Service of Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent March 17, 2024



Welcome to Advent Lutheran Church! Our hope today is that you will experience God's love in Word, Sacrament, and Song through the amazing grace of Jesus Christ. Everything you need for today's worship service is printed in this bulletin.

This community welcomes you – wherever you are on your spiritual journey. Are you a visitor? Come back again! Are you looking for a church home? All are invited to become part of the Advent community. If you join us in person or on our Facebook livestream; if you are here for an hour, a season, or a lifetime, you are welcome at Advent. The church may be cozy, but the table is long. There's a place for you here!

Need more information about who and what we are? Fill out a green contact/prayer card, add a comment on Facebook, email the church, or visit our website - www.adventlc.us - or make an appointment with Pastor Alex. We'd love to know how we can be in ministry together!

Advent is part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



PRAYER CONCERNS We keep the following persons in prayer



Douglas M. Bennett (brother of Shelley Bennett)

David Church (friend of Advent)

Anthony Goveia (nephew of Ismay Lovell)

Ellie Holsopple (member)

Rev. Patricia Johnson (friend of the Stalls)

Jenny Jones (friend of the Falksens)

Kathryn "Kate" Juhl (member)

Pam Juhl (mother of Peter and Kate Juhl)

Rev. Elizabeth Platz (first woman in North America ordained

by a Lutheran church body)

Wayne Theye (friend of the Falksens)

Gail Wickre (mother of Sarah Wickre)

Becky Wilfinger (friend of Marilyn Falksen)

Edwina Wyatt-Knowles (friend of Nancy Jairrels)

For Katie Oakley and family as they mourn the death of her grandmother, Dorothy Hope

PRELUDE

My Song is Love Unknown

R. Vaughan Williams

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water is poured into the font as a reminder of God's ever flowing stream of grace and forgiveness. All may make the sign of the cross (signified with this +), the sign marked at baptism.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.
- C. Amen.

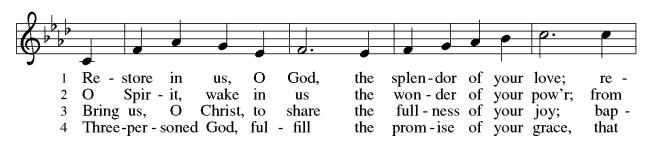
The leader addresses those who are gathered.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

The leader gives thanks, using one of the following prayers or similar words.

- P Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.
- C Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.
 Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow.
 Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you.
 You are the fountain of resurrection.
- P Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well.
- C The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.
- P Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this sacrament.
 - Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation.
 - Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears.
 - Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.
- C Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.







fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy. we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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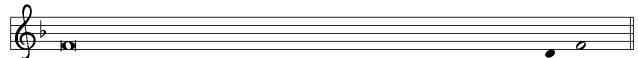
GREETING

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

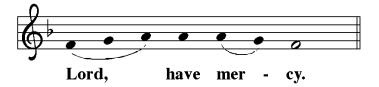


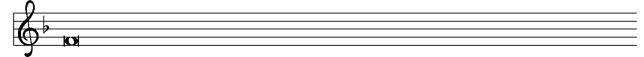
KYRIE Setting 3



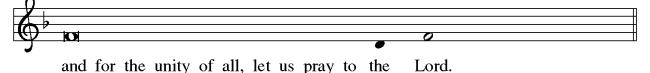


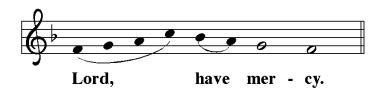
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

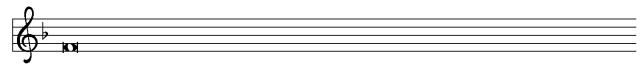




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

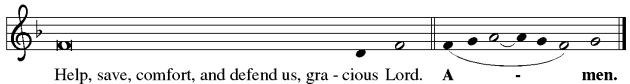






For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





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PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. (Pause for a moment of silent prayer.) O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Please be seated.

