

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
October 22, 2023
9:30 a.m.



We Gather in Jesus' Name

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**
**We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.**
**We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.**
**For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.**
**For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.**
**For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

Gathering Song: "Living Hope"

Verse 1
How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2
Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

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. . . Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image;
created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Chorus
Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3
Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

Chorus
Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Readings for the 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9

¹Sing to the LORD¹ a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared¹ than all gods.**
⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**
⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
[¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!**

The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.]

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 22nd Chapter

C: Glory to You, O Lord

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of Praise: "You Raise Me Up"

When I am down, and oh my soul so weary
When troubles come, and my heart burdened be
Then I am still and wait here in the silence
Until you come and sit awhile with me

You raise me up so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas
I am strong when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be

There is no life, no life without its hunger
Each restless heart beats so imperfectly
But when you come, and I am filled with wonder
Sometimes I think I glimpse eternity

You raise me up so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas
I am strong when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be

You raise me up so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up to walk on stormy seas
I am strong when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be

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 the Church

(Each prayer 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?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCImH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw_lQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

The Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... **God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
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...Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name 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 Song: "Your Grace is Enough"

Great is Your faithfulness, oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters in to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise
Oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise
Oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

So remember Your people
Remember Your children

Remember Your promise
Oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

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:	The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music Director	Michael Dettra
Worship Assistant	John Flint



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by John & Victoria Flint in honor of their Anniversary and by Hanna McCollum in honor of her birthday.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, October 15, 8:00 am 16 9:30 am 20 S.S. 5 **TOTAL 41**

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 phone 215-859-3778 or email, pastormattollikainen@gmail.com. If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.



ADVENT'S STITCH CLUB BAZAAR SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 22 & 29

The Advent Stitch Club is having their Bazaar on Sundays, October 22, and 29, before and after Sunday services. There will be wonderful handmade items on display for sale in the narthex.

Proceeds from the sale will help support the weekly flower arrangements that grace our altar each week and food purchases for Caring for Friends. Thank you for supporting this cause!

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Report For September 2023		
	Rec'vd for Sept 2023	Budget for Sept 2023
General Fund	\$10,895.93	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$2,131	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$85	\$134
Other Benevolence	\$470	
Total	\$13,581.93	\$19,313.00
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-9/30/23	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/23
General Fund	\$101,955.93	\$155,529.00
Mortgage	\$21,028.00	\$17,082.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$622.00	\$1,206.00
Other Benevolence	\$6,274.00	
Total	\$129,879.93	\$173,817.00

ADVENT SUPPORTS BUCKS COUNTY MEDICATION TAKE BACK EVENT

Information was received from Lauren Foisy, Prevention Coordinator, Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc. regarding the Bucks County Medication Take Back event. The bi-annual event provides community members with a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused, unneeded or expired medications.

There will be a labeled box in the narthex, starting, Sunday, October 1 to October 22, if you would like to bring in unused over-the-counter medications, vaping products, vitamins, pet meds for safe disposal. The box will be secured until it is delivered on October 28 to the Northampton Police Department.

If you would like to drop off your items differently, there is a notice on the box indicating Take Back Locations.

Thank you for your help in keeping our community safe.



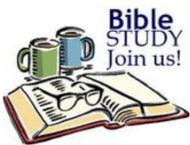
PRAISE BAND AND VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

The Praise Band rehearses from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. and the Vocal Choir 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to join; no prior experience is necessary. Please see Mike Dettra for more details.



PING PONG - TUESDAYS AT 6:30

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up).



THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY, 7:00 PM via ZOOM

The study is on the book *Bonhoeffer* by John W. Matthews. From the Theology for Life Series, it is a brief overview of the life and writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89632518358?pwd=Smg5dm1Ba0VZamZjNG1YMko2MlVvdzo9> Meeting ID: 896 3251 8358 Passcode: 011905



CLASSES ON THE AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR, SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 5 & 19, 9 AM BETWEEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Tri-Hampton Rescue Squad's Paramedic, L. Jay Colella is offering training in using the AED automated external defibrillator (AED), which is installed on a wall in the church main entranceway.

Training will take place on Sundays, November 5 and 19 between the Worship Services at 9:00 am.

An AED is a lightweight, portable device that delivers an electric shock through the chest to the heart when it detects an abnormal rhythm and changes the rhythm back to normal. AEDs help people who have a sudden cardiac arrest, which occurs when the heart suddenly stops beating regularly. This will benefit all persons and groups using the building.

Thanks again to the generous donor.



STITCH CLUB ON SATURDAYS, 10 A.M.

Stitch club meets on, Saturdays at **10:00 a.m. to noon**. Stitch club is open to all who would like to join. If you like to knit, crochet or do needlepoint, this is for you!

The Stitch club items are **available throughout the year**. If you need any of the items made by the Stitch Club, i.e., blankets, hats, baby items, please contact Hanna McCollum, 215-262-9032, or Jeff Jobes, 215-355-4149



ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are numerous dates available for 2023 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.



NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church, which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign-up chart is on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary.



DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank 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. A list of the Food Bank's most needed items is in the narthex or on the website www.warminsterfoodbank.org. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.



Recycling can tabs for charity is a great idea! If you bring them in, we'll drop them off . Look for marked containers in the narthex, located on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs! The tab collection program began at **Ronald McDonald House Charities** of the Philadelphia Region in 1997. Since the inception of the program, **RMHC** has collected over 350 tons of tabs and over \$170,000! See RMHCphilly.org.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 22

8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
10:30 am Fellowship: The Ward Family
10:45 am Church Council Meeting

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

6:30 pm Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

6:30-7:15 Praise Band Practice

7:15-8:00 Vocal Choir Practice

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

10:00 am – noon Stitch Club

22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCTOBER 29

8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
10:30 am Fellowship: Open
10:45 am Adult Bible Study