

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 12, 2025

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, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.
Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.
Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."

In ✚ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

Gathering Song: “Find Me in the River”

1 Find me in the river
Find me on my knees
I've walked against the water
Now I'm waiting if You please
We've longed to see the roses
But never felt the thorns
And bought our pretty crowns
But never paid the price

2 Find me in the river
Find me on my knees
I've walked against the water
Now I'm waiting if You please
We didn't count on suffering
We didn't count on pain
But if the blessing's in the valley
Then in the river we'll wait **Refrain**

Refrain

Find me in the river
Find me there
Find me on my knees
With my soul laid bare
Even though You're gone
And I'm cracked and dry
Find me in the river
I'm waiting here (for You)

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

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Sermon

The Reading of God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³ For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

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

Psalm: Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
² **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
⁴ **The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**
⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
⁶ **the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
⁷ The voice of the Lord
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
⁸ **The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
⁹ The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"
¹⁰ **The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.**
¹¹ O Lord, give strength to your people;
give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Wade in the Water"

Refrain

Wade in the water,
wade in the water, children,
wade in the water,
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.

1 See that host all dressed in white,
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
the leader looks like the Israelite.
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.

Refrain

2 See that band all dressed in red,
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
looks like the band that Moses led.
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.

Refrain

3 If you don't believe I've been redeemed,
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.
just follow me down to Jordan's stream.
God's a-goin'-a trouble the water.

Refrain

Baptism

In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism, we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Sponsor presents the candidate.

Sponsor: I present Kayce to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

The minister addresses the sponsors and parents.

In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring him to the services of God's house, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

I do.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with... God of Grace.

*The congregation responds: **hear our prayer.***

Profession of Faith

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

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C: I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

C: 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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**

Baptism

Kayce, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
The minister pours water on the candidate's head.

and of the Son,
The minister pours water on the candidate's head a second time.

and of the Holy Spirit. Amen
The minister pours water on the candidate's head a third time.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The minister lays both hands on the head of the baptized and prays for the Holy Spirit:

God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Kayce: 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.

Amen

The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Kayce, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen

O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Welcome

The ministers and the baptismal group turn toward the congregation; a representative of the congregation says:

Through Baptism God has made this new brother a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.

Peace

The ministers may exchange the peace with the baptized, with their sponsors and parents, and with the congregation.

Peace be with you.

Peace be with you.

All return to their places.

The Offering (Please leave your offering on our website:
<https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ34/home>)

Offertory Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.
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.**

Invitation to Communion

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you
The blood of Christ, shed for you

Prayer After Communion

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Recognition of Departing Council Members

George Henry, Jennifer McQuiggan, Gail Oines, Lynn Roccograndi

Installation of Council Members (newly elected council member*)**

Katie Dettra, Cime Eklund*, John Flint, Cindy Frey, Mike Sitler*,
Kristi Ward*, Keith Wills*, Gary Zimmerman, and Pastor Matthew Ollikainen

Those who are being installed may come forward.

The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

The following people have been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

The presiding minister continues.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices
to which you have been elected?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, I ask you:
Will you support these, your elected leaders,
and will you share in the mutual ministry
that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation.
Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,
that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **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: "The River is Here"


- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Down the mountain the river flows
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here</p> <p>2 The river of God sets our feet a-dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with
 laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here</p> <p>3 The river of God is teeming with life
And all who touch it can be revived
And those who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord</p> | <p>4 The river of God sets our feet a-dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with
 laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here</p> <p>5 Up to the mountain we love to go
To find the presence of the Lord
Along the banks of the river we run
We dance with laughter giving praise to the
 Son</p> <p>6 The river of God sets our feet a-dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with
 laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here</p> |
|--|---|

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

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OUR MISSION - FAITHFUL IN THE WORD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + 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
 Gail Oines
 Megan Ward
 The Welsh Family

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by The Frey Family in loving memory of Derek and by the Welsh Family in honor of Kayce's Baptism.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, January 5 8:00 AM: 10+2=12; 9:30 AM: 26+2=28, Sunday School: 4 **TOTAL: 44**

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.

