



13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026

Advent Lutheran Church

We extend welcome to people of all races, cultures and colors; to people of all sexual orientations, gender expression and gender identity; to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities; to people of every legal, economic and marital status and to all those the world seeks to separate, divide or isolate. We celebrate your identity as a gift from God. You are welcome to a diverse community united by faith. Receive God's grace given to all regardless of worldly successes or failures. Together we commit ourselves to embrace the continuing work of anti-racism, social and economic justice and environmental care.

*"Welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you,
for the glory of God." Romans 15.7*



Advent is a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Welcome

Worship includes everyone! You are invited to speak the bold-printed words in this bulletin. “ELW” refers to the red hymnal in front of you. “ACS” refers to hymns found in the purple hymnal. During the Sharing of Peace, people generally move around the sanctuary to share signs of Christ’s peace with a hug, a handshake, a peace sign, or saying the words, “Peace be with you.” Participate at your own comfort level.

Children are welcome in worship! Sunday School is taking a break this summer, but children are always encouraged to participate in worship. If your little one needs a break, there is space to play and stretch out in the narthex. A TV screen will allow you to see and hear worship while supervising your child. Quiet bags and coloring supplies can be found in the narthex and brought to your pews. During the Family Lesson, children are invited to come forward, with or without a grown-up, for a message created especially for them. Don’t worry — wiggles and noises are expected!

Fidget toys are available in bags in most pews. Noise-canceling headphones are also available. Ask an usher if you need a set. Neurodiversity is celebrated here.

Holy Communion is intended for everyone. It is an open table. Ushers will guide you. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are available.

Newcomer today? Use the QR code on the back page to learn more about Advent.

Your offering of financial support, time and talent enables us to do God’s work locally and globally! The QR links on the back page will guide you to an online giving platform or to our Vemo account. Checks can be written to Advent Lutheran Church. Thank you for your generosity!

Restrooms are located in the Fellowship Hall next door.

The blue HERE I AM! card in your pew rack can be used to request a meeting with the pastor or ask for prayers. Visitors are invited to share their contact information and check the appropriate box to request our e-news. Place the card in the gold plate that will be passed to you during Offering.

Thank you for serving today:

Ushers: Bill Case and Tom Sweeney
Lector: Gail Richardson
Hospitality: Jennifer Clements, Kaye Lysen

Acknowledgements:

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— GATHERING —

Prelude

Welcome & Gathering Hymn *The Church's One Foundation*

ELW #654

Invocation & Kyrie



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for friends and fam - i - ly;
For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;



for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life.
Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly
minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Family Lesson

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of

the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW #174



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

This Little Light of Mine

ELW #677

Prayers of the People

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sharing Christ's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with those around you; a hug, a handshake, a fist bump, peace sign, and/or the words, "Peace be with you."

Announcements

— MEAL —

Giving Made Easy: You may give your offering by scanning the Vemo QR code here. Thank you for your generosity and faithful support of our ministry.



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Offering Song

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

ELW #680

Offering Prayer

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. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread;
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Instructions and Invitation to the Table

All are welcome at Christ's table. Ushers will guide you. Gluten-free and non-alcoholic elements are available.

Distribution and Music

Built on a Rock

ELW #652

One Bread, One Body

ELW #496

Here Is Bread

ELW #483

Post-Communion Blessing

Holy One,

You set a place for us at your table, and we have been fed and strengthened by your grace. Abide in us as we go out in love. Give us courage, tenderness, and joy, to honor the beauty of your creation and bear your love to the world. Amen.

— SENDING —

Sending Hymn

We All Are One in Mission

ELW #576

Blessing

May the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
✝ one God, who formed you with delight
and called you by name,
bless, heal, hold, and empower you
today and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Thank you for worshipping with us today! We are a more complete community because you are here. Everyone is invited to share coffee, tea, treats, and friendly conversation in the Fellowship Hall after worship. Please join us!

Announcements

Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Anne meets every Tuesday at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom (a link can be found in each Wednesday email). This week's readings: Jeremiah 15:15-21; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Preschool Update

Advent Lutheran Preschool opens in just a couple of weeks, and we are excited to welcome our first students! We still have space available, so please help us spread the word to families who may be looking for a preschool community. Follow Advent Preschool on Facebook for updates, photos, and news. Scan the QR code to follow us!



Preschool Open House – Sunday, August 30

We are hosting a preschool open house on Sunday, August 30, following worship. Come tour the classrooms, meet our teachers, and see how God's love is taking shape through this new ministry. Whether you know a preschool-aged family or are simply curious to learn more, we would love to welcome you!

more information:
www.adventlutheran.net/preschool.

Adopt-A-Highway Aug 29 at 9am meet at 132nd and Seattle Hill road CVS parking lot.

September 13: Rally Day Carnival — Don't miss it!

First Sunday of the Month Food Drive on September 6

Hi Advent Hunger Fighters! Just reminding you that Sunday, September 6, is our First Sunday of the month non-perishable food and pet food drive. You may bring your donations to church on Sunday or anytime during the week when the church office is open.

Live Music & Food Truck Wednesdays are HERE! This coming food truck is Express Mercian Grill with live music from 3HQ. Join your church family and our neighbors for an evening of food, fellowship, and live music! From 4:30 to 7:30pm every Wednesday during the summer you will find a local food truck *and* a local band right outside Advent's sanctuary. Come support a local business for dinner and stay for the fun! Tables and chairs are provided but you're invited to bring your favorite lawn chair or blanket and BYOB. Sign up to help with setup or cleanup. All are welcome!

ALL WOMEN OF ADVENT - MARK YOUR CALENDARS! WE HAVE CHANGED OUR DAYTIME MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY MEETINGS TO THE 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH! Please join us on the THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will study God's word and enjoy the companionship of our friends and neighbors. Please bring your current (Summer 2026 edition) of GATHER MAGAZINE for the September, October, and November studies, and your Bible. Your friends are welcome. Questions? Contact Merry Long (merrylong06@comcast.net) or Ann Carlton (annlcarlton@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you there!

Green and Growing

Please continue donating greenery to our Sanctuary during this season of our church year. As our readings and prayers focus on our spiritual growth, may these plants be a physical reminder that our faith requires ongoing nourishment and God is a very patient gardener! Contact Tami Green if you need plant suggestions!

CLASSICS returns on Sep 9 at 12:30

PieceMaker returns on Sep 3 at 12:30

Connect

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