

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 3, 2025

9:00 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.

C: 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.

C: Amen.



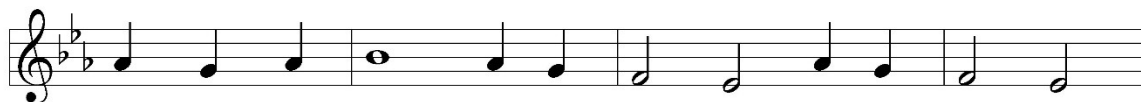
1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of
 3 To whom . . . shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up -
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals



world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un - to
 And with his faith - ful fol - l'wers see their Lord as - cend
 "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they say, "this is his glo -
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing in



the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 O Lord, our homeward pathway bend,
 that our unwearied hearts ascend.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Where, seated on your Father's throne,
 you reign as King of kings alone.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 Give us your joy on earth, O Lord,
 in heav'n to be our great reward.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 When throned with you forever, we
 shall praise your name eternally.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
 all praise to you let earth accord:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 You are, while endless ages run,
 with Father and with Spirit one.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Greeting

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

Let us pray...

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being

demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “In Christ There Is No East or West”

LBW 359



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close-bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

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

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.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Trading My Sorrows"

1 I'm trading my sorrow
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord, Amen

2 I'm trading my sorrow
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord, Amen

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

Worship Leader
Sermon
Music Director
Lay Reader
Fellowship Time

George Henry
David Elkin
Michael Dettra
Jeanne Gryszka
Open

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, July 27 9:00 AM: 40+3 TOTAL: 43

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 pastormattolikainen@gmail.com.

If he is not available to take your call, leave a message, and he will contact you.

PASTOR MATT ON VACATION 7/30-8/11

Pastor Matt will be on vacation from Wednesday, July 30 to Monday, August 11.

He will return to the office on Tuesday, August 12.

If you have a pastoral emergency while Pastor Matt is away, please contact Pastor Bo Bannister, St. John's Lutheran Hatboro, at 765-426-0500.

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 person (if applicable) and the action/spiritual gift through which God is being seen. For example, "Grandmom taught 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.

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 Communion Assistant know your preference. Thank you.

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 lindaweaver3@comcast.net.

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

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: www.warminsterfoodbank.org. 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 would like 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

The **large print edition** of Our Daily Bread devotional is available in the narthex at Advent. Please note that the large print edition and the regular edition are on different print schedules and cover different months. The devotionals are also available digitally:

- Download their app at: <https://www.odbm.org/about-us/mobile-resources>
- Sign up for an email subscription at: <https://www.odbm.org/about-us/email-subscription>.

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



SUNDAY SCHOOL CO-TEACHER NEEDED



At Advent, we place a high value on Christian education and work together to teach children about the Bible. Our Sunday school program presently has a vacancy that we need to fill. If you would be interested in serving as a co-teacher in Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays during the school year, please contact the church office for more information. Thank you for your consideration.

-Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 21



Children from age 4 through grade 6 are invited to attend Sunday School at Advent at 9:30 AM, starting on September 21. Students will begin their class time in the worship service. They'll join Pastor Matt for the Children's Sermon, then proceed with their teacher(s) to the all-purpose room to gather for their class.

Our weekly Bible lessons are based on the clever **Holy Moly** curriculum. The **Bible Story Book** is written and illustrated in graphic novel style and the creative short videos bring the stories to life. The lessons are real conversation-starters!

Learning together is fun! The registration form is available in the church foyer and narthex, and on our website. This is important, as student books and crafts will be ordered based on the number of registered students. Thank you! Please contact the church office at 215-355-2529 or adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com with any questions.

SEEKING WEBSITE FEEDBACK



In the 2 months since Advent's new website launched, a few technical glitches have been reported and are being resolved. We are asking for your feedback on the functionality of the site so that we can identify any additional issues and make the site as user-friendly as possible. Janus Advertising has been wonderful and responsive in catching and resolving issues. However, the best feedback we can provide to them will be from you, the people using the site. If you have any feedback about the site (specifically about the functionality, though any feedback is welcomed and encouraged), please contact the office via phone 215-355-2529 or email adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com. Some examples of what we are looking for:

1. You had trouble finding specific information.
2. You discovered a broken link or a missing page.
3. There is important information you would like to see on the home page.

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback.

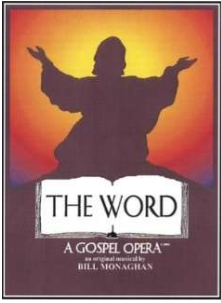
The Adventure

The August 2025 edition of The Adventure, the newsletter for Advent Richboro, is now available. Hard copies are available in the narthex. The newsletter was also emailed to the congregation and friends on Thursday, July 31. If you would like to and are not receiving the emailed copy of the newsletter, please call the church office at 215-355-2529. Thank you!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BILL MONAGHAN: AN AFTERNOON WITH THE COMPOSER AT ADVENT RICHBORO

NEXT SATURDAY, August 9, 2025 at 2pm Admission: Free-will offering



The Word: Song & Scripture features singer-songwriter/composer Bill Monaghan & Friends, as he shares the Scriptural and musical influences behind the songs. Originally presented on the stage in 1995 and enjoying 10+ years and 70+ musical shows, The Word: A Gospel Opera is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 2025! Bill's original music CDs will be available for purchase by donation. *Family-friendly event* The Word: A Gospel Opera presents the life and teachings, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus in a vibrant, spiritually uplifting musical. www.TheWordAGospelOpera.com

ADVENT FLEA MARKET - Saturday, September 13, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Registration Deadline: Sunday, September 7

Non-refundable Registration Fee: \$10



FLEA MARKET

On Saturday, September 13, Advent will hold a Community Flea Market in the church parking lot, providing all participants an avenue by which to make “decluttering their living space” a reality! This is a rain or shine event (held inside the church in the event of rain) for church members, family, friends, neighbors and community members to sell and buy items or just to browse.

Registration forms with detailed information are available on the round table in the church narthex and on the church website at www.adventrichboro.org for those wishing to have space to sell items. We look forward to seeing you at the Flea Market and helping you “declutter” your living space!

Please contact Coordinators Kathy Sitler (215-589-5423) or Cime Eklund with any questions that you may have about this event.

JUNE 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report For June 2025		
	Rec'd for June 2025	Budget for June 2025
General Fund	\$14,511.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,519	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$80	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$725	
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$16,835.93	\$20,640.00
	Rec'd YTD 1/1-6/30/25	Budget YTD 1/1-6/30/25
General Fund	\$73,328.42	\$111,654.00
Mortgage	\$9,066.00	\$11,388.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$432.00	\$798.00
Other Benevolence	\$3,501.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$86,777.42	\$123,840.00

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, August 3

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Service of the Word - No Communion
10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open
10:00 AM Bible Study with George Henry in the Parlor

MONDAY, August 4

7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

FRIDAY, August 8

7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, August 9

2:00 PM The Word: A Gospel Opera
30th Anniversary Concert

SUNDAY, August 10

Nineth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Service of the Word - No Communion
10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open
10:15 AM August Council Meeting

