



9th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 26, 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 is welcome and important. The QR link will guide you to online giving. Checks can be written to Advent Lutheran Church.

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: Pam Stubsten and Tom Sweeny

Lector: Miriam Brady

Hospitality: Choir team

Acknowledgements:

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— GATHERING —

Prelude

Welcome & Gathering Hymn

Gather Us In

ELW #532

Invocation & Kyrie

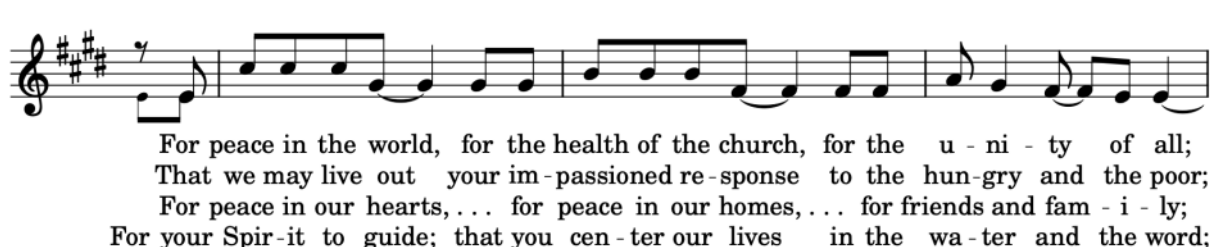
Refrain



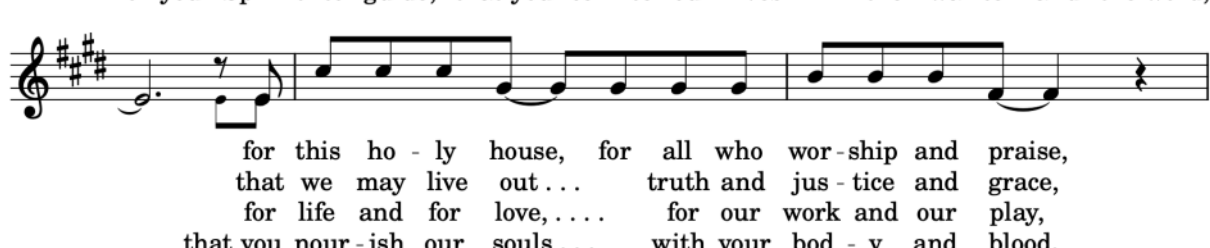
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



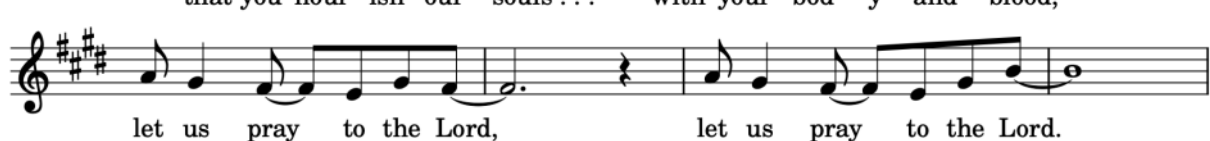
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.



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,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

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

Psalm

Happy Are Those Who Follow

next page

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will sepa

Psalm 119: Happy Are Those Who Follow

Refrain



Hap-py are those who fol-low in the law of the Lord.



Hap-py are those who fol-low in the law of the Lord.

Verses

1. Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.
Happy are they who observe God's decrees, who seek God with all their heart.
Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.
2. You have commanded that all your precepts be kept with diligence.
Oh, that I might be strong in the ways of keeping to your law.
Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.
3. Be good to your servant that I may live, may live to keep your word.
Open my heart that I may consider the wonders of your law.
Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.
4. Instruct me, O God, in the way of your statutes,
that I may exactly observe them.
Give me discernment, that I may observe your law.
Give me discernment to keep it with all my heart.
Happy are they who walk in the law of the Lord.

Text: Psalm 119:1-2, 5-6, 17-18, 33-34; Rory Cooney

Music: Rory Cooney

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rate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW #172

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

³¹ put before another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

What Is the World Like

ACS #1047

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 —

Offering Song

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW #689

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

The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field

ACS #952

Neither Death Nor Life

ELW #622

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

ELW #484

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

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW #551

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 God's love!

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 postpone till Aug 4

Pastor Anne will be on vacation from July 23 through August 3.



