

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 19, 2025 8:00 AM



LUTHERAN BOOK OF WORSHIP ORDER OF WORSHIP



Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church 45 Worthington Mill Road Richboro, PA 18954-1909 215-355-2529 Adventrichboro.org

Welcome Visitors! Discover god's abundant grace and love.

We extend a cordial welcome to all who worship with us today. We give thanks that you are here with us. Please sign our guest book and come back to worship with us again.

In the principal service of Christian worship, the Holy Spirit gathers people around the means of grace—the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of communion where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and to care for those in need. The basic pattern of this service—gathering, word, meal, sending—is a structure that allows for freedom and flexibility in the ways worship may be shaped locally, while focusing on what the church holds in common. The whole people of God are joined by the same gifts of grace, for the sake of the same mission of the gospel, into the life of the one triune God.

Gathering ¹

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confessions and Forgiveness ²

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

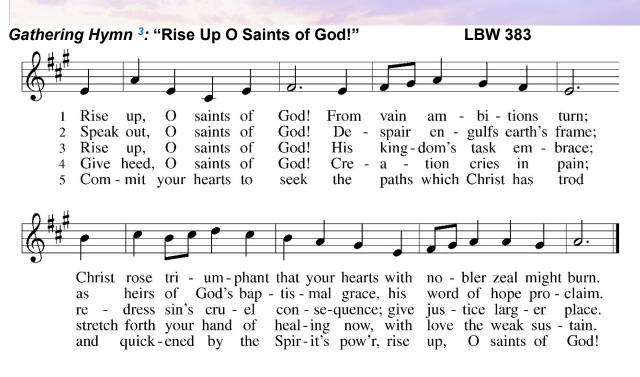
C: Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

¹ The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

² On the day of Christ's resurrection, and at other times, God gathers us in Christian assembly. We confess our sin and hear God's word of forgiveness. We give thanks for God's mercy in the gift of baptism.



Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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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.

Hymn of Praise



³ Singing at the gathering may include hymns old and new; a prayer for God's mercy to fill the church and the world; a canticle of praise to God's glory revealed in Jesus Christ.



Prayer of the Day 4

P: O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Word 5

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 121

- ¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.
- ³The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
- ⁴ Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;
- ⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- 6 the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁴ During the gathering, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the name of the triune God. The presiding minister gathers the assembly into prayer.

⁵ God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song. The word of God is proclaimed within and by the gathered assembly. The first Bible reading, usually from the Old Testament, is followed by a psalm sung or spoken in response. The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church. We acclaim the living Word, Jesus Christ, present in the gospel reading. Preaching brings God's word of law and gospel into our time and place to awaken and nourish faith.

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸ The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4:1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but, having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 18th chapter.



Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

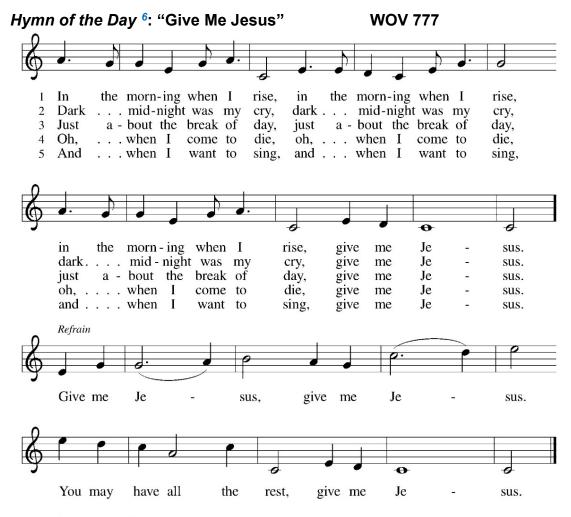
¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by

continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon



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

⁶ God's word is further proclaimed as we sing and as we confess our faith with the whole church. After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace.

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

Prayer of the Church

Each petition ends with: God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

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

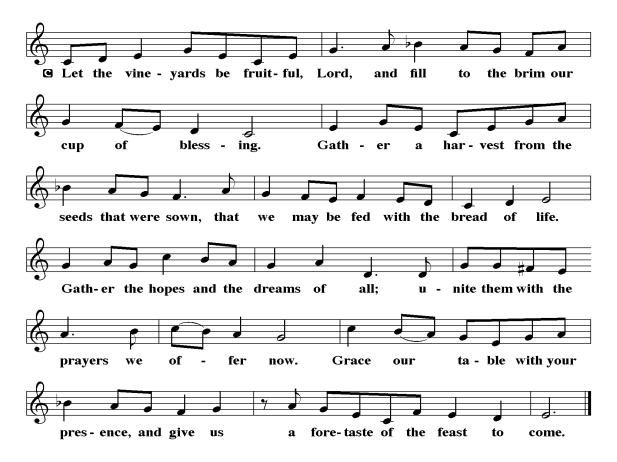
C: And also with you.

