



ADVENT
EVANGELICAL
Lutheran Church

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 30, 2026
9:00 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

God Sightings

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,
whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "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

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world.
Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your
commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Sermon

The Reading of God's Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, Word of Life,

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry,



feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Gospel Reading

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of Praise: "Give Me Jesus"

WOV 777

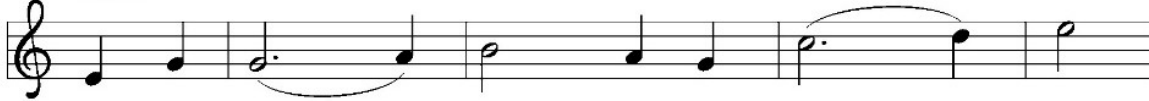


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: 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: Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.**

Sacrament

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray...

Compassionate God,

through the gifts of bread and wine

our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.

Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,

may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

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: "As the Deer"

1 As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee
You alone are my Strength, my Shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee.

2 I want You more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye
You alone are my Strength, my Shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee.

Dismissal

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The **Summer Worship Schedule** continues through **Sunday, September 6** with a single worship service at 9:00 AM, followed by Fellowship Time.

Beginning **Sunday, September 13**, Advent will host an 8:00 AM Traditional Worship Service and a 9:30 AM Contemporary Service on most Sundays, followed by Fellowship Time.





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	Jeanne Gryszka
Communion Assistant	Kristi Ward
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, August 23**

Total: 29 9:00 AM: 27 + 2 (online)

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.

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.

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 last worship 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 \$0.75/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!*

Table Tennis is Back!

Table Tennis at Advent will resume on September 1! Beginning this fall, we will now offer two sessions on Tuesdays, an afternoon session from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, and an evening session from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. All are welcome, no matter the skill level. Paddles and balls are provided.

Financial Report For July 2026		
	Rec'vd for July 2026	Budget for July 2026
General Fund	\$9,184.93	\$19,805.00
Mortgage	\$1,290	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$90	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$390	
Total	\$10,954.93	\$21,836.00
	Rec'vd 1/1/26-7/31/26	Budget 1/1/26-7/31/26
General	\$75,359.51	\$138,635.00
Mortgage	\$9,795.00	\$13,286.00
Bene-Synod Only	\$640.00	\$931.00
Other Benevolence	\$3,475.00	
Total	\$89,269.51	\$152,852.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SINGLE WORSHIP SERVICE AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, September 27, 2026



Advent will host a single worship service with Sunday School on **Sunday, September 27**, at 9:00 AM, followed by a special congregational meeting at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be held in person and via Zoom. The Finance Committee and Church Council will be presenting information about the 2027 Stewardship Program as well as updating the congregation on the 2026 church finances. We ask that you please make plans to attend this meeting. Thank you.

Worship Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84972693871> Passcode: SINGLESERV

Meeting Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89856368740> Passcode: CONGRMTG

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Begins Sunday, September 20, during the 9:30 AM Worship Service



Children from age 4 through grade 6 are invited to attend Sunday School, at 9:30 AM, starting on September 20. Students will begin their class time in the worship service. They will join Pastor Matt for the Children's Sermon, then proceed with their teachers 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. You can also download the form from the church website, www.adventrichboro.org, or contact the church office. Student books and crafts will be ordered based on the number of registered students, so please register soon!

Thank you! Please contact the church office at adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com or 215-355-2529 with any questions.

COMEDY & SCIENCE: THE ART OF STANDUP

Free Classes begin on Tuesday, September 29, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Limited Space - Registration Required



Learn the science behind what makes people laugh and develop the skills to write, perform, and own the stage. No experience is required – just a sense of humor and a willingness to learn. Register by contacting the church office or signing up on the interest sheet in the narthex.

TABLE TENNIS IS BACK!



Table Tennis at Advent will resume on **September 1** with weekly sessions on Tuesdays. This year we will offer afternoon sessions in addition to the evening sessions.

- Afternoon sessions are 2:00 to 4:00 PM
- Evening sessions are 6:30 to 8:30 PM

All are invited, no matter the skill level. Paddles and balls are provided.

ANNUAL ADVENT FLEA MARKET

Saturday, September 26, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM



On **Saturday, September 26, 2026**, Advent will hold a Flea Market in the church parking lot from 9:00 AM until 12 noon, 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 members of the community to sell and buy items or just to browse.

Flea Market Registration forms with detailed information are available on the round table in the church narthex and on the church website at www.adventrichboro.org. A Non-Refundable Registration Fee of \$10.00 will be charged upon registration. Registrations will be accepted up until the **deadline of Tuesday, September 22, 2026**. We look forward to seeing you at the Flea Market and helping you “declutter” your living space.

Please contact Coordinators Kathy (215-589-5423) or Cime (503-502-7691) with any questions that you may have regarding the Flea Market or call the church office at 215-355-2529 to speak with Marie. Thank you for your interest in this church-sponsored event.



**CRAFTING CHORDS, BUILDING BALLADS:
SONGS, STORIES & THE CREATIVE JOURNEY**
AN INTIMATE EVENING WITH BUCKS COUNTY
SINGER-SONGWRITER BILL MONAGHAN
Monday September 21, 2026, 7:00-8:15pm
Community Room, Village Library of Wrightstown

You’ve heard him sing the timeless songs of the Beatles, Billy Joel, and Elton John—but how did their music influence his own songwriting?

Join us for an intimate, coffee-house style evening with local singer-songwriter Bill Monaghan. Discover the fascinating stories behind the music as Bill pulls back the curtain on his creative process. From voicing verses and weaving words to molding melodies and crafting chords, you'll experience how raw ideas culminate into powerful live performances.

To register, please visit: www.WrightstownLibrary.org and click on Register for Events. Find the event you are interested in and click on it to complete the registration for the library. Any questions please email freedmank@buckslib.org.

THE 28TH ANNUAL MICHAEL S. MONAGHAN SCHOLARSHIP CONCERT

Saturday October 3, 2026, 2:00 PM

Featuring CELTIC PRIDE in Concert!

What's Luck Got To Do With It?

Irish Songs, Stories, Blessings, Toasts & Jokes

Archbishop Wood High School Auditorium

655 York Road, Warminster PA 18974

\$20 Donation; General seating

All proceeds benefit the Michael S. Monaghan Scholarship.

Email Willie.Monaghan@gmail.com for ticket reservations and more information.



THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, August 30

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00 AM Summer Worship Service
with Holy Communion
- 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open

MONDAY, August 31

- 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, September 1

Office closed

- 2:00-4:00 PM Table Tennis at Advent – afternoon session
- 6:30-8:30 PM Table Tennis at Advent – evening session
- 7:00 PM Building Reorganization Meeting (*in person*)

THURSDAY, September 3

No Zoom Bible Study

FRIDAY, September 4

- 7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, September 6

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00 AM Summer Worship Service
with Holy Communion
- 10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open

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