

REFORMATION SUNDAY
October 27, 2024
9:30 A.M.



We Gather in Jesus' Name

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confessions and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

LBW #229

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.</p> | <p>2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.</p> |
|---|---|

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us Pray . . . Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Sermon

The Reading of God's Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 46

- ¹God 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;**
- ³though 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.**
- ⁵God 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.**
- ⁷The 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.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

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.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Grace Like Rain”

1 Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see so clearly

Chorus

Hallelujah grace like rain
Falls down on me
Hallelujah all my stains
Are washed away, They're washed away

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

3 When we've been there, ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing Your praise
Than when we first begun
Hallelujah, grace like rain
Falls down on me
And Hallelujah and all my stains
Are washed away

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

*(Each petition ends with... God of Grace, The congregation responds: **hear our prayer.**)*

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you

The Offering Please leave your offering on our website: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver=3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCImH2sG-jdxWYJMFGW_lQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sacrament

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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.

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you

The blood of Christ, shed for you

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray... Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sending/Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: "Mighty to Save"

1 Ev'ryone needs compassion

Love that's never failing

Let mercy fall on me

Ev'ryone needs forgiveness

The kindness of a Saviour

The hope of nations

Chorus

Saviour He can move the mountains

My God is mighty to save

He is mighty to save

Forever Author of salvation

He rose and conquered the grave

Jesus conquered the grave

2 So take me as You find me

All my fears and failures

Fill my life again

I give my life to follow

Ev'rything I believe in

Now I surrender

Chorus

3 Shine your light and let the whole world see

We're singing for the glory of the risen King Jesus

Shine your light and let the whole world see

We're singing for the glory of the risen King

Chorus

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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OUR MISSION - FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To **gather** as God's people and nurture one another
- + To **know** the Word of God
- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor:

Music Director

Lay Reader

Communion Assistant

Fellowship Time

The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen

Michael Dettra

Open

Joyce Heiss

Open

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by the Spahn family in gratitude for Warren’s recovery.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, October 20: 8:00 am- 11+3=14; 9:30 am- 29+1=30; SS- 4 **TOTAL 48**

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Today we celebrate Reformation Sunday. 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.

CONTACTING PASTOR MATT

If you need to speak with Pastor Matt when he is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call his cell at 215-859-3778 or email him at pastor@adventrichboro.org. If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

TODAY - CARING FOR FRIENDS MEAL ASSEMBLY

October 27th After Late Service at 10:35 AM

We invite you to meet in fellowship hall to assemble **TURKEY DINNERS** for Caring for Friends. If we have a good number of volunteers to scoop servings of food and put lids on the trays, we can complete a lot in a short amount of time. Frozen meals will then be delivered to Caring for Friends for distribution in time for **THANKSGIVING!** We look forward to seeing you there.

LAST DAY TO ADD TO GOD SIGHTINGS CHAIN

Have you seen God at work in your life, or in nature, a neighbor, etc.? Please add to our God Sightings chain by writing down the ways that you see God in your life. Use the strips of paper found in the narthex. They will be stapled onto the chain (or you can staple them yourself). We will continue to add to it until Reformation Sunday, October 27. Let’s see how many times we can circle the sanctuary!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report For September 2024		
	Rec'vd for Sept 2024	Budget fo
General Fund	\$10,464.43	
Mortgage	\$1,826	
Bene. - Synod Only	\$30	
Other Benevolence	\$370	
Insurance Settlement		
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$12,690.43	
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/24	Budget YT
General Fund	\$99,743.86	
Mortgage	\$15,576.00	
Bene. - Synod Only	\$410.00	
Other Benevolence	\$4,970.00	

PLEASE GIVE TO THE REBUILDING OF OUR WEBSITE

Please help support the church website rebuild through a financial gift, which will defray the costs totaling \$14,535 (for the rebuild and web hosting for one year). To date, over \$5,780.00 has been donated. Thanks to all who have made and will be making a financial gift in support of the appeal. Checks can be made out to Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church (memo line: Electronic Service Appeal).

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

You are invited to a study of the Gospel of Matthew on Thursday nights via Zoom. Pastor will be leading the study, which utilizes the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament” as one of our resources to delve deep into Jesus’ times and to better understand this Gospel written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Note this **new** URL: Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>

Meeting ID: 820 8911 0140

WE WANT YOU

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and during the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an Usher/Greeter, Altar Guild, Lay Reader, Acolyte. Please see Pastor Matt or Gail Oines for more information. We will make sure you are trained.

DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Pantry that you or your friends would like to donate and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

DONATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Were you aware that not everyone can bake? Or that time is often at a premium? Or that some of us can't always be in church in person? If these questions have plagued you and perhaps you wish you could help at fellowship time more often than you do, you aren't alone. For that reason, and so we don't lose fellowship time altogether, consider donating a few dollars now and then and let someone else do the shopping/baking. All those hungry snackers will appreciate it!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 3

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our services of Holy Communion remembering family and friends who in the last year have died. If you have someone you wish included in our prayers, please contact or leave a message with the church office via phone 215-355-2529 or email adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com **no later than Sunday, October 27**. Please include the name of the deceased, the relationship or the relation of the deceased to you (i.e., father, daughter, cousin, friend, etc.) and your name. Forms are also available in the narthex.

ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advent serves as a polling place for its neighboring community. Please vote for the candidates of your choice.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 24 at 9:00 a.m.

To accommodate as many members and friends of Advent as possible, we will have only one worship service on this morning in order to conduct the annual congregational meeting afterwards. Thank you for your attendance.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, November 24 at 10:15 a.m.

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2025 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 24, at 10:15 a.m.

This meeting will follow the single worship service at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance is important, as it is necessary that we have the required quorum of member voters. Thank you in advance for attending this important meeting!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Sunday, December 8 immediately after 9:30 a.m. service

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. This event lasts about an hour and festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians. The sign-up sheet in the narthex provides additional information, and all family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 – REFORMATION SUNDAY

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School for students age 4 to grade 6
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 am Bible Study in the Parlor with George Henry

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

- 6:30 pm Ping Pong until 8:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

- 6:30 pm Praise Team practice until 7:15 pm
- 7:15 pm Vocal Choir practice until 8:00 pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

- 7:00 pm Zoom Bible Study-Gospel of Matthew

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 – ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School for students age 4 to grade 6
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 am Bible Study in the Parlor with George Henry