Second Sunday after Pentecost June 22, 2025 9:00 AM



GATHERING

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.

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Merciful God,
- C: you free us to love others,
 - but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
 You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
 but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
 You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
 but we grow weary in doing what is right.
 In your mercy, forgive us.
 Do not give up on us.
 Heal us, break our bonds,
 and show us the path of life. Amen.
- P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.
 In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
 Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
- C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" LBW 423

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart; consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.
- 2 Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.

As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

3 As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight, making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

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 Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. ² I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³ a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴ who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵ who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,

a fire that burns all day long. ⁶See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay: I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. ⁸ Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

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

Psalm: Psalm 22:19-28

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not far away;
 O my help, hasten to my aid.
 ²⁰ Deliver me from the sword

²⁰ Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

²¹ Save me from the lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²² I will declare your name to my people;

in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴ For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

Second Reading: Galatians 3:23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 8th chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon



Text: African American spiritual Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

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 Intercession

Each petition ends with: God of grace, **C: Hear our prayer.**

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: <u>https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ34/home</u>

Offering Prayer

- P: Let us pray...
- C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Distribution

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

Prayer after Communion

- P: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.
 Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
- C: Amen.

Benediction

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Give Thanks"

- Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
 Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
- 2 And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich," Because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich," Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **C: 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 Music Director Lay Reader Communion Assistant

Fellowship Time

The Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen Michael Dettra John Flint Megan Ward Open

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by Cindy Frey in honor of the birthday of her granddaughter, Emily.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

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 the Communion Assistant know your preference. Thank you.

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM -WILL RESUME IN THE FALL

Due to the many things going on in the life of the church this summer, Thursday Night Bible Study will resume in the fall with a renewed sense of energy and purpose. Thank you for your understanding.

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 <u>pastormattollikainen@gmail.com</u>. If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

GOD SIGHTINGS – INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR SPIRITUAL GIFTS



Please take the time to reflect on how God is seen in your life through actions and/or spiritual gifts that you or someone in your life has done. On the paper chain link (available in the narthex), please identify the <u>person</u> (if applicable) and the <u>action/spiritual gift</u> through which God is being seen. For example, "<u>Grandmom taught</u> me how to bake a pie." The person who is displaying God should be underlined and the action or spiritual gift should be underlined twice.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: NOW THROUGH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

* Advent will have a single worship service at 9:00 AM on Sundays through Labor Day, September 7.

- * Services will still be live-streamed and uploaded on YouTube.
- * Both Sunday School and Adult Bible Study will resume in the fall.

DRIVE-IN & DROP-OFF FOOD COLLECTION – WARMINSTER FOOD BANK

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank 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. Check their website for the most current needs: <u>www.warminsterfoodbank.org</u>. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

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.

DONATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Fellowship Time is held Sundays directly following the 9:00 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!

Large Print Edition of OUR DAILY BREAD for July-August-September



The large print edition of Our Daily Bread devotional for July, August, and September is now available at Advent. <u>Please note that the large print edition and</u> <u>the regular edition are on different print schedules and cover different months</u>. The devotionals are also available digitally:

• Download their app at: <u>https://www.odbm.org/about-us/mobile-resources</u>

Sign up for an email subscription at: <u>https://www.odbm.org/about-us/email-subscription</u>.

If you have any questions or need assistance accessing the devotionals digitally, please contact the church office at 215-355-2529 or <u>adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com</u>.

PRAYER CHAIN AT ADVENT

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 <u>lindaweaver3@comcast.net</u>.

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

CARING FOR FRIENDS - THANK YOU!



Thank you so much to everyone for coming together to prepare Caring for Friends meals this past Sunday. Together, we assembled 68 meals! Your kindness, teamwork, and generosity are truly appreciated and made a meaningful difference for those in need.

The love and care you poured into each meal will not only nourish bodies but also lift spirits. Acts like yours remind us of the power of faith in action and the strength of our community.

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!*

Financial Report For May	y 2025	
	Rec'vd for May 2025	Budget for May 2025
General Fund	\$8,799.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,929	\$1,898.00
Bene Synod Only	\$117	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$550	
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$11,395.93	\$20,640.00
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-5/31/25	Budget YTD 1/1-5/31/25
General Fund	\$58,816.49	\$93,045.00
Mortgage	\$7,547.00	\$9,490.00
Bene Synod Only	\$352.00	\$665.00
Other Benevolence	\$2,776.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$69,941.49	\$103,200.00

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025



Monday, July 14 through Thursday, July 17 Deadline for registration: Monday, June 30

Plans are set for Vacation Bible School at Advent! Children from **age 4** thru completion of **6th grade** are invited to join the fun on **Monday–Thursday**

from 9:00 AM–noon on **July 14-17**, **2025**. We'll learn Bible lessons in summertime style! With everyone joining in for stories, games, songs and crafts, being with friends will make it great, along with snack time and outdoor play! Please complete the attached registration form and send it to the office by **June 30**. Or, you may request the form by email in Word format and return it by email- or find it on *adventrichboro.org*. Hard copies are also available in the narthex.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Single Worship Service with Communion10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open

MONDAY, JUNE 23

7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 24 Church Office closed

6:30 PM Ping Pong until 8:30 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 29 Peter and Paul, Apostles

9:00 AM	Single Worship Service with Communion
10:00 AM	Fellowship Time: Open
10:30 AM	First Communion Instruction

