



First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025
Advent Lutheran Church

www.adventharleysville.org

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOME STATEMENT

Advent Lutheran Church of Goschenhoppen, a welcoming community of God, believes ALL people are made in God's image and boundless love and ALL are valued equally within our congregation. We are empowered by God through faith to nurture and celebrate the vast diversity among individuals – single, married, partnered, divorced – embrace their uniqueness in all aspects of life including race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expressions, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic backgrounds and age. We at Advent, affirm and welcome you to share life with us and participate in God's ministry statement.

WELCOME FRIENDS AND GUESTS If you are a guest, we ask that you please sign our visitor register located on the table in the Narthex, and help yourself to one of the Welcome Bags. Please come back and worship with us.

LITURGY. Hymns can be found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book - our red hymnal in the pew rack, or placed under the chairs.

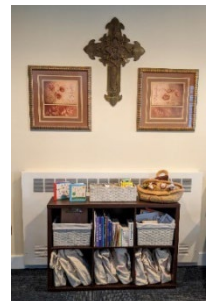
** indicates, please stand, as you are able.*

MASKS - Masks are optional. Love your neighbor.



WE LOVE CHILDREN IN WORSHIP!

- Worship activities are located in the narthex cubbies.
- A staffed nursery is available for infants through age 6. The nursery is the last door on the right.
- Children's Church (kindergarten-5th) grade begins after the children's sermon. Children will return to worship during the passing of the peace.



FOR 8:30 am: Join us for fellowship following worship! All are welcome.

*** Members, please remember to check your mailboxes today ***



Advent Lutheran Church

470 Landis Road
Harleysville, PA 19438
215-256-9941

www.adventharleysville.org

Prelude Chorale Prelude on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*; J. S. Bach

Prepare your hearts for worship in a quiet time and space during the prelude.

GATHERING

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

P: Friends, if you long to feel closer to God, then the Prayer of Confession is a step in the right direction. For in the Prayer of Confession, we lay our hearts before God. We pour out the truth of our lives. We do not hide anything from our Creator, and in that simple act, God somehow always feels closer. So join me in this prayer. Join me as we invite God to draw closer, to break in here.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Ever-present God,

we long to feel you close.

We long to feel your presence in our lives.

We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world.

However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you in our midst.

Forgive our rushing and distractions.

Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space.

Remind us that even in the time of Herod,

even on the longest nights, you are always there. Amen.

P: Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:

C: Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

Fling Wide the Door

Hymn #259

***Greeting**

On Sundays and Mondays,
on good days and bad days,
early in the morning and very late at night,
here in this room, and out in the world,
God, we long for you to break in.
Meet us in this space.
Surprise us with your presence.
Fill this room with your good news.
With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

Candle Lighting Liturgy – Hope

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (v.1)

Hymn# 242

1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.

***Prayer of the Day**

A: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray...

C: With-us God, in the time of Moses, you spoke through water in the desert and a pillar of smoke. In the time of the judges, you spoke through the prophets. In the time of Herod, you spoke through angel choruses and unlikely miracles. In every time you have been speaking. So today, in our time, we ask that you would speak again. Break through the chatter and the distraction of our weary minds and speak to us once more. With hope we pray. Amen.

First Lesson: Lamentations 3:55-57

⁵⁵ I called on your name, O Lord,
 from the depths of the pit;
⁵⁶ you heard my plea, "Do not close your ear
 to my cry for help, but give me relief!"
⁵⁷ You came near when I called on you;
 you said, "Do not fear!"

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: Luke 1:5-13**

⁵In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Mark

Children ages kindergarten-5th grade are dismissed for Children's Church

Sermon

Pastor Mark

***Hymn of the Day**

Christ, Be Our Light

Hymn #715

***Apostles' Creed**

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 to the dead.

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.

***The Prayers**

***The Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offertory

Hark, the Glad Sound!

Hymn#239

***Offertory Prayer**

Offertory Prayer

A: Generous God, in times of fear we remember your promises, and in difficult times we experience your presence. Use and transform the gifts we bring. Take our offerings, and bless them to be a blessing in and through this congregation. Take this bread and wine, and bless it to be a source of your promise and presence. Take our lives, and help us to live in your hope.

C: Amen

***Communion Liturgy**

P: Those of you worshiping with us online are invited to share communion with us. I invite you to have your bread and your wine or grape juice before you as we gather to receive communion. What we share is not a private ceremony, but an act of worship within this community gathered by a God who transcends time and space. It is “for you” – Christ promises to be there for you. Trust that. And this sacrament is also for all people; we celebrate in the assembly. We are one community in worship.

