

THE ADVENTURE - 2020



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + 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



Rev. Josephine Wright, Interim Pastor
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Worship Services Continue at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday

Advent will continue to hold one Sunday worship service at 9:00 a.m. until further notice. This schedule is a midpoint between our former 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services, prior to the pandemic.

We welcomed everyone back to in-person services with Pastor Jo officiating on September 13. It was a joy to see those who were able to worship with us that day - and each Sunday that followed! On the next three Sundays, Pastor Jo was on vacation and we are blessed to have Rev. Frank Sayford lead us in worship for all three Sundays.

Since we resumed in-person worship services, we have followed all the precautions necessary to provide a safe environment: temperature checks, social distancing in the pews, the required wearing of face masks*, etc. Worshippers are invited to celebrate communion using an individual pre-packaged communion wafer and grape juice or may request a blessing. (* Face masks must cover nose and mouth.)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 2020

PENTECOST XVIII

9:00 AM Worship Service-Pastor Frank Sayford
Social Distancing and masks.
Communion will be offered -
no touch distribution.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020

PENTECOST XX

9:00 A.M. Worship Service-Pastor Josephine Wright
Social Distancing and masks.
Communion will be offered -
no touch distribution.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020

PENTECOST XIX

9:00 AM Worship Service-Pastor Josephine Wright
Social Distancing and masks.
Communion will be offered -
no touch distribution.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020

PENTECOST XXI

9:00 AM Worship Service-Pastor Josephine Wright
Social Distancing and masks.
Communion will be offered -
no touch distribution.

We invite you to follow these lessons with your Bible

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 2020 PENTECOST XVIII

Introduction

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For

Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

Prayer of the Day

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalm (ESV)

Isaiah 5:1-7 - *The song of the vineyard*

Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14 - *Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ*

Matthew 21:33-46 - *The parable of the vineyard owner's son*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020 PENTECOST XIX

Introduction

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalm (ESV)

Isaiah 25:1-9 - *The feast of victory*

Psalm 23

Philippians 4:1-9 - *Rejoice in the Lord always*

Matthew 22:1-14 - *The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020 PENTECOST XX

Introduction

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalm (ESV)

Isaiah 45:1-7 - *An earthly ruler as the instrument of God's will*

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 - *Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica*

Matthew 22:15-22 - *A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020
PENTECOST XXI

Introduction

Jesus' summary of the law in today's gospel echoes our first reading from Leviticus. We are called not only to love God with heart, soul, and mind, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is out of such deep care that Paul shares the gospel with the Thessalonian community. In the confession of sins, we acknowledge that we have not loved God, neighbor, and self; yet we gather to hear the word of forgiveness and to be strengthened by word and meal to be signs of God's love and mercy in the world.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Readings and Psalm (ESV)

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 - *Holiness revealed in acts of justice*

Psalm 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 - *The apostle's tender care for the Thessalonians*

Matthew 22:34-46 - *Two great commandments: love for God and neighbor*

PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee has completed its work and is pleased to recommend one candidate to Church Council for their consideration as the fulltime pastor at Advent Lutheran Church. The candidate has also agreed to be the primary candidate at Advent only, discontinuing the call process at other churches.

The Call Committee arrived at this decision after prayerful discernment. The Committee interviewed the candidate twice and observed the candidate lead a worship service, to include preaching a sermon, which was conducted at a neutral ministry site on Sunday, September 27, 2020.

A ministry site visit was not conducted for a second candidate as originally planned. The reason for this is that the candidate became the primary candidate at another church, resulting in their ceasing the call process at Advent, per Synod guidelines.

On behalf of the Committee, I take this opportunity to thank the congregation for its support of the call process to date. I also thank the Committee for its focus, collective and individual work as well as dedication to the call process. They have worked to ensure that our Church is well positioned for the future through its pastoral leader.

