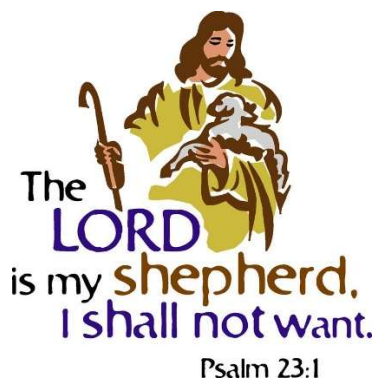


FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025

8:00 AM & 9:30 AM



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 the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.

Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✙ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

2 We are Thine, do Thou befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray:

Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

3 Early let us seek Thy favor,
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

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 peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Reading of God’s Word

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while

she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

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

Gospel: John 10:22-30

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



1 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live,
 2 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die,
 3 They all in life and death, with you, their Lord, in view,
 4 For this, your name we bless and hum - bly pray a - new
 5 To God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, ev - er blest,



who fol - lowed you, o - beyed, a - dored, our grate - ful hymn re - ceive.
 who count - ed you their great re - ward, ac - cept our thank - ful cry.
 learned from your Ho - ly Spir - it's breath to suf - fer and to do.
 that we like them in ho - li - ness may live and die in you.
 the One in Three, the Three in One, be end - less praise ad - dressed.

Text: Richard Mant, 1776–1848, alt.
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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

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

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.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory 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.**

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.

VERSE

♩ = 120 G G7/B C G

1. Some glad morn - ing when this life is o'er, I'll fly a - way.
 2. When the shad - ows of this life have grown, I'll fly a - way.
 3. Just a few more wea - ry days and then I'll fly a - way.

CHORUS

Em G Em G/B D7 G C/G G G D G

To a home on God's ce - les - tial shore, I'll fly a - way. I'll fly a -
 Like a bird from pris - on bars has flown, I'll fly a - way.
 To a land where joys shall nev - er end, I'll fly a - way.

10 D7/A G/B C G C/G G C/G G Em

way, O glo - ry; I'll fly a - way. When I die, hal - le - lu - jah, by and by,
 G Em G/B D7 G C/G G

15 I'll fly a - way.

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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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

Worship Leader

Music Director

Lay Reader – 8:00 AM

Lay Reader – 9:30 AM

Fellowship Time

George Henry

Michael Dettra



Open

John Flint

Open

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by:

-  Cindy Frey in honor of the birthday of her granddaughter, Vanessa
-  the Hoffmann family in honor of all mothers

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 4 TOTAL: 47

8:00 AM: 9+1=10 9:30 AM: 33 Sunday School: 4

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.

PASTOR MATT ON VACATION – CORRECTION FROM MAY NEWSLETTER

Pastor Matt is on vacation from Thursday, May 8 through Saturday, May 17.

While Pastor is on vacation, if you have a pastoral emergency, please contact **Pastor Sandra Brown at 215-680-3972.**

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM – RESUMING MAY 29

Thursday Night Bible Study with Pastor Matt will resume 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

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

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!*

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report For April 2025		
	Rec'd for April 2025	Budget for April 2025
General Fund	\$18,739.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,344	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$70	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$520	
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$20,673.93	\$20,640.00
	Rec'd YTD 1/1-4/30/25	Budget YTD 1/1-4/30/25
General Fund	\$50,016.56	\$74,436.00
Mortgage	\$5,618.00	\$7,592.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$235.00	\$532.00
Other Benevolence	\$2,226.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$58,545.56	\$82,560.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CHANGE IN CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK



Tuesday, May 13: Normal hours: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Wednesday, May 14 – closing early

The church office will be open from 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM.

Thursday, May 15: Normal hours: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

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.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Beginning Sunday, May 25, Advent will have a single worship service at 9:00 AM through the summer.

CHURCH PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE

Monday, June 2 (Rain Date: Tuesday, June 3)



Advent's parking lot is scheduled to be seal-coated on Monday, June 2. (Rain Date will be Tuesday, June 3). Per the seal-coating company, the lot will be safe for driving/parking on the third day. Therefore, if the work is done on Monday, the parking lot can be used on Wednesday. If the work is done on Tuesday, the parking lot can be used on Thursday.

Any groups or organizations that have scheduled events on Monday and Tuesday, (or Tuesday and Wednesday, if it rains) will need to reschedule, or park on the grass-line along the street.



THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, MAY 11 – Fourth Sunday of Easter Happy Mother's Day!

8:00 AM Service of the Word – no Communion
9:30 AM Service of the Word – no Communion
Sunday School for students age 4 to grade 6
10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open

MONDAY, MAY 12

6:30 PM Council Meeting – via Zoom
7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 13

12:00 PM Advent Women's Circle Lunch Meeting – BYO-Lunch
6:30 PM Ping Pong until 8:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

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

FRIDAY, MAY 16

7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 18 – Fifth 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 Celebration of Pastor Matt and Debbie's wedding – all are welcome!

