

LIVING AS



HE LOVED

PENTECOST SEASON

July 17, 2022

Advent Lutheran Church

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

“Love God, Serve Neighbor”

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Pastoral Welcome

Call to Worship

- L: Though we may be inclined to self-importance, let us come together with humility.
- C: How good a thing it is when all of God's people live together in unity.**
- L: Though we may be tempted to use harsh words, let us come together with gentleness.
- C: How good a thing it is when all of God's people live together in unity.**
- L: Though we may want everything to happen quickly, let us come together with patience.
- C: How good a thing it is when all of God's people live together in unity.**
- L: Though the world around often encourages antagonism, let us come together in love.
- C: How good a thing it is when all of God's people live together in unity.**
- L: In humility, gentleness, patience, love, and unity,
- C: Let us worship the God who has called us together.**

Prelude

"Jesus Loves Me"

Annette Nolan

Confession and Forgiveness


- L: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- L: God of Love,
- C: take our hearts,
every hardened edge and measured beat,
and create something new in us.
God, we need your newness,
the rough parts of ourselves made smooth;
the stagnant, stirred;
the stuck, freed;
the unkind, forgiven.
And then, by the power of your Spirit,
Turn us toward Love again. Amen.**

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)


- L: Brothers and sisters, this is the Good News:
The God of Love has completely forgiven all your sins. With clean hearts and renewed spirits, live into the joy of God's salvation.
- C: Amen.

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. Gentle God, we have traveled through many waters to reach this place, but share one baptism; we arrive from different backgrounds and traditions, yet share one faith; we are, each of us, unique and precious to God, and are members of one Body; we have different dreams and doubts, yet our hearts beat with one hope; we are graced with different gifts, so we may offer them in service to one Lord. In name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Psalm 133

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

Ephesians 4:1-6

The Message

Song of the Day

"Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

Last time to coda ⊕



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
in giv - ing of our - selves that we re -

1



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda



loved as to love with all my soul.



ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Prayers of the Faithful

L: Let us pray. Gracious God, you gather us as a patchwork collection of persons and quilt together your church. Like pieces of cloth, take our words and songs and prayers, take our thoughts and inner hungers, and join them all together into a new and living fabric—the purpose of which is to cover and color your world (or at least *our* corner of it) with grace and love.

(Time of silence.)

L: Gracious God, bless our efforts to bring about reconciliation. Give us the strength to persevere without counting the hurts, and to find within ourselves the capacity to keep on loving.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, give us the grace to be able to stand in the middle of situations, and to be a conduit for the deep listening which can lead to healing and forgiveness.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, bless those who are called to reconcile on a large-scale – politicians, world leaders, leaders of business, and those who stand amid bitter conflict.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, hear us now as we pray for those families and friends you have placed upon our hearts.

We especially pray for:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ William Brady | ▪ Chris Rasmussen |
| ▪ Jim Carney | ▪ Joyce Reed |
| ▪ Helen & Jim Cheyney | ▪ Denny Refsnider |
| ▪ Terence Connelly | ▪ John Schierlmann |
| ▪ Charliese Eichler | ▪ Reponda Smith |
| ▪ Linda Holden | ▪ Kelly Taylor |
| ▪ Donnell Horton | ▪ David Townsend |
| ▪ John Kivett | ▪ Laura Tucker |
| ▪ Waylon Kuklantz | ▪ Herbert Watson |
| ▪ Kevin Middleton | ▪ Lisa Williams |
| ▪ Andrew Milholland | ▪ Renate Wilson |
| ▪ Leo Peeler | ▪ Chuck Wolfe |
| ▪ Joyce Quigley | |

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:

- Dave Swanson, brother-in-law of Mark and Diane Large, died July 13.

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: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, bless us and bless all who engage in the sacred work of envisioning new wholeness, and bringing people and nations together. 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

“No Longer Strangers” Sanctuary Singers & Congregation

We once were lost;
Without hope, without God;
But now in Christ Jesus, we have been found—
Saved by the promise of God!

*No longer strangers, no longer lost and alone!
No longer strangers, now we are saints!
We are one in the house of God!*

We once were cut off;
But now we are brought near, for Christ is our peace,
We were broken, now whole—
One spirit, one body of Christ!

*No longer strangers, no longer lost and alone!
No longer strangers, now we are saints!
We are one in the house of God!*

We who once were dead,
Now we live in the light,
We follow Christ Jesus, abundant in grace—
Who saved us, who raised us to life!

*No longer strangers, no longer lost and alone!
No longer strangers, now we are saints!
We are one in the house of God!*

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

The Lord's Prayer *(spoken)*

- C: **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.**

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

"Softly and Tenderly"



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.