

24th Sunday After Pentecost
November 12, 2023
9:30 a.m.
Recognition of Veterans



We Gather in Jesus' Name

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation.

Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

Gathering Song: "My Lord, What a Morning" WOV #627

Refrain

My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *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

Let us pray. . . O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Readings for the 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 70

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;

O LORD, make haste to help me.

²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.

⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”**

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, I do not tarry.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter
C: Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of Praise: “I’ll Fly Away”

Some glad morning when this life is over
I’ll fly away
To a home on God’s celestial shore
I’ll fly away
I’ll fly away, oh, Glory
I’ll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I’ll fly away
Just a few more weary days and then
I’ll fly away
To a land where joy shall never end
I’ll fly away

I’ll fly away, oh, Glory
I’ll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I’ll fly away
When the shadows of this life have gone
I’ll fly away
Like a bird from these prison walls I’ll fly
I’ll fly away
I’ll fly away, oh, Glory
I’ll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I’ll fly away

A Blessing for Veterans

For everything there is a season.
A time for war and a time for peace.
A time for every activity under heaven.

For a season of life you gave up freedom to become a servant.
For a season of life you put the lives of others before your own.
For a season of life you sacrificed for the sake of others.

Your season of military service is complete,
yet your life in Christ knows no end.
In baptism Christ claimed you as his own
and grafted you into his servant body.

The burdens you carried in military service,
and those you carry now,
are not far from Christ but are taken by our Savior to the cross.
They are swallowed up in his death,
and you are raised with Christ to resurrection life.

We give thanks to God for your season of service
and for your life in Christ among us today.

May the One who gave you the will
to deny yourself, sacrifice, and serve,
bless you with faith, hope, and love all your days,
in the name of the Father, the ✝ Son,
and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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 ...*Hear us, O God, the congregation responds: **your mercy is great.***)

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 all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.
Number us among them
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,
and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self
and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.
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... Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.
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: "The River is Here"

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
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
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

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
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
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

Dismissal

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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 Gail Oines



CHURCH COUNCIL POSITIONS OPENING IN JANUARY

If you feel God is calling you to serve Advent Church, we have several church council positions opening up in January. Please contact either George Henry or Pastor Matt for additional information on the available positions. Thank you.

PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED

At Advent we actively pray for those in need by name through the *Prayers of Intercession* during worship and through the *Prayer Chain* during the week.

To add names of those in need of prayer while attending worship, simply provide the name of whom you would like to be prayed for when Pastor takes names at the beginning of the service.

If you are worshipping online, you can message or chat the name on Zoom or Facebook live stream and we will add the name to the list. Because the service is available all-over world-wide web, we use only baptismal or first names and leave out surnames. List of names given for *the Prayers of Intercession* in worship are maintained for just that day.

The *Prayer Chain* is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the *Prayer Chain*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and are then placed in the offering plate. Names added to the Prayer Chain list are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier. Names can also be submitted by email directly to Gail Oines who manages the Prayer Chain at alcdeacon@yahoo.com. Because this prayer list is confidential, more information can be provided so that the Prayer Chain volunteers can pray more specifically for the person added to the list.

If you would like someone to be prayed for in both the *Prayers of Intercession* and the *Prayer Chain*, you will have to lift up their name weekly at the beginning of worship verbally and fill out monthly a Prayer Request Card.

Pastor Matt



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by George & Peg Spahn in honor of all Veterans (George) and by Tony & Jeanne Gryszka in honor of their parents and all loving parents.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 5, 8:00 am 17, 9:30 am 29 S.S. 5 TOTAL 51

Financial Report For October 2023		
	Rec'vd for Oct 2023	Budget for Oct 2023
General Fund	\$12,612.93	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$2,326	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$23	\$134
Other Benevolence	\$457	
Total	\$15,418.93	\$19,313.00
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-10/31/23	Budget YTD 1/1-10/31/23
General Fund	\$114,568.86	\$172,810.00
Mortgage	\$23,354.00	\$18,980.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$645.00	\$1,340.00
Other Benevolence	\$6,731.00	
Total	\$145,298.86	\$193,130.00



