# Service of Worship

# Sixth Sunday of Easter May 05, 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)

#### GATHERING

#### **PRELUDE**

## **Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing**

J.W. Kerr

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### 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  $\pm$ ), the sign marked at baptism.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C Amen.

The leader addresses those who are gathered.

- P Look, here is water!
- C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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

P 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!

C 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.
- C Amen.
- P Look, here is water!
- C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

God We Gather As Your People (Please see graphic next page)

**ACS 1038** 





- 1 God, we gath er as your peo ple to raise our song a -
- 2 Oh, we sing for all the chil dren, that one day they be
- 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and 4 God, we're work ing for the fu ture when chil dren far and



bove, and we dare free; and we sing shame, so a - fraid wide can . . . live

to claim the prom - ise of your love. for gen - er - a - tions yet to be, who they are of they and whom love. their lives with dig - ni - ty pride. and



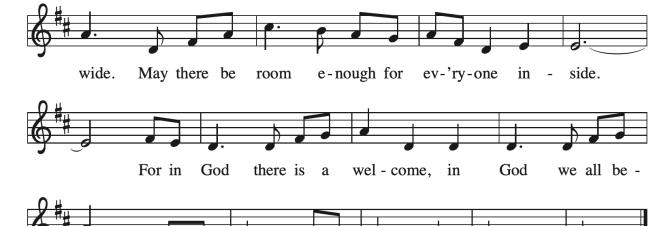
Though the day may not yet be here, we that they nev er have a rea son to May ban - ished that your the mes sage now be may they As they grow in strength and stat ure,



soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free. trust doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest. love is for the few; may their faith re in vou new. ioin us hand in hand, a - gainst all hate as we stand.



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o-pened, fling the church doors o-pen



be

our

song.

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961

long.

Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman

Text and music © 2007 Welcome Song Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

May that

wel

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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.

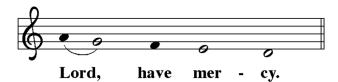
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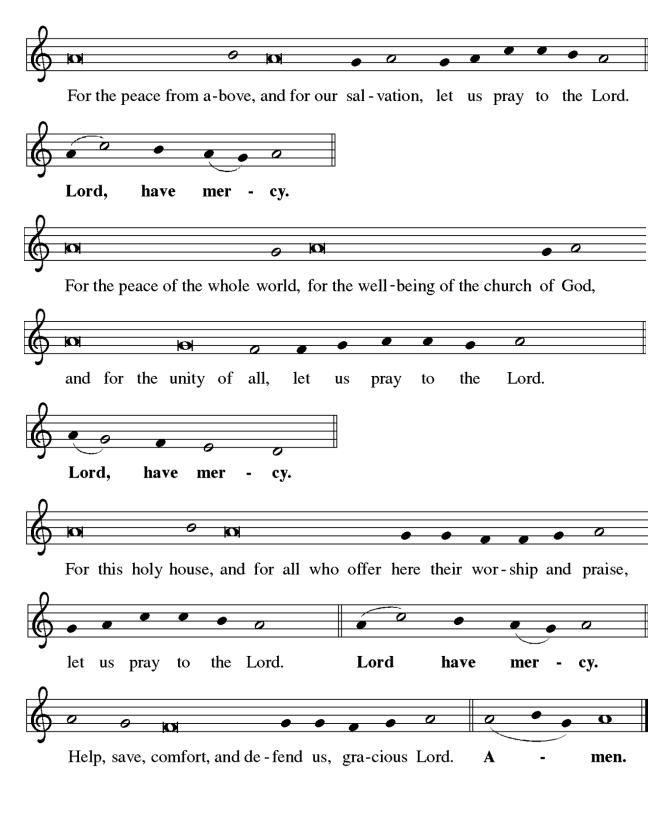
C And also with you.

KYRIE Setting 4



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.





hymn of

all



cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and





This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. (Pause for a moment of silent prayer.) O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

#### FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

Reader A reading from Acts

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALMS: Psalm 98**

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

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>O Lord, you have made known your victory,

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

Reader A reading from 1st John

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able..