**Thank you to
Rev. Kirby Unti
here with us today!**

Advent Lutheran Preschool Update

Have you noticed the new Advent Lutheran Preschool signs along the road? We hope they caught your eye!

As we prepare to welcome our first students this fall, we'd love your help spreading the word. If you know a family with preschool-aged children, please tell them about Advent Lutheran Preschool! Enrollment is now open, and while our website is still being updated, interested families can already learn more, contact us, and register at www.adventlutheran.net/preschool.

Thank you for helping us share this exciting new ministry with our community!

Over the next few weeks, we'd love to introduce you to the wonderful people who are bringing Advent Lutheran Preschool to life. This week, we're pleased to introduce our inaugural Preschool Board. These dedicated volunteers have spent the past two months planning and preparing for this exciting new ministry.

The Inaugural Preschool Board includes:

- Miriam Brady, Chairperson
- Diane Krause, Secretary
- Cari Krippner
- Mari Riedlinger
- Pastor Anne Lohrmann

Please feel free to reach out to any board member with your questions. Thank you again for your continued prayers and support!

Help Us Welcome a New Ministry!

As Advent Lutheran Preschool prepares to open this fall, we invite you to join us for a **Preschool Baby Shower on Sunday, August 9, following worship**. Instead of diapers and onesies, we're collecting books, furniture, classroom materials, and other supplies to help create a joyful learning environment for our first students.

You can participate by making a financial donation or selecting a gift from our online registry (**coming soon!**). Checks may be made payable to **Advent Lutheran Church** with "**Preschool**" in the memo line. If you prefer to give online through the church website, simply select the **Preschool** fund when making your donation.

Every gift, large or small, will help us create a warm, welcoming classroom for our children. Thank you for helping us launch this exciting new ministry!

SAVE THE DATE! Please note these special summer Sundays:

August 2: Garden of Giving Open House (after worship)

August 16: Outdoor Worship

September 13: Rally Day with Ministry Fair and Carnival!

Live Music & Food Truck Wednesdays are HERE! This coming food truck is Lucky Luciano's with live music from LCB Sax Quartet. 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!

Blood Drive returns on July 27 at 10am to 4pm. Seattle is a host city for the FIFA Men's World Cup 2026, June 11 – July 19, 2026. Just like in soccer, every player matters. And in our community, every blood donor does too. When you donate blood, you help create a level playing field for patients whose lives depend on timely access to lifesaving blood. Join us July 27 and book your appointment for the [Advent Lutheran Church Community Blood Drive](#). The blood collection team from Bloodworks Northwest will be in the Fellowship Hall for the day, and you only need to set aside an hour of your time to have a game-changing impact. Donors need to be at least 16 years old, and everyone needs to check in with photo ID. You can enter to Donate & Win a \$10,000 Gift Card, <https://www.bloodworksnw.org/win> June 1 – July 31, 2026. The lucky winner will be contacted via email before August 15, 2026, and will have 48 hours to accept their prize.

Sunday School On Summer Break

After another amazing school year of Sunday School, our volunteers are taking a summer break. We will still have a family lesson each Sunday and invite you and your kids to enjoy our activity bags during the rest of worship. We will also still have our kids space set up for kids with their adult to enjoy. Sunday School volunteer training will come in August with a new year of Sunday School beginning in September.

We need **communion Bread Bakers Needed** for August (5 Sundays), November (5 Sundays), or December (4 Sundays). We have a recipe for you to use. Five loaves of communion bread are needed each week. The bread must be at the church by 9 am on Sunday. For additional details, contact Jill Bossen at jillbossen@gmail.com.

New Church Directory have begun being distributed. If you have not received your directory yet, there will be another opportunity for you to pick up your directory after the service on Sunday, July 26th. One directory per household please. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

The first Sunday of the month is **The Advent Little Pantry Food and Pet Food Drive**, and we'd greatly appreciate your donations of non-perishable food items.

Garden of Giving Open House

Please join us on Sunday, August 2, immediately after worship for our open house in the beautiful and verdant Garden of Giving. Enjoy refreshments as you explore the bounty that God has provided and learn about how we help feed our neighbors in need.

Connect

Council Leaders

Gail Walters, President
Miriam Brady, Vice President
Michael Flynn, Secretary
Brian Hall, Treasurer
Eric Botterbusch, President Emeritus
Chris Burns
Margaret Duncan
Ray Hoyt
Spencer Noble
Sofia Rodriguez

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Give Online
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Discover Advent Lutheran Church