

LIVING AS



HE LOVED

PENTECOST SEASON

September 18, 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: Come, let us worship the One who calls us here.
- C: We gather to worship with joy and in hope.**
- L: Come, let us worship the One who desires our hearts.
- C: We offer ourselves to God.**
- L: Come, let us set aside all that distracts us from worship.
- C: We come as we are and ask the Spirit to gather us and direct our vision.**
- L: Come, let us worship the One who calls us here.
- C: We are here to worship with all that we are.**

Prelude

"We Are An Offering"

Annette Nolan

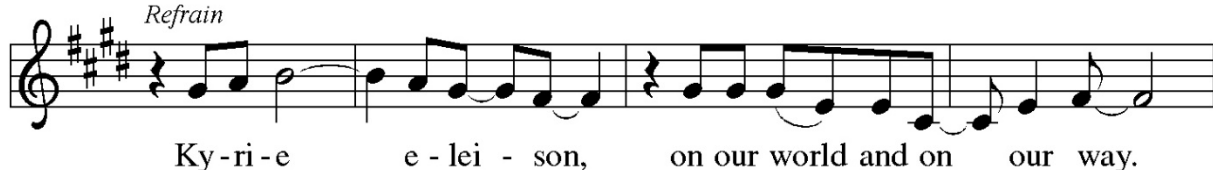
Confession and Forgiveness

- L: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- L: Lord Jesus Christ,
- C: We call you Lord,
Yet it is *too* easy for us to worship other things.
Other activities, other relationships, other gods.**
- L: Lord Jesus Christ,
- C: You tell us we cannot serve two masters,
Yet we spend more time focusing our energies elsewhere.
Diverting our time, our money, our attention away from you.**
- L: Lord Jesus Christ,
- C: Forgive us when our hearts are led astray.
When we serve other gods and worship them.**
- L: Lord Jesus Christ,
- C: Strengthen us to be more faithful with our resources.
Encourage us to trust you more fully with our lives.
Empower us to seek you first and foremost in all things.**


(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

- L: Brothers and sisters, this is the Good News:
 Our Lord Jesus Christ has completely forgiven us.
 Embrace his forgiveness and live your lives with faith, obedience, and joy.
- C: **Amen.**

Refrain



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



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

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: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, teach us your way, so that we may walk in your truth. In a world that pulls us in many directions and vies for our attention, give us undivided hearts to revere your name. In this moment as we prepare to hear the Scriptures read and the word proclaimed, may we trust you with our whole heart just as you have entrusted us with the gift of your Gospel.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Amos 8:4-7

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 Second Reading

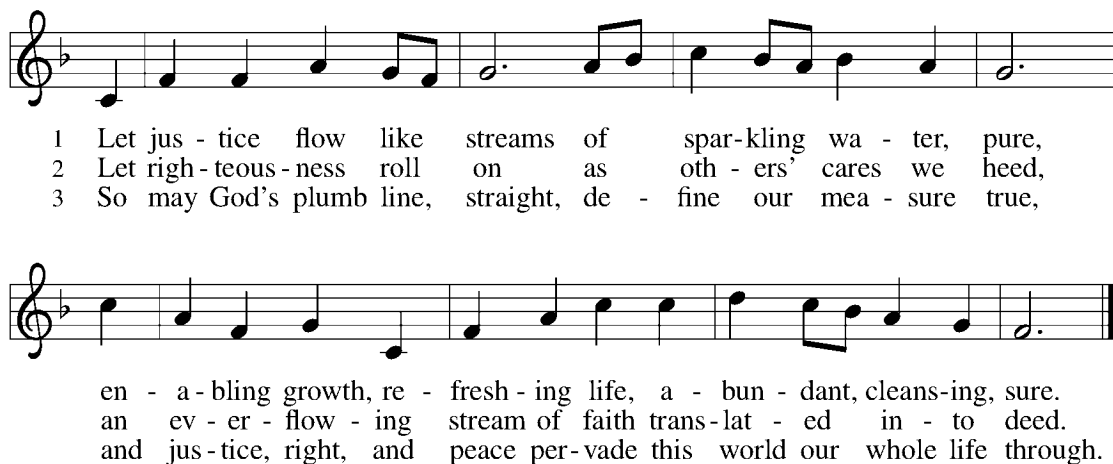
Luke 16:1-13

Children's Church

The Message

Song of the Day

ELW #717 "Let Justice Flow Like Streams"



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar-king wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ-teous-ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,
en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans-ing, sure.
an - ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans-lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus-tice, right, and peace per-vade this world our whole life through.

Prayers of the Faithful

L: Let us pray. God of overflowing goodness, you have blessed us with the means to serve you in the world. Awaken our awareness of the suffering and struggle of those around us. Fill our hearts with compassion and understanding for those in need and wipe out the judgment and self-interest that too often displaces your love. Inspire us to follow you and not to chase after money or possessions. Guide us to use our wealth to serve you, by loving your children and tending your creation.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: God of justice and peace, we pray for people and situations where there is struggle and hardship, unrest and conflict, and hunger and hopelessness. For the country and the people of Ukraine, as well as other countries that are dealing with political unrest and conflict; for Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Yemen, Israel-Palestine, Haiti and Myanmar.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

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

We especially pray for:

- Sawyer Akers
- Melissa Butler
- Tim Caldwell
- Helen Cheyney
- Terence Connelly
- Charliese Eichler
- Carol Hollingsworth
- Gary Homesley
- Donnell Horton
- Joe Johnson
- Waylon Kuklantz
- Bobby Larson
- Chuck Mauney
- Kevin Middleton
- Andrew Milholland
- Jane Ogilvie
- Barb Palumbo
- Leo Peeler
- Reagan Poli
- David Poe
- Chip Priser
- Joyce Quigley
- Kenton Rohrberg
- Kelly Taylor
- David Townsend
- Laura Tucker
- Josie Upton
- Samantha Upton
- Herbert Watson
- Renate Wilson
- Chuck Wolfe
- Sara Yarberry

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 offer prayers of praise and thanksgiving for the marriage of Rachel Eklund and Justin May on September 17.

We offer prayers of praise and thanksgiving for the wonderful news that Chris Rasmussen has been declared cancer free.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: God of overflowing goodness, 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 Jesus Christ, the One who has revealed your love to us and sent us to share your love with the world.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Offering *(Please sign and pass the pew pads)*

Offertory Song *"In Remembrance of Me"* Sanctuary Singers

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 (*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.

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

EKW #720 "*We Are Called*"

[Verse 1]

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom
To live in the freedom of the city of God!

[Chorus]

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

[Verse 2]

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So all hatred and blindness will be no more!

[Chorus]

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

[Verse 3]

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love

[Chorus]

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**