the witness of Martin Luther and the reformers of the church in every generation. We give thanks for our confirmands, Sam and Hadley. Empower them and us to continue the work of reform and renewal in our own day. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A We pray for the healing of natural places despoiled by pollution and human greed. Give all living creatures access to safe land, water, and air. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A We pray for our criminal justice systems and all those whose lives are affected by them. Give wisdom and discernment to police, probation officers, judges, and attorneys; give courage and peace to prisoners and the formerly incarcerated. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A We ask your blessing upon all people who have been harmed by the church and its leaders, that the truth may make them free. We pray for the relief of all those who are sick or suffering, especially Amy, Brenda, Dee, Jerry, Jen, and those we name on our lips and in our hearts (*pause for prayers*). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A We give thanks for those exploring or returning to a life of faith. Encourage and guide them, that they may find their hope in you. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A With love, we remember the deceased who warmed our hearts along the way and all our beloved dead, including Alan Witten, Monasar Mohammed, and Grayson. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

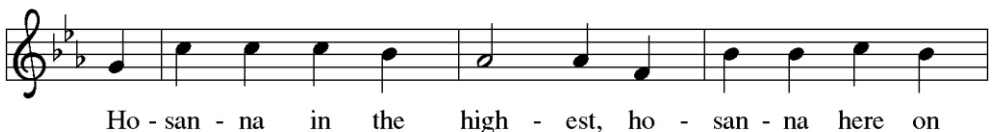
P Lift up your hearts.

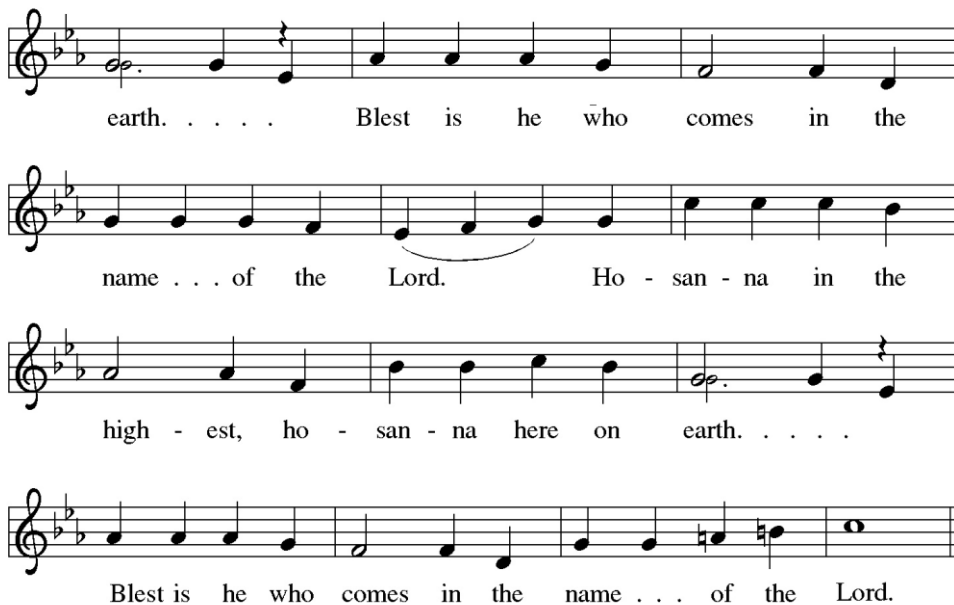
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





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 Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

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 are welcome when they are worshipping us.

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.***

You may stand.

POST COMMUNION

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

PRAYER

- A Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
- C **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE

BENEDICTION

- P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.
- C **Amen.**

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631, vs. 1 & 4

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and

heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us us thy
spot - less let us be; let us see thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Love Divine, All Loves Excelling'. It is arranged in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system includes two verses: '1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of' and '4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and'. The second system continues with 'heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us us thy' and 'spot - less let us be; let us see thy'. The third system has 'hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.' and 'great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!'. The fourth system concludes with 'Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -' and 'Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in'. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature.

bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

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
Assisting Minister	Alysha Clous
Pianist	Beth Pittman
Pastor	The Rev. Joel Richter

Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-726485. All rights reserved.



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Andrew and Amelie's 40th birthdays, from Bob and Bev Goldie; and in celebration of Hadley & Sam's confirmation, from the Witten family.

Please check the 2026 Altar Flower Chart located above the usher stand to order flowers in honor of someone special or celebrating special occasions. Open dates are November 1 & December 27. Price is \$25.00 per vase.

This Week at Advent

Sun Oct 25	Reception for Confirmands	11:00am
Tue Oct 27	Building Use – Singing Buckeyes	6:00pm
Wed Oct 28	Worship @The Estates	2:00pm
Thur Oct 29	NO Advent Choir rehearsal tonight	

Looking Ahead:

Sun Nov 1	All Saints' Sunday/ First Sunday Fellowship	in between services
Sun Nov 22	Sr. High provides dinner for Jacob's Porch	5:15pm
Tue Nov 24	Thanksgiving worship service	7:00pm
Sun Dec 6	First Sunday Fellowship	in between services
	Live Nativity!	5:00pm-7:00pm

STAFF

Pastor: **Joel Richter** | 937.527.1794 | pastor@adventelc.org

Director of Music, Youth & Family Ministries: **Marcy Layne** | 614.451.3639 | youth@adventelc.org

Organist/Pianist:

Digital Content Manager: **Courtney Pittman**

Nursery: **Courtney Crum**

Church Life Coordinator: **Beth Pittman** | 614.451.3639 | office@adventelc.org