The Offering 7

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

⁷ A collection of material goods for the church's mission, including the care of those in need, is a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all God's gifts. The table is set with bread and wine.

The Offertory



Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray... Merciful Father C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sacrament 8

The Great Thanksgiving 9

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

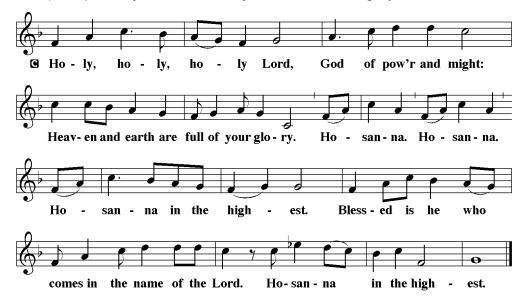
P: Lift up your hearts.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...stays (preface continues with words for the season and concludes...) we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

⁸ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

⁹ Before the Lord's supper is shared, the presiding minister leads us into thanksgiving. With the whole creation, we join the angels' song.

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 10

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

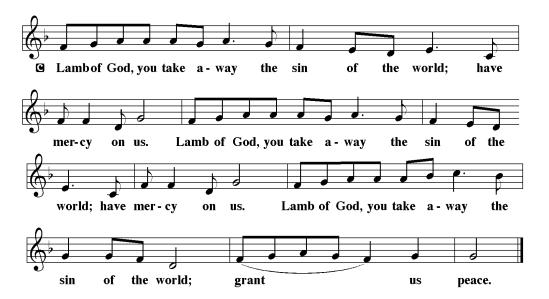
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

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 11

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



¹⁰ The grace of God's gift is always proclaimed in Jesus' own words of command and promise at the table. A full thanksgiving also includes praise to God for creation and salvation; remembrance of the crucified and risen Christ; and prayer for the Holy Spirit in this meal. The thanksgiving concludes with the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us.

¹¹ In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission. It is traditional to sing as the bread is broken and as the meal is shared. We ask God to send us in witness to the world.

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you.

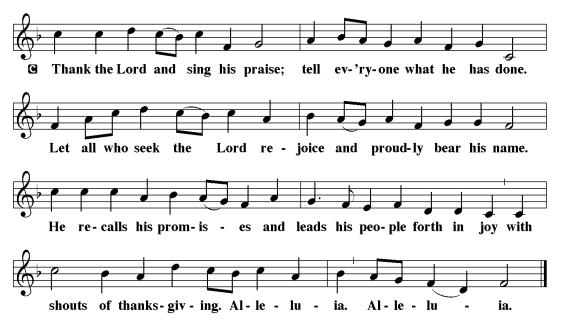
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle



Prayer after Communion 12

Let us pray... 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.

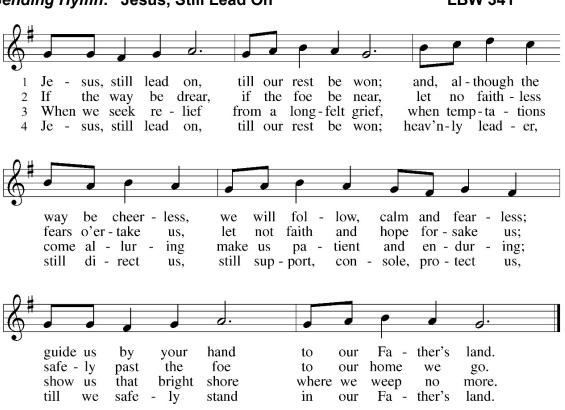
C: Amen.

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¹² God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. God's mission includes the gifts of grace that we share in worship and take also to the absent; now, we are sent to continue our participation in God's mission. With the blessing of God, we go out to live as Christ's body in the world.

Sending Hymn: "Jesus, Still Lead On"

LBW 341



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt. Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620-1701

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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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>.

OUR MISSION



- 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 David Elkin Communion Assistant Janice Hoffmann Fellowship Time 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, October 12 Total: 42

8:00 AM: 8+3 9:30 AM: 26 Sunday School: 5

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.

All Saints Sunday: November 2, 2025

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate a service of Holy Communion and will especially remember family and friends who have died in the last year. If you have someone you wish included in our prayers, please fill out a form and return to the church office or place it in the offering plate no later than Sunday, October 26. You may also call or email the office with the information. 215-355-2529 adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com

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.

Thursday Night Bible Study via Zoom -most Thursdays except the 1st Thursday of each month

Thursday Night Bible Study now offers you an opportunity to "Stump the Pastor!" Submit your scripturerelated questions via email to adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com with "Stump the Pastor" in the subject line OR handwrite your questions on the Stump the Pastor slips located in a basket on the round table in the narthex. George Henry will tabulate the questions and select those to be answered each week during the Zoom Bible Study.

A weekly commitment is not needed! Come virtually with your Bible or just listen and follow along as your schedule allows. Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140

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

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.

