LIVING AS



HE LOVED

PENTECOST SEASON

July 24, 2022

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

Call to Worship

- L: What does the Lord require of us?
- C: To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.
- L: What does God command of us?
- C: To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.
- L: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.
- C: But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.
- L: Let us worship the God who believes in us, and abides with us.
- C: Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way.

Prelude

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Morning Chimes

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: we confess that we so easily slide back into old habits:
 we let cruel and unkind words slip out of our mouths,
 we carry on conversations that tear down rather than build up,
 we let anger and bitterness get the better of us, and
 we are reluctant to forgive one another.
 We are truly sorry.
 Renew us by your Holy Spirit that our lives will more clearly

Renew us by your Holy Spirit that our lives will more clearly bear your image of kindness, tenderness, and forgiveness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

- L: Brothers and sisters, this is the Good News:
 Know that God in Christ Jesus has forgiven you.
 Now let your hearts be a meeting place for kindness and truth, and your lives a fellowship of justice and peace.
- C: Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD



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: God, you call us to step into the stream of your mercy, to stand still for a moment and to remember we are on holy ground. Let your healing waters wash over us and soak into our souls as we prepare to listen for the word you will speak to us today.
- C: Amen.

The First Reading

Micah 6:6-8

The Gospel Acclamation



The Holy Gospel

Ephesians 4:29-32

The Message

Song of the Day

"Think About His Love"

Chorus

Think about His love
Think about His goodness
Think about His grace
That's brought us through
For as high as the heaven's above
So great is the measure
Of our Father's love
Great is the measure
Of our Father's love

Verse 1

How could I forget His love How could I forget His mercy He satisfies He satisfies He satisfies my desires

Verse 2

Even when I've strayed away
His love has sought me out
And found me
He satisfies He satisfies
He satisfies my desires

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Faithful

L: Let us pray. Gracious God, we are your forgiven and beloved community. Keep us always kind and tenderhearted even when the world delivers difficult blows and setbacks. Teach us once again about your redeeming grace in order that we may learn, however slowly and tentatively, to forgive others as you have forgiven us.

- L: In your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- L: Gracious God, we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world. We pray that everywhere upon this earth there may be justice and peace. We continue to pray for the country and the people of Ukraine, as well as other countries that are dealing with political unrest and conflict.
- L: In your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- L: Gracious God, we pray for all people in their daily life and work. Hear us now as we pray for all those you have placed upon our hearts.

We especially pray for:

- Karen Battle
- William Brady
- Melissa Butler
- Helen & Jim Cheyney
- Terence Connelly
- Charliese Eichler
- Linda Holden
- Donnell Horton
- Mona Ingolia
- Joe Johnson
- John Kivett
- Marylou Kuklentz
- Waylon Kuklentz
- Kevin Middleton
- Andrew Milholland

- Leo Peeler
- Joyce Quigley
- Chris Rasmussen
- Joyce Reed
- Denny Refsnider
- John Schierlmann
- Michael Searing
- Reponda Smith
- Kelly Taylor
- David Townsend
- Laura Tucker
- Herbert Watson
- Lisa Williams
- Renate Wilson
- Chuck Wolfe

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 Diane & Mark Large, died July 13.
 - Jim Carney, brother of Colleen Karpovitz, died July 20
 - Sonny Rodgers, friend of Harriett Easley & family, died July 22

- 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, 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

with us;

still

we

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

Sanctuary Singers & Congregation

feast.

hun - gry



come, we

come to the

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

"Shout to the Lord"



Dismissal

- L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.