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.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>

Meeting ID: 820 8911 0140



COMMUNION REMINDER

The Worship and Music Committee would like to remind the congregation that those going forward to the altar for communion have a few options. There is gluten-free bread in the small clear glass bowl, and white grape juice for those who prefer. Just let the Pastor or assistant know your preference. Thank you.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2025 Offering envelopes are on the table in the narthex for pickup. If you did not receive envelopes and would like to have them, please contact Cindy Frey or Tony Gryszka.

DONATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME



Fellowship Time is held Sundays directly following the 9:30 a.m. service. The sign-up sheet to provide refreshments for Fellowship Time is available in the narthex on the refreshment table. Advent supplies hot beverages and paper products.

If you are looking for a way to assist with Fellowship Time but do not have the time or ability to bake or shop for snacks, please consider donating a few dollars. The hungry snackers will appreciate it!

DRIVE-IN & DROP-OFF FOOD COLLECTION – WARMINSTER FOOD PANTRY

If you have food for the Warminster Food Pantry and the church is not open, just drive into the parking lot and drop off the food inside 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.

DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

2025 ALTAR FLOWERS CHART

The 2025 Flower Chart to dedicate altar flowers each Sunday is on the table in the narthex. The cost is \$25 per bouquet, and you are welcome to take the flowers home following the late service. You can also call the church office to submit your mission dedication: 215-355-2529

2025 MISSION SUPPORT

The 2025 Mission Support Chart is available for sign up on the table in the narthex. Mission Support Dedication donations benefit our sister church, Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creacion, which does vital work in North Philadelphia. Dedication donations are \$25. You can also call the church office to submit your mission dedication: 215-355-2529

SUPPORT THE REBUILDING OF OUR CHURCH'S WEBSITE

Please help support the 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 \$9,700 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).

CHURCH SECURITY

The church is regularly left unsecure as the external doors are left unlocked and/or unlatched when closed. The external doors do not always automatically latch when they swing shut.

- When leaving the church building, please **tug the door behind you** to check that it has latched.
- **If you possess a church key** and are the last key bearer to leave the church (i.e. Non-key bearing people may still be in the building), please check and lock the external doors upon leaving.

Thank you for your attentiveness.



PRAISE BAND & VOCAL CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir are looking for new members for 2025!

- Praise Band practices on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:15 pm
- Vocal Choir practices on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:00 p.m.

Please see Mike Dettra, Music Director for more details.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Advent Lutheran Church is looking for help before and during the services. Please consider sharing your gifts as an **Usher/Greeter, Altar Guild, Lay Reader, Acolyte**. We also need a few people who are willing to spend an hour or so on Saturdays or early Sunday mornings to set up communion. Please see Pastor Matt or Gail Oines for more information. We will make sure you are trained and you can shadow someone for a week or so until you are comfortable.



RECYCLING CAN TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

We are collecting can tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities which help alleviate some financial burdens for families along their child's healthcare journey. Last year alone, they helped families save \$736 million in lodging and meal expenses.

Tabs can be placed in the marked containers in the narthex, on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs!

DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report For December 2024		
	Rec'vd for Dec 2024	Budget for Dec 2024
General Fund	\$17,214.58	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$4,756	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$2,140	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$870	
Insurance Settlement	\$15,207.86	
Web Upgrade	\$4,000	
Total	\$44,188.44	\$19,455.00
	Rec'vd YTD 1/1-12/31/24	Budget YTD 1/1-12/31/24
General Fund	\$148,443.24	\$209,784.00
Mortgage	\$23,309.00	\$22,776.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$2,700.00	\$900.00
Other Benevolence	\$6,850.00	
Insurance Settlement	\$102,704.55	
Web Upgrade	\$9,780.00	
Total	\$293,786.79	\$233,460.00

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 – Baptism of Our Lord

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
- Sunday School for students age 4 to grade 6
- Baptism of Kayce Welsh
- Installation of New Council Members
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: Welsh Family
- 10:45 am Bible Study in the Parlor with George Henry
- 10:45 am Church Council Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

- 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: Marino Family
- 10:45 am Bible Study in the Parlor with George Henry