THE GOSPEL HYMN

**Setting 4** 

(Please see graphic next page)





From Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress:

- The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be

complete.

<sup>12</sup>CThis is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

Please be seated.

**SERMON** 

The Rev. Alex Stall, Jr.

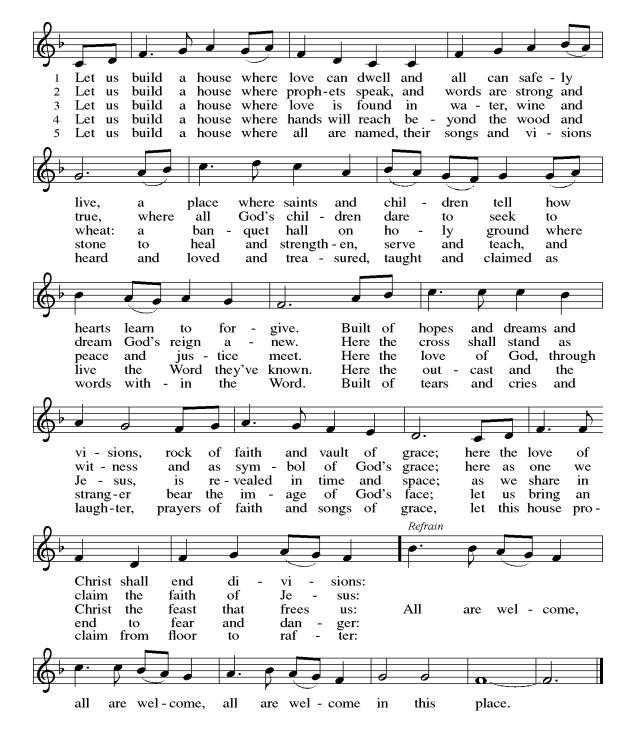
*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.* 

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

All Are Welcome (Please see graphic next page)

**ELW 641** 



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800,442,3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### 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 Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence. After each petition please respond: "Hear our prayer."

- A God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- 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.

- The peace of Christ be with you always.
- 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 "Now All The Vaults of Heaven Resound" for Two Trumpets P. Manz

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.

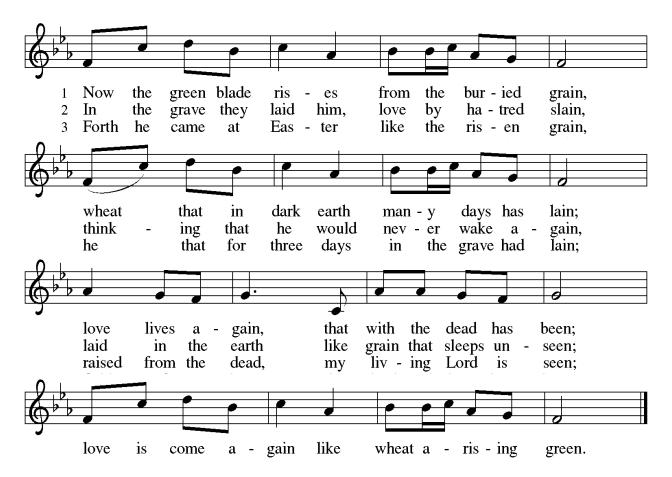
Please stand as you are able.

**OFFERTORY** 

Now the Green Blade Rises (Verses 1-3; see graphic next page)

**ELW 379** 





Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELÊT, French carol

Text from Oxford Book of Carols, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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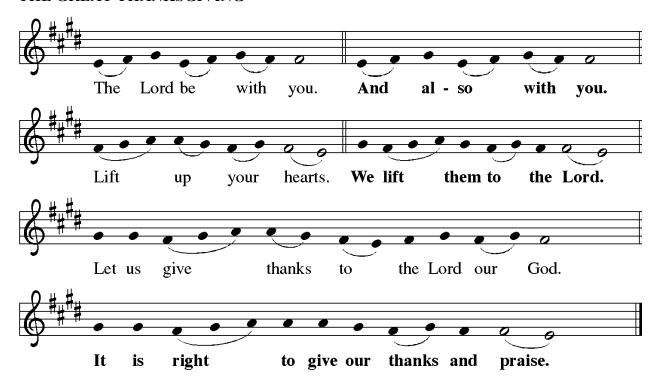
#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

