



ADVENT
EVANGELICAL
Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 10, 2026
9:30 AM



We Gather in Jesus' Name



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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.
Merciful God,
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
You lead us beside still waters.
We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

P: Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

P: Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "Song of Love"

1 Jesus, king of my heart
Father, my peace and my light
Spirit, the joy of my soul You are

2 Jesus, to You none compare
Father, I rest in your care
Spirit, the hope of my heart You are

Chorus

The heavens declare You are God
And the mountains rejoice
The oceans cry "Alleluia"
As we worship You Lord
For this is our song of love

3 Jesus, You saved my soul
I'll thank You forever more
Jesus, the love of my life You are
Chorus

4 Jesus, I am in awe
Of the love that You have shown
Jesus, how precious you are
To me, to me
Chorus

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: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Children's Sermon

The Reading of God's Word

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a

day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, Word of Life,

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an

appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, Word of Life,

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of Praise “Branches”

1 I'm here separated apart and torn away
Broken branches in need of Your grace
There is no life apart from You
You're here in my failing
Your word makes me pure in my weakness
Your strength is secure
All of my life is found in You

2 I'm here fully grafted inside of Your love
In ev'ry season Your grace is enough
You are in me as I'm in You
I'm called and appointed showing Your life
I am chosen
A co-heir with Christ
Your word inside me now bearing Your fruit

Chorus

Chorus

You are the vine
We are the branches
I am nothing without You
It's all for Your glory
All for Your purpose
Less of me and more of You

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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>*



Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray,

**C: O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Sacrament

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.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
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

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

Distribution

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

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray...

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

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: "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

WOV 673



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

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

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.



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	John Flint
Communion Assistant	Joyce Heiss
Fellowship Time	Open

Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers are dedicated:

- ❖ by Cindy Frey in honor of the 6th birthday of her granddaughter, Vanessa
- ❖ by Lynn Roccograndi, in honor of the birthday of his mother, Elsie

Mission Support

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

Worship Attendance for Sunday, May 3:

Total: 50 8:00 AM: 14 + 4 9:30 AM: 25 + 4 Sunday School: 3

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.

Sunday School Assistants Needed for the Fall



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 Gryszka, 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.

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 April 2026		
	Rec'vd for April 2026	Budget for April 2026
General Fund	\$12,637.93	\$19,805.00
Mortgage	\$1,325	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$40	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$440	
Total	\$14,442.93	\$21,836.00
	Rec'vd 1/1/26-4/30/26	Budget 1/1/26-4/30/26
General	\$47,900.72	\$79,220.00
Mortgage	\$5,555.00	\$7,592.00
Bene-Synod Only	\$300.00	\$532.00
Other Benevolence	\$1,695.00	
Total	\$55,450.72	\$87,344.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ADVENT WOMEN'S CIRCLE – Tuesday, May 12, 12:00 PM

The next meeting for the Advent Women's Circle is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, at 12:00 PM at Advent. Bring your own lunch along with some ideas for upcoming events and outreach!

CARING FOR FRIENDS Meal Assembly – Sunday, May 17, after the 9:30 AM Service

The next meal preparation for Caring for Friends will be Sunday, May 17, after the 9:30 AM worship service. We appreciate your help in advance and look forward to seeing you there!

- Kevin and Christine Welsh

DETTRA MENTAL SPRING CONCERT – Friday, May 22, 7:00 PM

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 22, at 7:00 PM when the Dettra Mental Quartet will be performing a Spring Concert at Advent. At-will donations will be accepted for the musicians. Light refreshments will be served.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE at ADVENT – Tuesday, May 26, 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Please consider donating and asking your family, friends and neighbors to join you. All those participating will receive a Red Cross beach towel.

Options to sign up to **donate**:

- Sign up on the donor sheet, located in the narthex
- Sign up online at RedCrossBlood.org (enter sponsor code "AdventLutheran")
- Call 1-800-Red-Cross

Please sign up on the **volunteer sheet** in the narthex or reach out to Marie (781-521-0331) if you are able to donate treats for the snack table or volunteer for an hour or two on the day of the drive.

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 are available online, in the narthex, or by email
by contacting the church office at adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com or 215-355-2529.*

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, May 10

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Happy Mother's Day!

- 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 Adult Bible Study in the parlor with George Henry
- 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting

MONDAY, May 11

- 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, May 12

- 12:00 PM Advent Women's Circle Meeting, *bring your own lunch*
- 6:30 PM Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, May 13

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

THURSDAY, May 14

- 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study with Pastor Matt

FRIDAY, May 15

- 11:00 AM Holland Village Communion Service
- 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, May 17

Seventh 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*
(last class for the school year)
- 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study in the parlor with George Henry
- 10:45 AM Caring for Friends Meal Assembly



Summer Worship Schedule begins Sunday, May 24 and continues through Sunday, September 6.

From May 24 to September 6, Advent will have a single worship service at 9:00 AM, followed by Fellowship.

Worship will continue to be live streamed online, via Zoom and Facebook Live, and uploaded to the church's YouTube channel following the conclusion of service.