

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 17, 2023

9:30 a.m.



We Gather in Jesus' Name

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

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

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
**you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

Gathering Song: “God of All”

God of all, we come to praise You
We lift Your name on high in all the earth
God of all, we come to praise You
We lift Your name on high in all the earth

God of glory
God of majesty
God of mercy
We lift Your name on high
God of all
God of all

God of all, we come to praise You
We lift Your name on high in all the earth
God of all, we come to praise You
We lift Your name on high in all the earth

God of holiness
God of righteousness
God of Heaven
We lift Your name on high
God of all

God of all
God of all

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also, with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Readings for the 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Children’s Sermon

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?” ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 103: [1-7] 8-13

[¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God’s benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast ¹ love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle’s.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.]
⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**
⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
¹²**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**
¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 18th Chapter

C: Glory to You, O Lord

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of Praise: "Mighty to Save"

Verse 1

Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations

Chorus

Saviour He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Verse 2

So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender

Chorus

Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

Prayers of the Church

*(Each petition ends with... Merciful God, the congregation responds: **receive our prayer.**)*

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also, with you

The Offering Please leave your offering on our website: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCImH2sG-jdxWYJMFGW_IQfxkD4hBw8W0Q6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKk0PpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

The Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... **God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
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.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you
The blood of Christ, shed for you

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. . .
Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song: "Grace Like Rain"

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
And I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see so clearly

Hallelujah, grace like rain
Falls down on me
Hallelujah, all my stains
Are washed away, they're washed away

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Hallelujah, grace like rain
Falls down on me
And Hallelujah and all my stains
Are washed away, they're washed away

When we've been there, ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing Your praise
Than when we first begun
Hallelujah, grace like rain
Falls down on me
And Hallelujah and all my stains
Are washed away

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

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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



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music Director: Michael Dettra
Worship Assistant: John Flint

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are presented by Lynn Roccograndi in honor of Julie's birthday, and by Hanna McCollum in honor of her parents.

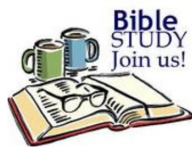
NUEVA CREACIÓN MISSION SUPPORT

Support of Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in Philadelphia for this week is given by George & Peg Spahn in gratitude for their son Warren's lung transplant one year ago.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

8:00 a.m. 20 9:30 a.m. 26 **Total 46**

REMINDER: If you plan on attending the brunch celebrating Advent's 60th Anniversary, please reply by September 17, so that we can plan accordingly.



Bible
STUDY
Join us!

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY, SEPTEMBER 21, 7:00 PM

Due to the delay of the books ordered on September 5, Pastor Matt is starting Thursday Night Bible Study on September 21 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The study will be on the book **Bonhoeffer** by John W. Matthews. From the Theology for Life Series, it is a brief overview of the life and writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The book can be ordered online from

Augsburg Fortress or Amazon. Bible Study will continue to meet by Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89632518358?pwd=Smg5dm1BaOVZamZjNG1YMko2MlVvdz09>

SEPTEMBER 17 - SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS AT 9:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School classes begins today, September 17. Each Sunday, students and teachers will participate in the opening portion of the 9:30 a.m. worship service and proceed to their classroom following the children's sermon. New students are welcome! We begin our class time with songs, followed by an animated video from the Holy Moly curriculum. We'll read the Bible lesson, which is written in rhyme, and have fun with a

craft or game.

Registration forms are in the church foyer or narthex or via email or mail. Student books and crafts are ordered in advance. Please note: There will be no Sunday School on October 8, which is 60th Anniversary celebration.

Please contact the church office with any questions: office@adventrichboro.org or 215-355-2529.

Jeanne Gryszka, Sunday School Director

I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM, WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

Join us today, September 17 at Fellowship Time, as the Church Council brings back the popular Ice Cream Social. Come talk about your back to school, back from vacation fun times and eat some deliciousness! Dare we suggest another Ice Cream Brand Showdown? Join us and find out!



PRAISE BAND AND VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE, SEPTEMBER 20

Church Choirs will be restarting this Fall! We currently have a Traditional Choir and Praise Band. Practices will be on Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. is Praise Band practice. Traditional Choir practice will be 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to join and no prior experience is necessary. Please see Mike Dettra for more details.



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

Everyone will have the opportunity to participate in a group affirmation of baptism during the 9:30 service, Sunday, September 24. You are welcome if you were baptized as an infant or as an adult.

During the ceremony, we will learn the significance of our baptism. We will also learn what it means in our walk with Christ and our relationship with the Holy Spirit. We want everyone to be a part of this joyful event.

If you would like to come forward during the service to affirm your baptism, please contact George Henry 215-970-8523 or Pastor Matt 215-859-3778.

If you have not been baptized or do not know if you were baptized, please talk to Pastor Matt.



CELEBRATION OF ADVENT'S 60th ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023, 9:00 AM

Join us on **Sunday, October 8, 2023**, as we celebrate this special milestone! There will be one worship **service that day at 9:00 a.m.**, immediately followed by a brunch and brief program in Advent's fellowship hall. If you plan on attending the brunch, please complete the form that was sent to you (additional copies are in the narthex and church office) and place it with your payment in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.



STITCH CLUB ON SATURDAYS, 10 A.M.

Stitch club meets on, Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. (Weather permitting). Stitch club is open to all who would like to join. If you like to knit, crochet, or do needlepoint, this is for you!

The Stitch club items are **available throughout the year**. If you need any of the items made by the Stitch Club, i.e., blankets, hats, baby items, please contact Hanna McCollum, 215-262-9032, or Jeff Jobes, 215-355-4149

CHURCH DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

Copies of the church directory are available on the table in the narthex. Please advise of any changes, corrections or additions needed.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Report For August 2023		
	Rec'vd for August 2023	Budget for August 2023
General Fund	\$16,876.68	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$1,961	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$17	\$134
Other Benevolence	\$1,093	
Total	\$19,947.68	\$19,313.00
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-8/31/23	Budget YTD 1/1-8/31/23
General Fund	\$91,060.00	\$138,248.00
Mortgage	\$18,897.00	\$15,184.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$537.00	\$1,072.00
Other Benevolence	\$5,804.00	
Total	\$116,298.00	\$154,504.00



ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are numerous dates available for 2023 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.



DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank that you or your friends would like to donate and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. A list of the Food Bank's most needed items is in the narthex or on the website www.warminsterfoodbank.org. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 17

Sunday School Begins

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
- 10:30 am Ice cream Social: Church Council
- 10:45 am Adult Bible Study

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 7:00 pm Strategic Mission Team

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 6:30-7:15 Praise Band Practice
- 7:15-8:00 Vocal Choir Practice

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 7:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 10:00 am – noon Stitch Club

17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 24

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion – Affirmation of Baptism
Sunday School age 4 – grade 6
- 10:30 am Ice cream Social: Church Council
- 10:45 am Adult Bible Study