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

A Let us pray. Risen One,

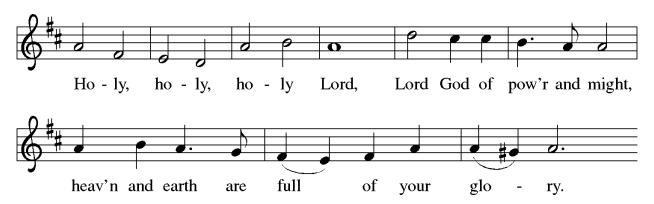
You call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

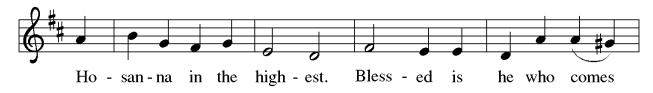
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

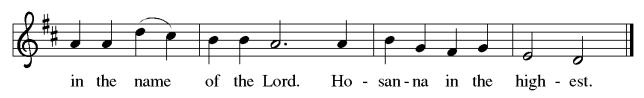


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## P It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:







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#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P O God most mighty,

O God most merciful,

O God our rock and our salvation,

hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.

When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child;

When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.

He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

- P Remembering Jesus's death, we cry out Amen.
- C Amen.

- P Celebrating Jesus's resurrection, we shout Amen.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting Jesus's presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.
- C Amen.
- P O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
  - O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
  - O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
  - O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.
  - O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
  - O God our strength and our song,

you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,

life in you, 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

Please be seated.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

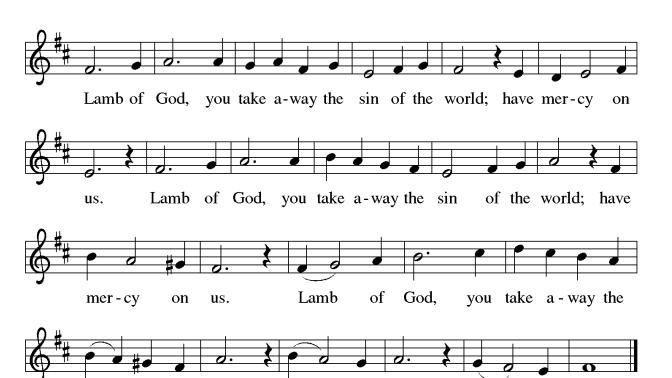
All are welcome at the Lord's Supper here at Advent. Wine and white grape juice are available by individual cup. Gluten-free communion hosts are also available upon request. If you do not commune, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. We ask that you please maintain a safe distance as we commune. 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 4

(Please see graphic next page)





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grant

us

peace,

grant

us

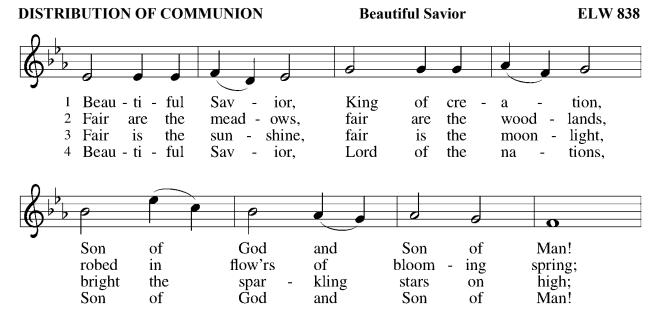
peace.

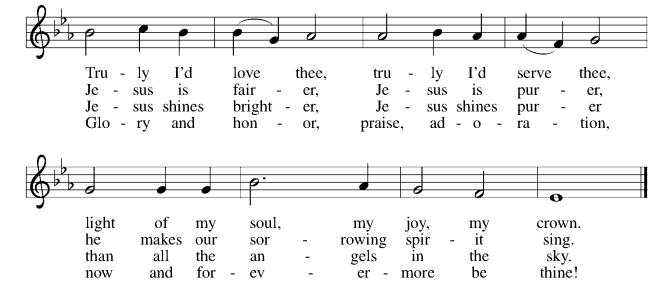
world;

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the





Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

#### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

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

C Amen.



Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A Let us Pray. Shepherding God,
- C 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**

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

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### BLESSING OF ADVENT'S SUNDAY MORNING TEAM

Altar Guild, Assisting Ministers, Cantors, Ushers, Greeters, Communion Assistants, Offering Counters, Videographers and Fellowship Hosts are invited to stand as they are comfortable.

- P God, abundantly bless your servants, the members of our Sunday Morning Team.
  - May their faith be steadfast, and their spirits be strong.
  - Fill their hearts with compassion and humility.
  - May they find joy in every task they undertake,
  - Let your love and our gratitude embrace them and energize them,
  - That their dedication may inspire others to serve.
- C God of love, we thank you for those who serve this congregation, And we give you thanks for this community of faith, living in service to you and to our neighbors. Guide us in every effort. Open our eyes to see your presence in each person we encounter. Open our hearts to treat everyone with kindness and respect. May our actions today and every day reflect your love throughout the world.
- P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us all as we strive to create a community where all feel welcomed and valued.
- C Amen.

The assembly expresses their gratitude to the Sunday Morning Team with applause.

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

## Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

**ELW 836** 



- 1 Joy ful, joy ful we a dore thee, God of glo ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv ing and for giv ing, ev er bless-ing, ev er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be-fore thee, praising thee, their sun a - bove. stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise. well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way. Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea, Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day. chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee. teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di-vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

## **DISMISSAL**

- P This service has ended. Our service continues!
- A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE** 

Toccata on "This Joyful Eastertide"

P. Bouman





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

Pastor
Assisting Minister
Altar Guild
Greeter
Usher
Cantor
Organist
Videographer
Fellowship Host
Counters

The Rev. Alex P. Stall, Jr.
Cheryl Beversdorf
Desiree Jessimy
Ismay Lovell
Rensford Lovell
Gerry Fuller
Eric Sparks
Marianne Hawn
Shelley Bennett
David Falksen and Desiree Jessimy



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Sunday-Morning-Team Refresher! The Sunday Morning Team consists of greeters, ushers, assisting ministers, cantors, altar guild, communion assistants, counters, and videographers, and social hour host(s). Our team is mighty but too small! If you are already serving in one (or more) of these positions, or would consider joining either team, PLEASE attend the Refresher session after today's social hour. No prior experience is necessary for any position -- you'll be a starter in no time!

Worship Planning Meeting | 1 pm, Wednesday, May 8. Team will meet in the Pastor's Lounge to plan music and liturgy for upcoming worship. Talk to Pastor Alex if you're interested in joining.

Engagement Team | 3 pm, Wednesday, May 8 in person or via Zoom. Have ideas for community or in-house events? Join the meeting and share - everyone is welcome. Email the office for the ZOOM link.

Council Meeting | II:30 am, Sunday, May 19. Council deviates from the 2nd Sunday monthly schedule in recognition of Mother's Day.

#### PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

At its April meeting, the Council voted to recommend the following amendment to Advent's Bylaws. This proposed amendment will be on the agenda for the congregational meeting on June 9.

#### Section II. Officers

Item 4. The congregation shall elect the president and vice-president at its annual meeting, and they shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected. Any member of this congregation who has been a member of the congregation council for at least one year is eligible to serve as president or vice-president. Their terms shall begin on July 1 or the beginning of the congregational year. The president and vice-president shall be eligible to serve no more than two FOUR full terms consecutively.

Rationale for the change: Council members are eligible to serve two two-year terms consecutively – for a total of four consecutive years. The reason(s) for restricting the President and Vice President to two one-year terms is/are not obvious, other than to encourage more people to serve in the role or to force a change in leadership.



# **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.



Give online with PayPal. Simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera and use your PayPal account to donate. You may also donate via our website: www.adventlc.us/giving.