***Dialog**

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 you thanks and praise.

***Preface** It is indeed right...join their unending hymn:

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Thanksgiving at the Table**

*Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your reign, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

P: Here is life. God is with us. Come receive what God has promised. Come, not because you are perfect, but because you are forgiven.

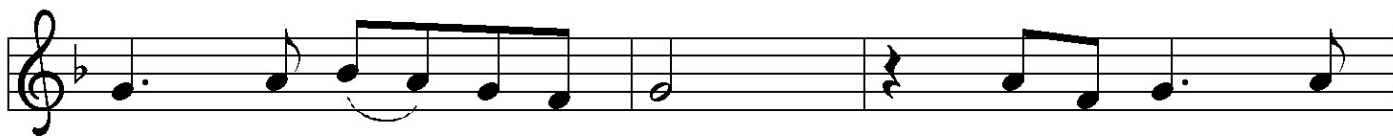
*Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion

Those worshiping in-person are invited to come forward as the ushers direct you. You may receive bread and dip it into the wine or grape juice; or you may pick up one of the sealed wafer/grape juice packets or a sealed gluten free wafer and hear the words of promise before returning to your seat to open it.

Those worshiping online are invited to use your own bread and wine or grape juice at this time, saying to each other, or to yourself, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you." For all of us, Christ promises to be present in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice.

Children who have not yet received their first communion may come forward (in person) for a blessing, or someone in the room (worshiping online) may pause to provide that blessing, saying "Remember, God loves you" or "You are a beloved child of God."

Communion Hymn:

Wake, Awake, for the Night is Flying

Hymn# 436

Post Communion Blessing

P: Now may the body and blood of our savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Loving God, in a world racked with fear, you gather us together. You set the table.
You meet us here. You nourish our bodies as you nourish our spirits.
You remind us that this is a joyful feast, and that fear cannot win every time.
So with renewed courage, with renewed hope, with renewed conviction,
send us out into the world. Help us to feed others as you have fed us.
With gratitude we pray,

C: Amen.

SENDING

Announcements

*Benediction

P: In a fearful world, may you look for God's spirit. May you reach for each other's hands.
May you choose courage whenever you can. And in all things, may you remember
that good news is louder than fear. In the name of the one who calls,
the one who sends, and the one who journeys with—go in peace and *be not afraid*.

C: Amen.

*Sending Hymn: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

Hymn #244

*Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Saved by God's Grace, Renewed through Word and Sacrament, We are Sent as Disciples
to Share the Gospel of Jesus. Thanks be to God.**

For the season of Advent this year, we are using a special series by "A Sanctified Art."

This Advent series takes seriously the angels' message time and time again; "Do not fear."
And it trusts that Christ's birth truly is good news of great joy for all people. The
resources look closely at the fear and terror looming in the background during the time
of King Herod and invite us to consider the fears we hold now. Fear can divide and
paralyze us and even be used as a tool for oppression. But what if we formed a different
relationship with fear? Can we acknowledge fear without letting it rule us? Might we
catalyze our fears into love and action? What if naming our fears helps us see more
clearly how God is breaking in and where God is at work?

As you journey through this season, may your hope become gritty and resilient. May you
remember: hope that trembles is still hope. This season, let us insist on hope and trust
that good news is greater than fear.

Postlude Improvisation on *Creator Alme Siderum* and My Lord, What a Morning; Mary Elizabeth Campbell

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Thank You Mib Campbell for playing today!

Liturgy, graphics and music adapted from Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

2025 Council Members

Name and Position/Team
Amy Coll, President, Social Ministry
Don Roessler, VP, Mutual Ministry
Diana McClure, Treasurer, Finance Team
Eileen Solomon, Sec., Worship & Music
Zach Boyer, Christian Ed
Judi Greene, Fellowship
Bruce Rhoades, Property
Helen Nace, Stewardship
Rich Lantz, Welcome Team
Carrie Johnson, Welcome Team

Ministers - All the People of Advent

Pastor - The Rev. Mark Singh-Hueter, ThePastor14@gmail.com

Minister of Music – Vincent M. Ryan, music@adventharleysville.org

Coordinator of Spiritual Development – Carrie Ryan,
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Streaming Producer – Hannah Fisher

Sexton – Susan Underkoffler

Lay Eucharist Ministers – Joan Kelley, Carrie Ryan, Diana Shearer, Erica Heck, Betty Keck,
Diana McClure, Amy Coll, Jo Gilbert