

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**APRIL 28, 2024**

**9:30 A.M.**



***We Gather in Jesus' Name***

***Prelude*** (a time for silent meditation)

***Announcements***

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.  
**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

***Gathering Song: "Here I Am to Worship"***

**1:** Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

**Chorus:** So here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
And You're altogether lovely  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

### **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 God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **Children's Sermon**

#### **Reading of God's Word**

#### **First Reading: Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup>He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Word of God, Word of Life*

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalms: Psalm 22:25-31**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

**2:** King of all days  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor

### **Chorus**

**Bridge:** And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross

### **Chorus**

- <sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**
- <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- <sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**
- <sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**
- <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

**Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

**Gospel: John 15:1-8**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to John the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to You, O Lord**

**Gospel: John 15:1-8**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

## Song of Praise: "I'll Fly Away"

### *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 prayer ends with ... *God of Grace*, . . . *The congregation responds: here 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-LCajFevTkh9MYPCLmH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw\\_IQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar20939JWiAad8707zqy-JU\\_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y\\_VCHQ6\\_VCoE=&ver=3](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCLmH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw_IQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar20939JWiAad8707zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3)

### *Offertory Prayer*

Let us pray... **Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.**  
**Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.**  
**Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.**  
**We pray this in your name.**  
**Amen.**

### *Sacrament*

### *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... Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to  
proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

### ***Sending 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 Hymn:** "The River is Here"

**Chorus:** The river of God sets our feet a-dancing  
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer  
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter  
And we rejoice for the river is here

**1:** Down the mountain the river flows  
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes  
Through the valleys and over the fields  
The river is rushing and the river is here

**2:** The river of God is teeming with life  
And all who touch it can be revived  
And those who linger on this river's shore  
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord

**3:** Up to the mountain we love to go  
To find the presence of the Lord  
Along the banks of the river we run  
We dance with laughter giving praise to the Son

**Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**OUR MISSION**

- + 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**

Pastor:  
Music Director  
Worship Assistant

The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen  
Michael Dettra  
Open

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Altar Flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

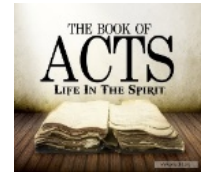
Sunday, April 21 - 8:00 am = 19; 9:30 = 25 S.S. = 5 **TOTAL = 49**

**CONTACTING PASTOR MATT**

If you need to speak with Pastor Matt when he is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call his cell at 215-859-3778 or email him at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

**BOOK OF ACTS BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE**

Book of Acts Bible Study will be held at 9:00 am Sundays with George Henry and on Tuesdays at noon and Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm via Zoom with Pastor Matt.



**Topic: Zoom at Noon Tuesdays**

**Meeting ID: 854 1267 3045**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85412673045>

**Topic: Thursday Night Bible Study, 7:00 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 830 9865 6920

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83098656920>



**PING PONG**

This Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, will be the final Ping Pong games for the season. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try before the new season starts.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER-LIFT UP THE WORD, LIGHT UP THE WORLD**

National Day of Prayer calls on all people of different faiths in the United States to pray for the nation and its leaders. It is held on the first Thursday of May each year.



**FAREWELL AND GOD SPEED TO FRAN**

On Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at the 9:30 worship service we will be honoring Fran Zanis' years of service to Advent Lutheran Church both during the worship at the coffee hour afterward. Church Council is sponsoring a collection in order to give Fran a monetary retirement gift. Please consider giving generously to express your gratitude to Fran. You may do so by mailing a check or by placing a check in the offering plate by April 28<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to Advent Lutheran Church with "Fran Gift" in the memo line. Each person on Church Council has already contributed.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SEARCH TEAM**

Church Council has formed a team of three individuals to search for a new Administrative Assistant. We you would like to have at least one more person on the team from the congregation. If you feel called to serve in this compacity, please speak with Pastor Matt or Council President Mike Sitrler.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

<b>Financial Report For March 2024</b>		
	<b>Rec'vd for March 2024</b>	<b>Budget fo</b>
General Fund	\$13,122.13	
Mortgage	\$2,366	
Bene. - Synod Only	\$35	
Other Benevolence	\$439	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,962.13</b>	
	<b>Recv'd YTD 1/1-3/31/24</b>	<b>Budget YT</b>
General Fund	\$33,856.89	
Mortgage	\$5,280.00	



**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION**

There are numerous dates available for 2024 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 at 267-205-0713.



**NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church, which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign-up chart is on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary.



**THIS WEEK AT ADVENT**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
- 9:00 am Book of Acts Bible Study with George Henry
- 9:30 am Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion  
Sunday School age 4- grade 6
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: Open

**MONDAY, APRIL 29**

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

**TUESDAY, APRIL 30**

- Noon Book of Acts Bible Study via Zoom
- 6:30 pm Ping Pong – Last time this season

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**

- 6:30 pm Praise Team
- 7:15 pm Vocal Choir

**THURSDAY, MAY 2**

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**

- 7:00 pm Book of Acts Bible Study via Zoom

**FRIDAY, MAY 3**

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

**SUNDAY, MAY 5 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

- 8:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
- 9:00 am Bible study “Book of Acts” with George Henry
- 9:30 am Contemporary Worship Service with Holy Communion  
Farewell and Godspeed to Fran Zanis  
Sunday School age 4- grade 6
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: In honor of Fran’s years of service

