

Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025
9:30 AM



GATHERING

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confessions and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: 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.**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: “Mighty to Save”

1 Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations

2 So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender ***Chorus***

Chorus

Saviour He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Bridge

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing for the glory of the risen King

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 118:14-29

- ¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”
- ¹⁷ **I shall not die, but live,**
and declare the works of the LORD.
- ¹⁸ The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.
- ¹⁹ **Open for me the gates of righteousness;**
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.
- ²⁰ “This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter.”
- ²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me**
and you have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ **By the LORD has this been done;**
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- ²⁵ **Hosanna! O LORD, save us!**
We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ **The LORD is God and has given us light.**
Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.
- ²⁹ **Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;**
God’s mercy endures forever.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

- ⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven
spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the
dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests
serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.
- ⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the
Almighty.
Word of God, Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Hosanna"

Chorus

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna

1 King of Israel welcome to our hearts
Here to reign in righteousness
Oh Ruler of the world, Ruler of our hearts
Now ascend Your throne
You are the King of Kings
Hosanna

Chorus

2 To Jerusalem, to the sons of man
Riding on in gentle strength
Oh come to save Your own, come to give Your life
The Kingdom is at hand
You are the King of Kings
Hosanna

Chorus

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The Offering

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

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray...

C: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

SACRAMENT

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

Distribution

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

Prayer after Communion

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
C: Amen.

Benediction

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: “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

- 1** I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 2** Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.
- 3** When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
C: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor
Music Director
Lay Reader
Communion Assistant
Fellowship Time

The Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen
Michael Dettra
Bruce Eklund
Joyce Heiss
Open

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by the Wagner family in honor of their son's birthday.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 20 TOTAL: 105

8:00 AM: 20+2=22

9:30 AM: 80+3=83

Sunday School: no Sunday School

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.

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 – RESUMING MAY 29

Thursday Night Bible Study with Pastor Matt will resume next month on Thursday, May 29 at 7:00 PM. The Zoom link and more information will be sent via email and posted in the bulletin the week of May 29.

DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Payments for dedications may be made using the marked envelopes by the sign-up charts.

*Please place payment in the offering plate or mail payment to the church at
45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954.*

*Please write check to **Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church**
and write **Altar Flowers** or **Mission Support** in the memo line on your check.*

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



FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

*Communion is a gift from God, allowing us to receive His grace,
nourish our faith, and more fully participate in the life of the Church.*

Advent will offer First Holy Communion instruction every other Sunday for 4 weeks, beginning Sunday, June 1, 2025. Parents of baptized children, grade 5 and older are encouraged to register their child by completing an online registration form at <https://forms.gle/2uNSDtbybWxXktVs7>. Hard copy registration forms are also available in the narthex. Please call the church office at 215-355-2529 with any questions.

If your child is younger than grade 5, and you would like to discuss enrolling them, please call the church office to speak with Pastor Matt. Decisions on younger children will be made on a case-by-case basis.

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE

The Prayer Chain is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the Prayer Chain. Names are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier.

To add names to the Prayer Chain:

- ✦ Complete a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary. Please place completed cards in the offering plate, or
- ✦ Submit names by email directly to Linda Weaver at lindaweaver3@comcast.net.

If you would like to be a Prayer Chain volunteer, please contact Linda Weaver to be added to the email list.

DONATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Fellowship Time is held Sundays directly following the 9:30 AM 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.

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!

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report For March 2025		
	Rec'd for March 2025	Budget for March 2025
General Fund	\$9,591.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,499	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$50	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$75	
Web Upgrade	\$250	
Total	\$11,465.93	\$20,640.00
	Rec'd YTD 1/1-3/31/25	Budget YTD 1/1-3/31/25
General Fund	\$31,276.63	\$55,827.00
Mortgage	\$4,274.00	\$5,694.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$165.00	\$399.00
Other Benevolence	\$1,706.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$37,871.63	\$61,920.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

LAUNCH PARTY FOR ADVENT'S NEW WEB SITE

Sunday, May 4, 10:30 am



Come celebrate the launch of Advent's new web site!

The new site was designed and developed over the past year with Janus Advertising. This project required a great amount of effort and collaboration. We are truly grateful to Heather, Lisa and staff at Janus Advertising for going above and beyond to create our amazing new site. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the web site committee which included Katie Dettra, Mike Sitler and Pastor Matt.

Thank you to the many people who spent countless hours assisting the committee, including Cindy Frey, Jeanne Gryszka, and Tony Gryszka. Thank you to the church council for their support and participation. Thank you also to everyone in the congregation who participated in surveys and provided feedback throughout the development. Finally, thank you to all who donated money to help fund this important endeavor. Let's celebrate this wonderful accomplishment!

Light refreshments will be served.

ADVENT'S ANNUAL SPRING PROPERTY CLEAN UP

Saturday, May 10, 9:00-11:00 AM



Advent's annual spring cleanup will be on Saturday morning, May 10, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. All volunteers are welcome and encouraged to participate! Suggested items to bring include work gloves, brooms, rakes, gardening tools, hedge trimmers, tree pruners, and weed whackers. We will be concentrating on weeding the gardens, applying mulch, and general cleanup. Yard waste bags will be provided. Hope to see you there!

CELEBRATION OF PASTOR MATT AND DEBBIE'S WEDDING

Sunday, May 18, following the 9:30 AM service



They do! Advent will host a special celebration of Pastor Matt and Debbie's wedding on Sunday, May 18, following the 9:30 AM worship service. Come and celebrate the newlyweds and surround them with the love and support of Advent!

Light refreshments will be served.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 – Second Sunday of Easter

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: Open
10:45 AM Bible Study in the parlor with George Henry

MONDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

6:30 PM Ping Pong until 8:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

5:30 PM Praise Band Practice
6:15 PM Vocal Choir Practice

FRIDAY, MAY 2

7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 4 – Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion
9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School for students age 4 to grade 6
10:30 AM Web Site Launch Party