



**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**Sunday, December 7, 2025**  
**Advent Lutheran Church**

[www.adventharleysville.org](http://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.

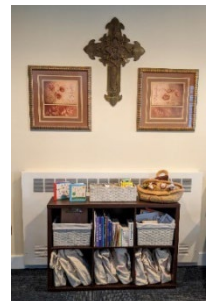
*\* indicates, please stand, as you are able.*

**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](http://www.adventharleysville.org)

### Prelude

*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: Near the end of his ministry, John the Baptist reached out to Jesus with a heart full of anxiety. John was in jail. He knew he might not get out, so he asked Jesus, "Did I make a mistake? Am I making a difference here? Or did I get it all wrong?" Like John, let us be fully honest with Jesus about our innermost thoughts. We can pour our heart out to God because God always meets us with grace, tenderness, and mercy. So friends, let us go to God in prayer. Let us be honest, just like John the Baptist. Let us pray.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

On-the-move God,

**we have every reason to hold onto hope.**

**We have every reason to believe that spring will come,  
that flowers will bloom, that the sun will rise.**

**And yet, too often hope slips through our fingers.**

**With anxious hearts we cry out to you,**

**"Will change ever come? Will things ever get better?**

**Will I ever make a difference?"**

**Soothe our wandering hearts and show us the places where the sun is shining.**

**Show us the places where you are on the move.**

**With open hearts we pray, amen.**

P: Family of faith, in our honesty,

**C: we are heard.**

P: In our worries,

**C: we are held.**

P: In our failings,

**C: we are forgiven.**

P: In our fear,

**C: we are not alone.**

P: Friends, this is the good news of the gospel!

**C: When we're running out of hope, God is still at work.**

P: Thanks be to God!

**C: Amen.**

### **\*Gathering Hymn**

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

Hymn #264

### **\*Greeting**

Family of faith, God is at work!

**God is healing and creating,**

redeeming and dreaming,

**calling and sending,**

listening and loving.

**Yes, indeed, God is at work!**

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

**May we worship our God who holds onto hope.**

**Amen.**

### **Candle Lighting Liturgy – Hope**

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (v.2)*

Hymn #242

2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear,  
Emmanuel comes a-singing,  
his humble song is quiet and near,  
yet fills the earth with its ringing;  
music to heal the broken soul  
and hymns of lovingkindness,  
the thunder of his anthems roll  
to shatter all hatred and blindness.

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

A: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you.**

A: Let us pray...

**C: Merciful God, we need bread and we need laughter. We need music and we need a hand to hold. We need a chair to sit in and we need work to do. But maybe more than anything, we need your Word and a reason to hope. So move through this space today and speak to us as only you can. Speak a word of hope deep into our weary bones. For we need bread and we need laughter, but most of all, we need you. Amen.**

**WORD**

**First Lesson: Isaiah 43:19-21**

<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing;  
     now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?  
 I will make a way in the wilderness  
     and rivers in the desert.  
<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me,  
     the jackals and the ostriches,  
 for I give water in the wilderness,  
     rivers in the desert,  
 to give drink to my chosen people,  
<sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself  
     so that they might declare my praise.

**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. Matthew, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*Gospel: Matthew 11:1-11**

Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities. <sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." <sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'<sup>11</sup> "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

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      Are You the One Who Is To Come? (CORONATION)**

"Are you the one who is to come, or should we wait some more?"

With John in prison, he sent friends to ask this of the Lord.

With John in prison, he sent friends to ask this of the Lord.

Then Jesus told them, "Go tell John the things you see and hear:

The sick are healed, the dead are raised, God's reign is coming near.

The sick are healed, the dead are raised, God's reign is coming near."

"The poor have good news brought to them! The hungry have their fill.

Though John is great, in God's great reign, the least are greater still!

Though John is great, in God's great reign, the least are greater still!"

O God, we gather in this place to worship and to pray;  
May we your church now welcome in your joyful reign today.  
May we your church now welcome in your joyful reign today.

**\*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**

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness*

Hymn #255

**\*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.

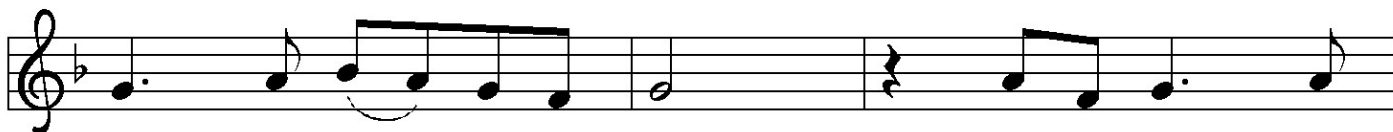
### \*Lamb of God



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:**      *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*      Hymn #256  
                                 *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (Tune: Hyfrydol)*      Hymn #254

## 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:**

*Listen You Nations*

*Refrain*



Lis - ten! you na - tions of the world: lis - ten to the Word of the Lord. An -



nounce it from coast to coast; de - clare it to dis - tant is - lands.



1 The Lord who scat - tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and



he will keep watch o - ver them as a shep - herd watch - es his flock. *Refrain*



2 With shouts of joy they will come, their fac - es ra - diant - ly hap - py, for the



Lord is so gen - 'rous to them; he show - ers his peo - ple with gifts. *Refrain*



3 Young wom - en will dance for joy, and men young and old will make



mer - ry. Like a gar - den re - fresh - ed by the rain, they will nev - er be in want a -



gain. Break in - to shouts of great joy; Ja - cob is free a - gain! Teach



na - tions to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his peo - ple!"

## \*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.**

## Postlude

***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.

Liturgy, graphics and music adapted from Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Liturgies and music from Sundays and Seasons, With One Voice, Lutheran Book of Worship and Evangelical Lutheran Worship. - Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20836.

Biblical Reference: Matthew 11:2-11 Tune: Oliver Holden, 1793 ("All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name") **[MIDI]** Text: Copyright © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Included in ***God's World is Changing: New Hymns for Advent and Christmas*** (2022). Email: [carolynshymns@gmail.com](mailto:carolynshymns@gmail.com) New Hymns: [www.carolynshymns.com/](http://www.carolynshymns.com/)

## 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](mailto:ThePastor14@gmail.com)

**Minister of Music** – Vincent M. Ryan, [music@adventharleysville.org](mailto:music@adventharleysville.org)

**Coordinator of Spiritual Development** – Carrie Ryan, [cryan@adventharleysville.org](mailto:cryan@adventharleysville.org)

**Office Administrator** – Kim Long, [office@adventharleysville.org](mailto:office@adventharleysville.org)

**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