



ADVENT

LUTHERAN CHURCH

June 18, 2023

Advent Lutheran Church

8840 University City Blvd., Charlotte, North Carolina 28213

Phone: 704-549-1555 Website: www.adventlu.org

“Love God, Serve Neighbor”

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Pastoral Welcome

Juneteenth: History and Prayer

Prelude

"Amazing Grace"

Annette Nolan

Confession and Forvieness

L: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which began with God's reconciliation with us and with all creation in Jesus Christ. *(2 Corinthians 5:19)*

L: Gracious and loving God, search us and know our hearts, so that we may gladly confess the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and destructive.

(Time of silence and self-examination.)

L: Gracious and loving God,

C: **even though we desire to follow the way of Jesus,
we confess that we often fall short.**

When we love with condition by walking on the other side of the road.

When we condemn by casting the first stone.

When we judge by keeping the log in our own eye.

When we hoard by building bigger barns.

When we seek power by refusing to carry the cross.

**Gracious and loving God, you as the source of our healing,
forgive us, renew us and empower us to be imitators of Christ
in love and service. Amen.**

L: Friends in Christ, know this: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, and God's grace is beyond measure. In Jesus Christ, we are completely forgiven.

C: **Alleluia! Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

That we may live out your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
That we may live out . . . truth and justice and grace,
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Greeting

- L: 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.**

Prayer of Illumination

- L: Let us pray. God of the open road, God of the twisting path, God of the narrow way, you give us provision for the journey – the gifts of courage, faith, and compassion – and the endurance to face any hardship. Open our eyes to see you walking beside us, protecting us, encouraging us, and loving us. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ who leads us on the way.
- C: **Amen.**

The First Reading

Exodus 19:2-8

The Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:35-10:8

The Message

Song of the Day

ELW #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God is present,
In the darkness before dawn,
In the waiting and uncertainty,
Where conflict and caring link arms,
Where fear and courage join hands.

We believe in a God who is with us,
Who sits down in our midst
To share our humanity.

We affirm a faith
That takes us beyond a safe place:
Into action, into vulnerability,
And into the places of deepest need.

We commit ourselves to work for change
And to put ourselves on the line.
To bear responsibility, to take risks,
And to face humiliation.
To stand with those on the edge,
to choose life and
to be a community of hope for all people.
Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

L: Let us pray. God, you are with us as we proclaim the good news, as we reach out to heal, to cure, and to raise up; you are with us as we stand against the forces of tyranny and evil. We pray for the church throughout the world, for all involved in mission and outreach. Lord, as you call us,

C: make us worthy of our calling.

L: God, you have called us to work together.
We pray for the work of the United Nations.
We remember all who are seeking to build up communities.
We pray for those in government, and leaders of industries.
We pray for all who have a sense of vocation and dedication.
We remember those whose work is thwarted by the greed or violence of others, especially the country and the people of Ukraine, and for the countries of Sudan and Myanmar. Lord, as you call us,

C: make us worthy of our calling.

L: God, we give thanks for all who have called us to a knowledge of you. We pray for those who have sacrificed for us, those who love us, and those whom we love. We give thanks for all who have been examples to us, especially fathers and male role models, and we pray that we may be an example to others. Lord, as you call us,

C: make us worthy of our calling.

L: God, we pray for all people in their daily life and work — for our families, friends, neighbors, and for those who are hospitalized or ill at home. Hear us now as we lift up those people and those situations you have placed upon our hearts.

We especially pray for:

- Terence Connelly
- Darrell Easley
- Inez Easley
- Rosemary Martin-Fountain
- Andrea Hankins
- Dwight Hartsell
- Jim Hintz
- Gary Homesley
- Donnell Horton
- Waylon Kuklantz
- Bobbi Larson
- Bonnie Lupton
- Gabe Lynch
- Andrea Miller
- Sara Moeller
- Terry Mosher
- Steve O'Donnell
- Gerry Osborne
- Terry Park
- Tony Poovey
- Joyce Quigley
- Anne Steele
- Earlene Stephens
- Joanna Reilly
- Bishop Tim Smith
- Kelly Taylor
- David Townsend
- Herbert Watson
- Renate Wilson

L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name.

(Time for the community to pray.)

L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially:

- Michael Conley, coworker of Andy Goerke, died June 3

L: By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

L: Lord, as you call us,

C: make us worthy of our calling.

L: God, we offer these prayers to you, those spoken and those still unknown to us. Give us peace to trust you with the timing and the answers you provide. We ask all these things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Offering

(Please sign and pass the pew pads)

Offertory Song

W&P #5 "All That We Have"

Refrain

All that we have and all that we of - fer comes from a
heart both fright-ened and free. Take what we bring now and
give what we need, all done in your name.

1 Some would re - ly on their pow - er,
2 Some - times the road may be lone - some,
3 Some - times when trou - bles are man - y,

oth - ers put trust in their gold.
of - ten we may lose our way. Take
life can seem emp - ty, it's true. But

Some have on - ly their Sav - ior, whose
cour - age and al - ways re - mem - ber
look at the life of the Mas - ter, who

Refrain
faith - ful - ness nev - er grows old.
love is - n't just for a day.
lov - ing - ly suf - fered for you.

Table Prayer

L: The table of bread and wine is now made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Jesus became fully human. So come to the table, all who have much faith and all who would like to have more; all who have been here often and all who have not been in a long time; all who have tried to follow Jesus, and all who have fallen short. Come. It is Christ who invites us all to meet him here.

C: **Amen.**

The Words of Institution

"Come and See"

L: On the night that Jesus was betrayed, in an upper room. He took the bread and blessed it as he said, "Here's my body broken for you." He took the cup and raised it up on high, bowed his head and prayed. And then he said, "My blood for you is shed, a cleansing stream to wash your sin away."

Congregational Response

1 Come and see the glo - ry of the Lord. Come, be - hold the
 2 Come and give thanks un - to the Lord. Come, be - hold the

Lamb. Come and see the mer - cy of the King,
 Lamb. Come and sing the prais - es of the King,

Lord a - bove the heav - ens, Lord in all the earth,

Lord of all the an - gels, wor - thy to be served.

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

- C:** 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 pow'r and the glory are yours, now and forever.

"Lamb of God"

1 Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 2 Lamb of God, I'm ask - ing you to
 (3) pre - cious blood of Je - sus Christ

sin of the world. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way my sin. I con - fess that
 cleans - es me from sin. The pre - cious blood of

take a - way the sin of the world.
 I've done wrong, I need your help a - gain.
 Je - sus Christ cleans - es me from sin.

Refrain

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
 mer - cy on me. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

Last time to coda \diamond
 mer - cy, have mer - cy on me. 3 The

\diamond *Coda*
 Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Communion Song

ELW #793 "Be Thou My Vision"

Communion Song

"Sanctuary/I Exalt Thee"

The Blessing

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Benediction

L: May you never feel alone in the struggle for justice and peace.

May you know the support of family, friends, and people who feel as passionately about the world as you do.

May you feel a part of the great cloud of witnesses, who through the ages, did God's work and prayed for the coming of the Kingdom.

May you never feel alone.

And if you do, may you carry in your heart the words of Jesus, who told his friends: "I am with you always."

C: **Amen.**

Sending Song

"I Will Celebrate"

I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord;
I will sing to God a new song.

I will celebrate, sing unto the Lord;
I will sing to God a new song.

I will praise him,
For he has triumphed victoriously.

I will praise him,
For he has triumphed victoriously.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**