



ADVENT EVANGELICAL *Lutheran Church*

Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026
8:00 AM and 9:30 AM



Service of the Word



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.

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.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,

C: 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.

P: 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

Gathering Hymn: "This Joyful Eastertide"

LBW 149

This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
sprung to life this mor - row. Had Christ, who once was
slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our faith had been in
vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -
ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

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: Let us pray...

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, 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 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

¹ I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

² **for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

¹² How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

LBW 143



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of love that
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our heart with
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; set heart and will on
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the heav'n - ly



still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri - umph;
 bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
 Now still he comes to give us life and by his pres -
 grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our lives
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest,



of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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

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: Merciful God,

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

Please leave your offering by scanning the QR code

or on our website: <https://giving.servantkeeper.com/adventrichboro>



Thanksgiving for the Word

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: 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

P: 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

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: "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, Jesus

Chorus

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

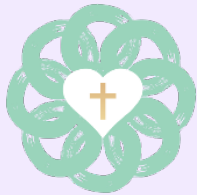
C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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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 pastormattolikainen@gmail.com.

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



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

Worship Leader

George Henry

Music Director

Michael Dettra

Lay Reader 8:00 AM

David Elkin

Lay Reader 9:30 AM

Bruce Eklund

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.

Worship Attendance for Sunday, April 12

Total: 57

8:00 AM: 15 + 3

9:30 AM: 32 + 3

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.

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.

Thursday Evening Zoom Bible Study

Thursday Evening Bible Study via Zoom will resume this Thursday, April 23, at 7:00 PM. A weekly commitment is not required! Come virtually with your Bible, or just listen and follow along as your schedule allows.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>



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 to 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 Gryska, Sunday School Director

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.*

Altar Flowers Chart

The 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

Mission Support

The 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 9:30 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.

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.

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

Thanks to the efforts of many, we had assembled a large collection of aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Your contribution will benefit the families staying in this wonderful facility while their loved one undergoes medical care nearby. United Scrap Metal recyclers weigh the donation of aluminum tabs to determine their value, based on the average value of around \$.75/pound of tabs. They then send Ronald McDonald House Charities/Philly a check for the total amount, which directly benefits the families! Keep bringing those tabs!

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 - March 2026		
	Rec'vd for March 2026	Budget for March 2026
General Fund	\$11,764.93	\$19,805.00
Mortgage	\$1,970.00	\$1,898.00
Bene - Synod Only	\$55.00	\$133.00
Other Benevolence	\$565.00	
Total	\$14,354.93	\$21,836.00
Financial Report - 1/1/26-3/31/26		
	Rec'vd 1/1/26-3/31/26	Budget 1/1/26-3/31/26
General	\$35,262.79	\$59,415.00
Mortgage	\$4,230.00	\$5,694.00
Bene-Synod Only	\$260.00	\$399.00
Other Benevolence	\$1,255.00	
Total	\$41,007.79	\$65,508.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

POTLUCK LUNCH – Sunday, April 26, following the 9:30 AM Worship Service

On Sunday, April 26, we will have a potluck lunch following services to continue the Strategic Mission Plan. More information will be available soon.

ADVENT'S ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP – May 2, 2026, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Advent's annual spring cleanup will be on Saturday morning, May 2, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. All volunteers are welcome and encouraged to participate! Suggested items to bring include work gloves, 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! *Rain Date: May 9, 2026*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday, July 13 through Thursday, July 16, 9:00 AM to noon

Children, age 4 thru grade 6, set your calendar and invite your friends. There will be Bible lessons, games and activities, plus snack and outdoor playtime, all with friends, old and new! We'll be happy to see you. *Registration forms will be available soon.*

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, April 19

Third Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Service of the Word – no Communion
- 9:30 AM Service of the Word – no Communion
Sunday School, *students age 4 to grade 6*
- 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study in the parlor with George Henry

MONDAY, April 20

- 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, April 21

- 6:30 PM Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, April 22

No Praise Band or Vocal Choir Practice

THURSDAY, April 23

- 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study

FRIDAY, April 24

- 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, April 26

Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 AM Traditional Service with Holy Communion
- 9:30 AM Contemporary Service with Holy Communion
Sunday School, *students age 4 to grade 6*
- 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 AM Potluck Lunch, *hosted by the Strategic Mission Team*