

## **The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

The Episcopal Church of the Advent

Kennett Square, PA

July 5, 2026 9:00 a.m.



**Welcome to the Church of the Advent!** If you are a guest with us this morning, please know we are honored by your presence! We invite you to complete a guest card, which will allow us to remain in contact with you and provide you with additional information. You may place your completed card in the offering plate, or you may give it to our priest as you are leaving. On our website ([www.adventks.org](http://www.adventks.org)), you will find an up-to-date calendar of all church ministries and activities, and you may sign up to receive our weekly email. If you are interested in learning more about the Church of the Advent, the Episcopal Church, or the Christian faith, please contact our priest (Tim Johnson) at (610) 444-4624 or [rector@adventks.org](mailto:rector@adventks.org). **Again, welcome!**

### **Our Parish Vision:**

To build and nurture a community where all people may encounter God as revealed to us in Jesus Christ and learn to live as his followers in the world.

### **Our Parish Mission:**

We seek to grow as disciples of Christ –  
in community, prayer, learning, and service.

### **Our Parish Prayer:**

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you,  
so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills,  
that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you;  
and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory  
and the welfare of your people;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*(from the Book of Common Prayer)*

**Elementary Sunday School** is on summer break and will resume in the fall. **Children's Chapel will be offered during the 9 am service in July and August.**

**Jr/Sr High Sunday School** is on summer break and will resume in the fall.

**Adult Formation** – Adult formation is on break for June. On the Sundays of July, at 10 am in the parish hall, Rev. Tim will lead a class on the Anglican Communion (of which the Episcopal Church is a part). The Anglican Communion is the third largest Christian denomination/communion in the world.

**Readings for Next Week (July 12):** Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

### WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

**PRELUDE**

*Simple Gifts*

arr. Larkin

**OPENING HYMN**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
#657 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**  
*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

**FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 10:17-21**

The Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and

clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

*Reader*           The word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 145:1-9**

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you \*  
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The LORD is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.

**SEQUENCE ALLELUIA** (*Please stand as you are able.*)

***sing 3 times***

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

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

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## THE GOSPEL – Matthew 5:43-48

*Celebrant* The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## HOMILY

### WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

#### The NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true  
God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he**

**came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *(Please remain standing, kneel, or sit for the prayers.)*  
*The response is "Hear us, gracious Lord."*

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*Celebrant* In silence, let us confess our sins before God.

*Silence is observed.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**THE PEACE** *(Please stand as you are able for the Peace.)*

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

#### **WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **OFFERTORY SOLO**

*Love Can Change the World*  
Joan & Wilson Somers, Joe Loudon  
Leon Spencer, Bass



*Scan this QR code if you would like to make a gift electronically.*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and one flat. The treble staff contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords and moving lines.

For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in Christ made known,

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system, maintaining the same 4/4 time signature and key signature.

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment, with the treble staff showing a melodic line and the bass staff providing harmonic support.

with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:

The fourth system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment, showing the progression of the hymn's text.

The fifth system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment, with the treble staff leading the vocal line and the bass staff providing accompaniment.

here we of - fer, Lord, our prais-es; heart and mind and strength we bring;

The sixth system of musical notation concludes the hymn, showing the final notes of the melody and accompaniment.

give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., (1944- )  
 MUSIC: Leavitt's *The Christian Lyre*, 1830  
 Words © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

PLEADING SAVIOR  
 8.7.8.7.D.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Prayer C from the Book of Common Prayer*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.  
**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Sing 3 times in English.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you. My  
San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zon te a - do - ra. Mi

heart is glad to say the words: you are Ho - ly, Lord!  
co - ra - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Señ - or.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Leah, Rebecca, and Mary; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and  
the power, and the glory for ever  
and ever. Amen.**



Lamb of God,  
Prince of Peace,  
Bread of Life,  
Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on



Lamb of God.  
us, Prince of Peace.  
Bread of Life.  
us, grant us peace.

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## COMMUNION HYMN

*Come Down, O Love Divine*  
#516 in *The Hymnal 1982* (blue hymnal)

## WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

## CLOSING HYMN

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*  
#719 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord!

*People* **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*God Bless America*

Irving Berlin

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*The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored this week by  
Doranne Easler in memory of Linda Broomall.*

*The Altar Flowers are sponsored today by  
Dawn Deivert and Nancy Costanzo to the glory of God*

*Pastoral Emergencies – If you have a pastoral emergency requiring the assistance of a priest, please contact the church office during office hours. Outside of office hours, please contact the Rev. Tim Johnson directly at 484-730-1988.*

## Worship Support

*Lector:* Barbara Thornton  
*Eucharistic Minister:* Branan Cooper  
*Ushers:* Mike Bell, Dennis Glasgow,  
Charles & Nancy Hart

*Sub Deacon:* Barbara Thornton  
*Director of Music:* Wilson G. Somers  
*The Advent Altar Guild*

## **SUGGESTED SPIRITUAL PRACTICE FOR THE SUMMER:**

### **DWELLING IN THE WORD**

*Dwelling in the Word* is a simple, easy way to reflect on a passage from Scripture. It is most easily done with a passage from one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), and this practice may be done alone or with others. The bulletin insert contains a list of the appointed readings for next Sunday; try using *Dwelling on the Word* with next week's Gospel reading as a method for preparing for next week's worship service.

1. Read the passage aloud, slowly and intentionally. Read it with the goal of simply familiarizing yourself with the passage.
2. Read the passage aloud again. Pay particular attention to any word, phrase, or image that jumps out at you, catches your attention, or prompts a question. If you are doing this practice with others, share the word, phrase, or image that caught your attention.
3. Read the passage aloud for a third time. Ask: What might the Holy Spirit be saying to me as an individual or to our church community through this passage? If you are doing this practice with others, share your response to this question(s).