CLASS ON THE AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO NOVEMBER 26, 8:45 AM BETWEEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Training in using the AED automated external defibrillator will take place on Sunday, November 26 at 8:45 by Tri-Hampton Rescue Squad's Paramedic, L. Jay Colella.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 19 AT 10:15 AM

The congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2024 and to nominate and elect members to Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 19 at 10:15 a.m., following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. 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! The meeting can be attended via Zoom. Meeting ID: 865 4045 3845

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86540453845>



SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER

Our Sunday School students are now learning Bible lessons based on the Old Testament. The fun part is enjoying the creative videos and books in the Holy Moly curriculum! They present a clear understanding of each lesson as we work through them together. The other fun parts are music and crafts! On **November 19**, we will switch to New Testament lessons for four weeks, as Advent season approaches.

Please note: On November 19, Sunday School begins at **9:00 a.m.**, which coincides with the single worship service that day.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE IN DECEMBER

On Christmas Eve **December 24** and New Year's Eve **December 31**, there will be **no Sunday School class**. Class will resume on **January 7**.

SOCIAL MINISTRY



During the month of November, we will once again collect **gift cards** to support the families that come to the Warminster Food Bank. The cards may be in any amount that you prefer. The envelopes will once again have suggestions for area businesses that are local to our community. Please take an envelope for each card that you purchase. The envelopes will be available beginning in November in the red tin box on the same table as the offering plate.

Please return your envelopes by the end of November so they can be distributed during the month of December. Don't forget to mark the front of the envelopes so they may be distributed according to family needs.

Thank you for your continued support of the Warminster Food Bank and the families who depend on us every month. **120 pounds** of food have been taken to the Warminster Food Bank in Sept/October.

Nancy Sclight/Social Ministry



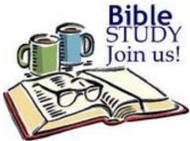
PING PONG - TUESDAYS AT 6:30

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).



PRAISE BAND AND VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

The Praise Band rehearses from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. and the Vocal Choir from 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.



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=Smg5dm1BaoVZamZjNG1YMko2MlVvdz09>
Meeting ID: 896 3251 8358 Passcode: 011905



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 Jobses, 215-355-4149



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Advent's annual Christmas brunch will be held on **Sunday, December 3, 2023**, in the Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. For those who are able, please bring hot or cold breakfast and/or lunch items to share with everyone. Suggestions include breakfast meats, pancakes, waffles, casseroles, vegetables, salads, pastry, breads, fruit,

desserts, your favorite dish, or whatever you wish. These should be brought into the church kitchen prior to the 9:30 a.m. service. The oven in the kitchen will be available to warm up items and Advent will supply paper products, as well as hot and cold beverages. This event lasts about an hour. Festive live Christmas music will be provided by Advent's own talented musicians.

Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex so that we can plan accordingly. All family members and friends are welcome to attend. Thank you!



ADVENT'S CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING-DECEMBER 3

We will be decorating the Christmas Tree in the narthex on **Sunday, December 3**, after the Brunch. All are invited to participate.



CHRISTMAS JAZZ CONCERT – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

The annual holiday concert will be held on **Friday evening, December 15, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.** under the direction of our organist and choir director, Michael Dettra. You can look forward to kicking off the holidays with an hour of relaxation and entertainment. Light refreshments will be served, and thank you for supporting Michael and his band.



POINSETTIA LIST

A sign-up sheet for dedicating poinsettias for Christmas Eve is on the table in the narthex. Please sign up by **December 17**. You can also call the office to leave your dedication. Poinsettias may be picked up any time after the 7:30 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. The cost will be announced in the bulletins when we have received it.



YOU'RE INVITED TO PLAY IN THE PRAISE BAND OR SING WITH THE VOCAL CHOIR

Advent's Praise Band and Vocal Choir invite you to join them during the Advent season! Christmas music rehearsals begin on Wednesday, November 29. Praise Band rehearses from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, and the Vocal Choir from 7:15-8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra for more details.

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

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – NOVEMBER 12

Recognition of Veterans

- 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 Church Council meeting

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 6:30 pm Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

6:30-7:15 Praise Band Practice
7:15-8:00 Vocal Choir Practice

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

10:00 am – noon Stitch Club

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – NOVEMBER 19

Congregational Meeting

9:00 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
10:00 am Fellowship: Open
10:15 am Congregational Meeting