

25th Sunday After Pentecost
November 19, 2023
9:00 a.m.
Harvest Home
Installation of the Strategic Mission Team



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: "Blessed Assurance" WOV #699

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

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. . . Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Readings for the 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7Be silent before the Lord GOD!

**For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.**

**12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."**

**13Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.**

**14The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.**

**¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.**

**¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.**

**¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.**

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

Psalm: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

**²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."

**⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

**⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

[⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and
we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?]

**¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter

C: Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of Praise: "The Wonderful Cross"

When I survey the wondrous Cross
On which the Prince of Glory died
My richest gain, I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride

See from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did ever such love and sorrow meet?
Or thorns compose, so rich a crown

Oh the wonderful Cross, oh the wonderful
Cross
Bids me come and die and find that I may
truly live
Oh the wonderful Cross, oh the wonderful
Cross

All who gather here by grace, draw near and bless
Your name

Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all

Oh the wonderful Cross, oh the wonderful Cross
Bids me come and die and find that I may truly
live
Oh the wonderful Cross, oh the wonderful Cross
All who gather here by grace, draw near and bless
Your name

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.**

Installation of the Strategic Mission Team

David Elkin, George Henry, Christel Hoffmann, Mike Sitler, Megan Ward.

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: "This is the Day"

This is the day, this is the day.
That the Lord has made, that
the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice, let us rejoice,
And be glad in it, and be glad
in it.

This is the day that the Lord
has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made.

We are the people, we are the people,
Of the living God, of the living God.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,
And be glad in Him, and be glad in Him.

We are the people of the living God.
Let us rejoice and be glad in Him.
We are the people; we are the people
Of the living God.

Dismissal

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
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
Lay Reader	George Henry
Communion Assistant	Megan Ward



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.

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 is being 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>



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 list*. Names are added to this list by filling out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary during worship and 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 Janice Hoffmann in memory of Anna Hoffmann.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 12, 8:00 am 19, 9:30 am 27 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.



IT'S CHRISTMAS!

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 Slight/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=Smg5dm1Ba0VZamZjNG1YMko2MlVvdzo9>
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 Jobes, 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 \$15.00.



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

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – NOVEMBER 19

Installation of the Strategic Mission Team

Harvest Home

Congregational Meeting

- 9:00 am Contemporary Holy Communion
- Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
- 10:00 am Fellowship: Jeanne & Tony Gryzka
- 10:15 am Congregational Meeting

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 6:30 pm Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

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

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

10:00 am – noon Stitch Club

26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – NOVEMBER 26

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