W	0	R	D

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Reader A reading from Jeremiah

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMS: Psalm 51:1-12

(Assisting minister reads light print; congregation reads bold.)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;

that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

Reader A reading from Hebrews

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son,

today I have begotten you";

⁶as he says also in another place,

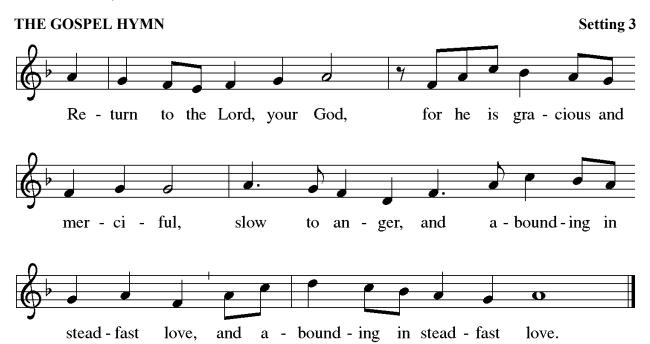
"You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



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- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for

your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Rev. Alex Stall, Jr.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as you are comfortable to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God, Who Gives Us Life

ACS 1086



- 1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
- 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven ture and to dare,
- 3 O God of cov e nant and law, re vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb: to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there: your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



us from fears that kill life. the we have from you. when we de-spair wan - der - ing through in wastes of emp - ty lies. we by faith are drawn to you vour peo - ple will and prove,





Help us your Spir - it all things new. still is mak - ing know liv - ing spring of re - fresh with the hope that nev - er dies. our hearts vou write a - new the cov - e - nant love. as on

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900 Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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APOSTLES' CREED

Dating back as early as the 4th century CE, the creed is a confession of the faith of the assembly. It is historically ecumenical and structurally trinitarian. The Creed is a resurrection statement.

I believe in God, eternal, almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of all, the only begotten one;

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, lived and loved among us,

suffered under Pontius Pilate.

was crucified, died, and was buried;

who descended into hell,

and on the third day rose from the dead;

Jesus, our Savior, ascended into heaven,

sits at the right hand of the loving God,

and 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 INTERCESSION

A Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence. After each petition please respond: "Your mercy is great."

- A Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

Offering the peace of Christ is far more than a handshake and a greeting to someone you haven't seen since last Sunday. It is the embodiment of conflicts forgiven, wars ended, even death destroyed. Jesus's resurrection offers true peace.

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

We greet one another with a gesture of peace.

Please be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

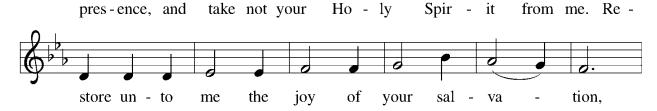
OFFERING

Christ, the Life of All the Living

The Offering represents a shift in our worship time. We change from a time of hearing and learning God's Word, to a time of action. We share of our time and resources — and our very selves. We recognize God's grace in our lives and respond with our offerings. All are invited to respond to God with joyful hearts by giving regularly or tithing (giving proportionally) by placing your gifts in the collection plate, or by making electronic donations using our website at www.adventlc.us (look for the "Giving" option on the home page). We also use Simply Giving for regular, automatic electronic donations. Please reach out to the church office for the necessary forms! In whatever way you support Advent, know that we are thankful for your faithfulness and trust in God.

Please stand as you are able.





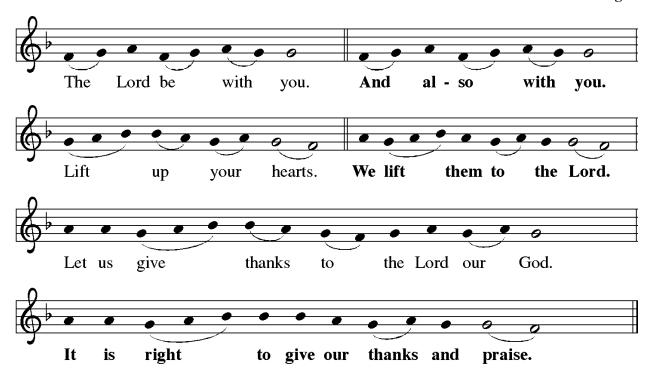


Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

OFFERING PRAYER

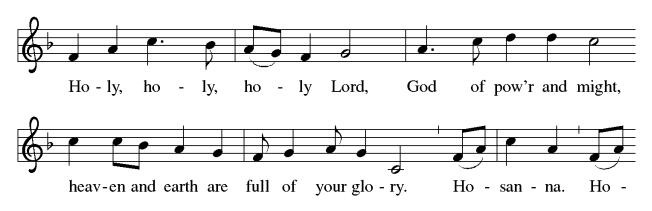
After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the prayer.

- A Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life,
- C 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.