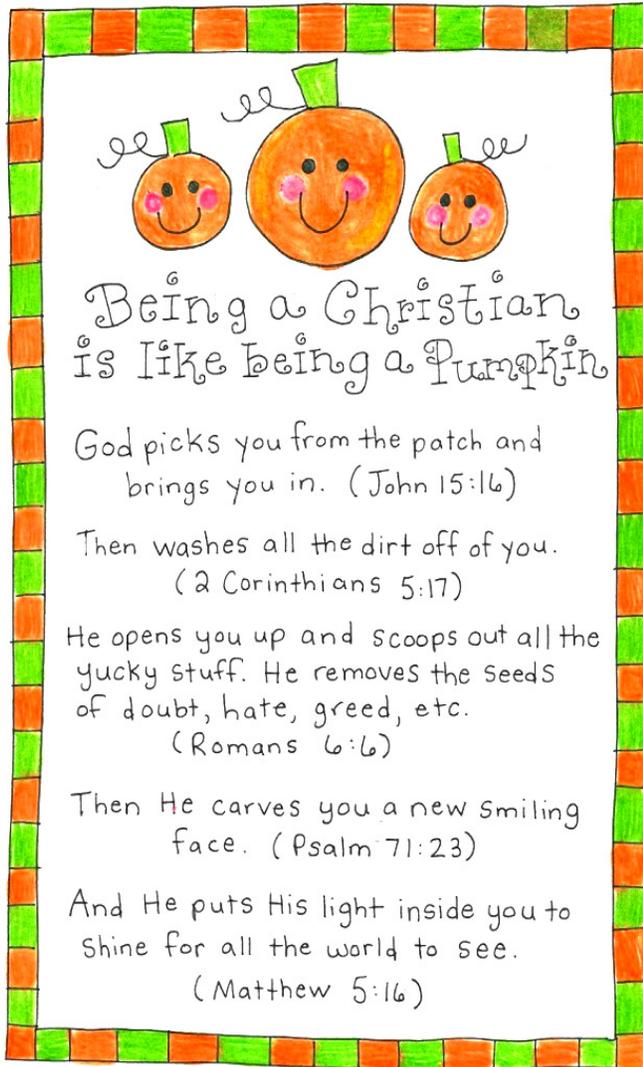
It is asked that all members continue to hold Church Council and the congregation in prayer throughout the balance of the call process.

Report Submitted by Call Committee Chair, Mike Sitler

Bible Lesson for Kids



Jesus teaches us to Love One Another, just as God has chosen each of us and loves us!



Being a Christian
is like being a Pumpkin

God picks you from the patch and
brings you in. (John 15:16)

Then washes all the dirt off of you.
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops out all the
yucky stuff. He removes the seeds
of doubt, hate, greed, etc.
(Romans 6:6)

Then He carves you a new smiling
face. (Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside you to
shine for all the world to see.
(Matthew 5:16)

Happy Home Fairy

John 15:5

Jesus says:

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!

Romans 6:6

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Psalms 71:23

My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you- I whom you have delivered.

Matthew 5:16

Jesus says:

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

John 15:16-17

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

(There is a Pumpkin Craft on page 8. Enjoy!)

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee has mailed letters to the visitors we have had since the beginning of the pandemic. We are hopeful those visitors will return to see us back in person.

On Saturday, September 26 at noon, about a dozen people showed up for praying for our nation at church. We spent time reading scriptures, learning some important facts about the origins of a prayer march, praying, singing, and closing in the Lord's Prayer. Thank you to all who attended. May we keep our prayers continuing for our nation that we could still be one United States, not divided states.

As October moves toward the national election, it is important we all pray for our country. When we stand together as one nation under God willing to defend the rights that have been granted to us, we will be blessed. The freedom we enjoy comes with the responsibility of each citizen to defend that freedom. God can also use His people in this land to share His love and offer encouragement to neighbors. May His Spirit be our guide as we move forward as His people and as Americans who should guard our land.

Jesus, thank you for your angels. I summon them in the name of Jesus Christ and instruct them to destroy all that is raised against the United States of America, to establish your Kingdom over us, to guard us day and night. I ask you to send forth your Holy Spirit to raise up prayer and intercession for our Country. I now call forth the Kingdom of God throughout our Country, our Government, our households, and our churches, in the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving all glory and honor and thanks to him. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Thank you for being members of Advent Church. May God Bless You and God Bless America.

Karen Matlack
kmatl22349@verizon.net

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GIFTS

Your offerings to Advent, whether as donations at Sunday worship services, mailing in offerings, or making online donations, are most appreciated and are being put to good use. During the pandemic, we have continued to pay our employees and maintain many of the ministries we offer.

