

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 19, 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: “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

WOV 561

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

1 Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Refrain

2 As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Refrain

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

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Sermon

The Reading of God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
- ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the Lord delights in you,
and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

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

Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

⁵ Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep;
you save humankind and animals, O Lord.**

⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸ **They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: John 2:1-11

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Bind Us Together"

WOV 748

Refrain

Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together,
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together,
Bind us together with love.

1 There is only one God,
There is only one King;
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing:

Refrain

2 Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by His precious Son;
Born with the right to be clean,
For Jesus the victory has won.

Refrain

Apostle's Creed

**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

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://secure.myvanco.com/YJ34/home>)

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray...

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.

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: “This Little Light of Mine”

1 This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.


3 Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me,
I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.

2 Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.

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
Kristi Ward
The Marino Family

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY’S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, January 12 TOTAL: 90
8:00 AM: 10+3=13 9:30 am: 65+7=72 Sunday School: 5

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.

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

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 Gryska.

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.

NEW CONSTITUTION PRESENTATIONS AND Q&A SESSIONS

Sunday, January 19 and 26, after the 9:30 AM service

As laid out in the December 2024 Newsletter, we are in the process of adopting a new Constitution for Advent Church. The next step for adopting a new Constitution is to hold presentation and Q&A sessions for the congregation, which will be held after the late service on January 19 and 26, 2025. These will be interactive, providing insight and explanations of and answering questions about the changes in the new Constitution.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS – VOTING TO APPROVE NEW CONSTITUTION

Sunday, February 23 and Sunday March 23

Two special congregational meetings will be held on February 23, 2025 and March 23, 2025 for the first and second voting, respectively, to approve the new Constitution. More information about these meetings will be provided later.

Copies of the old and new Constitutions were emailed to the congregation in December and are also available as hard copies in the narthex. Please take the time to read both documents to prepare for the next steps. Please contact the church office if you need assistance in obtaining these documents.

HOW TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE LOS ANGELES FIRES

We continue to pray for those affected by the devastating fires in Los Angeles. We also continue to pray for the first responders and those caring for the injured.

If you want to donate to help the individuals and families affected by the fires:

1. You can donate money through Advent Richboro.
 - Place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday, noting that the donation is earmarked for the LA fire victims.
 - Or you can donate online at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ34/home>.
2. You can donate through Lutheran World Relief at <https://lwr.org/>.

Thank you for extending God's love where it is so urgently needed.

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

Please be mindful that all the doors of the church are locked and latched when you are leaving. 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.



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 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 New Constitution Presentation/Q&A Session

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 – Third 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 New Constitution Presentation/Q&A Session