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P It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:







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EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,

but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry;

our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised,

and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- P Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.
- C Amen.
- P Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.
- C Amen.
- P Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.
- C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

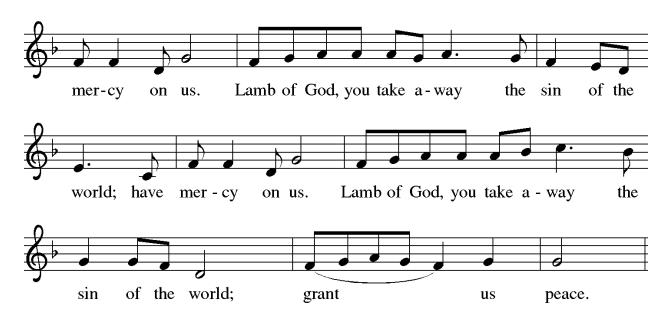
All are welcome at the Lord's Supper here at Advent. Wine and white grape juice are available by individual cup. Gluten-free communion hosts are also available upon request. If you do not commune, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. We ask that you please maintain a safe distance as we commune. Hand sanitizer is available at the usher's stand.

P Come now to the Lord's Table, for all is ready!

LAMB OF GOD Setting 3







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Please be seated.

As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: **Amen**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Spirit, Open My Heart (Please see graphic next page)

ACS 1043





Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

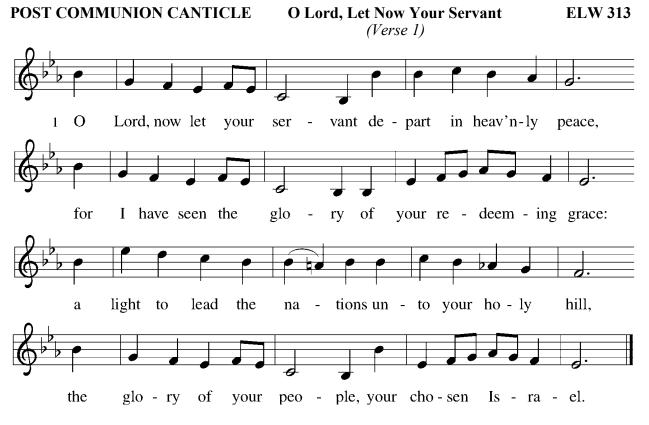
Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.



Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Generous God,
- C at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

 Amen.

Please be seated.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and + give you peace.

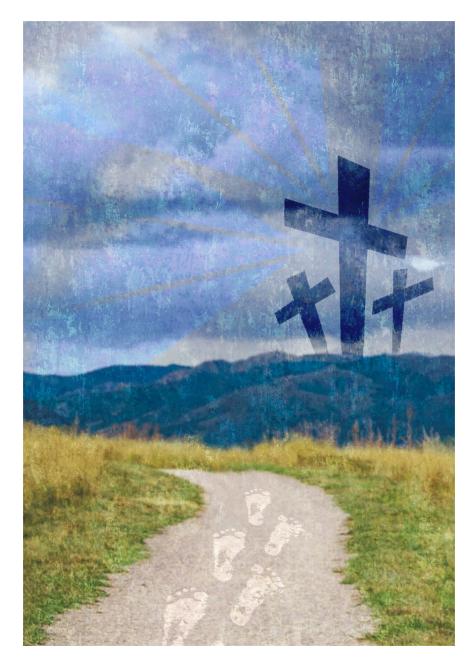
C Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Canticle of the Turning (Please see graphic pages 20-21)

ELW 723





The service continues on the next page.



- Mywith a joy - ful cries soul shout that the out 2 Though Ι small, my . . . God, my all, am you . . .
- 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for tress tow'r, not a
 - Though the na tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, work great. things in me, stone will be left on stone. mem - ber who holds us fast:

and my spir - it sings of the and your mer - cy will last from the Let the king be - ware for your God's mer - cy must de -



drous things that bring won who wait. you to the ones of the past depths to the end of the age be. to ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . ius tice tears from his throne. liv from the con - quer - or's er us crush - ing grasp.



You fixed sight your on your ser - vant's plight, and my Your puts the proud shame, to ver У name to and shall . . The hun for gry weep no more. the poor This fore - bears the sav ing word that our heard is



weak-ness you did not spurn, those who would for you yearn, food they can nev - er earn; prom - ise which holds us bound, so from east to west shall my you will show your might, put the there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry till the spear and rod can be





My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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DISMISSAL

- P This service is ended. But our service continues.
- A Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Canticle of the Turning

J. Helgen



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exploring Faith: The Ten Commandments. On Sunday we continue to explore what the Ten Commandments, now more than two thousand years old, say to us today. This week we'll explore how "Do not murder." (or is it "Do not kill."?) applies in the 21st century in a society increasingly challenged by violence. Does the commandment apply to issues like gun control, abortion, or euthanasia? What was Jesus' radical explanation of this commandment? Join us Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30.