Praise Band and Vocal Choir Rehearsals

Rehearsals for both Praise Band and Vocal Choir are held on Wednesday evenings.



Praise Band: 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Vocal Choir: 6:15 PM - 7:00 PM

If you are interested in sharing your musical talents through Praise Band and/or Vocal Choir, please contact Mike Dettra, Music Director.

Call for Worship Assistants



Advent needs volunteers to assist with worship services! Training is provided for those interested in serving as Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Acolyte or Greeter. Volunteers can also assist behind the scenes with set up prior to

services. Contact Kristi Ward for more information: kward1411@yahoo.com or 215-284-2669.

Sunday School Assistants Needed



Our Sunday school program is presently in need of an assistant for each weekly class. Our policy requires us to have two responsible persons lead a class. At this time, we have one experienced teacher who teaches every week.

In order to provide an assistant, a sign-up sheet is in the narthex for volunteers to offer their help, one Sunday at a time. Volunteers require a background

check. If you can help by serving as an assistant to our teacher in Sunday School at 9:30 AM on one or more Sundays during the school year, please sign an empty space. Thank you to those who have already volunteered! -Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

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.

Our Daily Bread



The regular and large print editions of Our Daily Bread devotional are 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. Go to www.odbm.org for more information.

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.

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.

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!

September Financial Report

Financial Report For Sep	tember 2025	
	Rec'vd for Sept 2025	Budget for Sept 2025
General Fund	\$10,440.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,210	\$1,898.00
Bene Synod Only	\$60	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$310	
Memorial	\$2,075	
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$14,095.93	\$20,640.00
	Recv'd YTD 1/1/-9/30/25	Budget YTD 1/1-9/30/25
General Fund	\$102,042.21	\$167,481.00
Mortgage	\$13,051.00	\$17,082.00
Bene Synod Only	\$692.00	\$1,197.00
Other Benevolence	\$4,471.00	
Memorial	\$2,075.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$122,781.21	\$185,760.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

TODAY! Caring for Friends – Meal Assembly: Sunday, October 19, after the 9:30 AM service



The next meal preparation for Caring for Friends will be today, Sunday, October 19, after worship. We'll be preparing Thanksgivingstyle meals, including turkey, green beans, and stuffing. Our aim is to have these meals ready for Thanksgiving so that people can enjoy the holiday with the gift of a meal. We appreciate your help in advance and look forward to seeing you there!

Welcoming a new Member of Advent: next Sunday, October 26 during the 9:30 AM service



Next Sunday, October 26, Advent will celebrate Joan Russel officially joining the congregation as a new member. An Affirmation of Baptism will be included in worship during the 9:30 AM service, followed by a special coffee hour/fellowship in the narthex.

Coat Drive: Sunday, October 26 through Sunday, November 16



We are collecting new and gently worn coats (all sizes) for Prevention Point Philadelphia. This is a non-profit organization that supports the unhoused and addicted in the Kensington area of Philadelphia. We are collecting coats starting Sunday, October 26 through Sunday, November 16. Please place donations in the designated bin in the narthex.

RIOOD DONORS

Blood Drive: Tuesday, October 28, 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Harvest Hope Blood Drive will take place at Advent on Tuesday, October 28, from 2:00 to 7:00. Please consider donating and asking your family, friends and neighbors to join you. All those participating will receive a \$10 e-gift card, and a chance to win one of three \$5000 gift cards.

A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex or sign up online at www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code "adventlutheran" (all lowercase) call 1-800-red-cross or contact Audrey Savchuck at 215-913-1037.

Please see Audrey if you are able to volunteer - either an hour or two the day of the drive or to donate treats for our snack table.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

	SUNDAY, October 19 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	
8:00 AM	Traditional Service with Holy Communion	
9:30 AM	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	
10:30 AM	Sunday School: Children age 4 to grade 6 Fellowship Time: Open	
10:35 AM	Caring for Friends meal assembly for Thanksgiving	
	, , ,	
7:30 PM	MONDAY, October 20 A.A. Open Meeting	
7.001 101	7.7. Open weeding	
	TUESDAY, October 21	
6:30 PM	Ping Pong	
	WEDNESDAY, October 22	
5:30 PM	,	
6:15 PM	Vocal Choir rehearsal	
	THURSDAY, October 23	
7:00 PM	Zoom Bible Study "Stump the Pastor" with Pastor Matt	
7:30 PM	FRIDAY, October 24 A.A. Step Meeting	
7.30 PIVI	A.A. Step Meeting	
	SUNDAY, October 26	
	Reformation Sunday	
8:00 AM	Traditional Service with Holy Communion	
9:30 AM	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion Sunday School: Children age 4 to grade 6	
	Affirmation of Baptism for Joan Russel	
10:30 AM	Fellowship Time: Celebration of New Member, Joan Russel	
10:45 AM	Adult Bible Study in the parlor with George Henry	