For the calendar year through August 2020, our expenses have exceeded our revenue by approximately \$6,700. Offerings may be mailed to the church office at P.O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954-0840. Thanks again for your generosity!

Deuteronomy 15:10 *"... because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to."*

Tony Gryszka, Finance Committee Chairperson

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FOOD CONTRIBUTIONS

A big Thank-you to all who were able to contribute during our closing. Food may now be donated on Sunday as well as in the drop off bench during the week!

Nancy Sclight, Social Ministry Committee

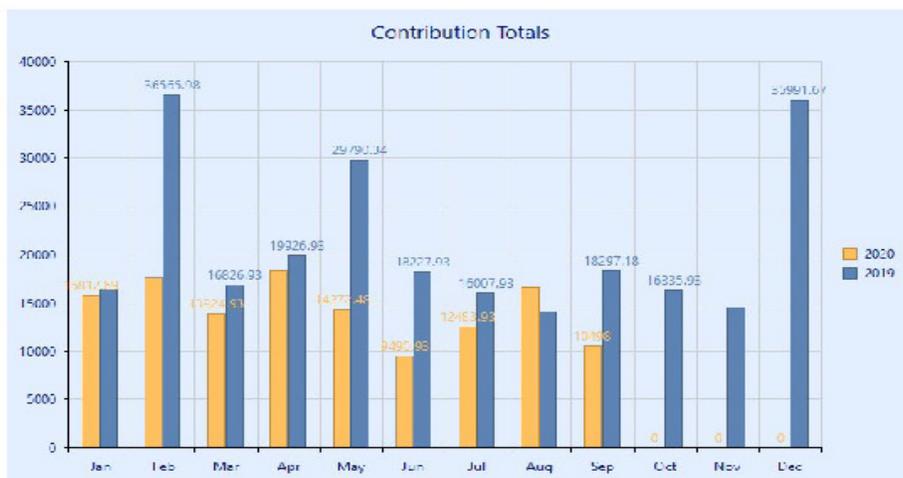
BREAKING NEWS

The Board of Directors of the Advent Men's Breakfast Association are pleased to announce the resumption of the Men's breakfast starting Saturday, October 10 @ 8:30 AM. By popular demand an old military favorite will be on the menu. All safety measures will be in place and you can take off your mask in order to eat.

TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

If you need immediate assistance, you may reach Pastor Jo at 215-364-2298 (home) or at 215-499-5856 (cell). You may also leave a message at the church office at 215-355-2529, with Church Council President, George Henry, at 215-970-8523, or with Finance Committee Chairperson, Tony Gryszka, at 267-408- 3255.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	15,812.69	17,540.02	13,924.93	18,323.93	14,272.48	8,490.93	12,463.93	16,627.00	10,498.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Average Per Account	310.05	343.92	273.04	359.29	279.85	186.10	244.78	326.02	205.84	0.00	0.00	0.00
2019	16,402.14	36,565.98	16,826.93	19,926.93	29,790.34	18,227.93	16,007.93	14,055.48	18,297.18	16,335.93	14,501.92	35,991.67
Average per Account	321.61	716.98	329.94	390.72	584.12	357.41	313.88	275.79	358.77	320.31	284.35	705.72
												4,959.61

Income for August 2020
 Benevolence (LWR, Mission Support, etc.) \$ 560.00
 General Fund \$12,596.00
 Mortgage Fund \$ 3,470.00



THE ARMED FORCES

Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

US Air Force Lt Col Andrew Frey is a student at Air War College, stationed at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

US Air Force Major Fred Gouse is a pilot and instructor stationed at Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

US Army Colonel (Ret.) Jeff Williams is serving in Dubai, UAE as a military advisor.

If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office.

Thank you.



NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please keep Pastor Lyzette Rios Sanchez and our mission congregation Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in your prayers. Your mission support gifts help them to minister in an impoverished area of Philadelphia.



ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 3 | Caitlin (Matlack)
Eagles | 15 | Mario Vincent
Evangelist V | 21 | Matthew Jafar |
| 4 | Alexander Oines | 17 | Pastor Josephine
Wright | 22 | Louise Froehlich
Ritchie |
| 14 | Michelle Rayher | | | 26 | Hanna McCollum |

Please contact the church office if you or someone you know has been omitted from the list. Thank you.

Add a Light to Your Pumpkin