Service Opportunity! We have had several people step forward and volunteer as voting members from Advent at the Synod Assembly on June 1. It's not too late! If you are willing to serve as a voting member, please let Pr. Alex or Marianne know. The proposed slate of voting members will be presented to the congregation to consider. There is still room for people to volunteer to work at the assembly, too! If you would like to attend as a volunteer, you will find more details and the registration link in the What's Happening email or ask Pr. Alex or Marianne for help.



Would you like to host a social hour? We need a social hour host for every Sunday in April. Detailed instructions (including what to do about refreshments) are available in the kitchen. Email your preferred Sunday(s) to the office via email at adventlc@hotmail.com.

Council Highlights:

- A special congregational meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 14 immediately after worship to elect two Nominating Committee members.
- We have three volunteers to serve as voting members at the Metro DC Synod Assembly on June 1: Desiree Jessimy, Lynn Juhl and Debbie Lewis. Pastor Alex and Marianne Hawn will also attend.
- Pastor Alex is tentatively scheduled for vacation the week of June 24 30 and will arrange for a supply pastor.
- 693 postcards were mailed to neighbors in 22202 with information about Easter events.
- Income exceeded expenses in February (and for the year-to-date). The budget process for July 2024 June 2024 has begun.

We give thanks for those assisting with worship today . . .

Pastor The Rev. Alex P. Stall, Jr. Cantor Shelley Stall Assisting Minister Rhonda Rose Debbie Lewis Organist Altar Guild George & Susan Toth Videographer Marianne Hawn Social Hour Host Greeter Shane Gainer Esther Day Usher Counters David Falksen and John Matzner Jones Day

LOOKING FORWARD TO HOLY WEEK & EASTER



Dinner Church | March 20, 6 PM. This is the last opportunity to share in a meal before we move into Holy Week. Join us Wednesday night for a simple meal of soup and bread, holy communion and the opportunity to gather and share in the presence of Jesus! All are welcome to God's table!

PREPARING FOR EASTER

Easter Flowers. TODAY IS THE DEALINE TO ORDER! The requested donation of \$25 per plant goes to the flower fund and the committee will procure the best possible quality and variety of blooming plants available (lilies, orchids, azaleas, hydrangeas, etc.). Order forms are in the Welcome Center.

Community Easter Egg Hunt | Saturday, March 30, 1-3 PM. We are hosting an afternoon of fun for the community. The event for children ages 2-10 will include an egg hunt, sack races, and other games. Bring your little ones, but we ask that you register on <u>SignUpGenius</u> so we know how many eggs to hide! Scan the QR code on the postcards in the Welcome Center or register via the link in the What's Happening email.

Egg Hunt Volunteer Opportunities. We need volunteers to help stuff plastic eggs and hide them around the lawn, staff the games, distribute snacks, monitor the children, and share Advent's warm hospitality with all! Please sign-up in the Worship Center. Dates are: Stuff Easter Eggs | Saturday, March 23, 11 AM and Easter Egg Hunt | Saturday, March 30, 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM.

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY March 24, 10 AM

Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory. Join us for worship with palms.

MAUNDY THURSDAY March 28, 7 PM

We remember the Last Supper and Jesus washing the feet of his disciples.

GOOD FRIDAY March 29, 7 PM

Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world. Join us!

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT | March 30, 1-3

Children ages 2-10 are invited to participate in an afternoon of fun and games.

COMMUNITY SUNRISE SERVICE | March 31, 7 AM

Greet the risen Christ on the outdoor labyrinth. Followed by a light breakfast

EASTER CELEBRATION WITH COMMUNION March 31, 10 AM

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive! Join the celebration to proclaim Christ's resurrection!



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

2222 S. Arlington Ridge Road Arlington, VA 22202 www.adventlc.us

The Rev. Alexander P. Stall, Jr., Pastor Marianne Hawn, Council President Nancy Cox Jairrels, Office Administrator

Learn more about us at adventlc.us or facebook.com/adventarlington. The office is open Tuesday through Thursday from 11 am - 3 pm. Contact the office at adventlc@hotmail.com or 703-521-7010. Pastor Alex may be reached directly at Pr.Alex.advent@icloud.com.



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