



Welcome to the Church of the Advent! If you are a guest with us, 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), 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) by calling the church office at (610) 444-4624 or by email at rector@adventks.org. **Again, welcome!**

Elementary Sunday School begins at 9:45 am, in the Children's Chapel.

Jr/Sr High Sunday School begins at 10:00 am, in the St. Jude Room.

Adult Formation – This morning at 9:45 am, in the St. Nicholas Room, members of our parish chapter of the Daughters of the King and Sr. Jackie will share their experiences as members of vowed religious communities in recognition of Religious Life Sunday (rescheduled).

Midweek Holy Communion at 8 am in the Chapel on Wednesday, March 25th (Feast of the Annunciation).

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2026, 11:00 A.M.**

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

(Our liturgy is taken from the Book of Common Prayer and Enriching our Worship, an authorized supplement to the Prayer Book. During Lent, our service begins with confession and absolution.)

PRELUDE

Ave Maria

Schubert

OPENING HYMN

Thou Art the Way

#457 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures for ever. Amen**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Celebrant Kneeling, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

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.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand for the sequence hymn and the reading of the Gospel.)

SEQUENCE HYMN *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

#508, vs. 1-3, in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary

came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SEQUENCE HYMN *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*
#508, vs. 4, in the Hymnal 1982 (blue hymnal)

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 kneel, remain standing, or be seated for the prayers and confession.)

Response to each petition: **Merciful Lord, hear us.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Out of the Deep

John Rutter

Advent Parish Choir with Doug McNames. Cello

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS *(Please stand as you are able.)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

(Eucharistic Prayer A 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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you...

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord, God of power and might!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

(You may remain standing, kneel, or be seated for the remainder of the prayer.)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...

...in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.
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Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

COMMUNION HYMNS

Humbly I Adore Thee

#314 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Holy Spirit, Ever Living

#511 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant & People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

CLOSING HYMN

Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus!

#495 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SOLEMN LENTEN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

POSTLUDE

Intermezzo II

Schroeder

WORSHIP SUPPORT

Lector: Diane Chun *Sub Deacon:* Barbara Thornton

Eucharistic Minister: Diane Chun

Director of Music: Wilson G. Somers

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.

PLEASE JOIN US DURING HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

7:45, 9:00, & 11:00 am

Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm

Good Friday

12:00 pm

Easter Sunday

7:45, 9:00, & 11:00 am

Easter egg hunt following the 9:00 am service

**Please return your coin boxes for the
Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem next Sunday (Palm Sunday),
so it may be included in our Good Friday offering!**

WHAT IS THE SEASON OF LENT?

In the Church, we celebrate two main festival seasons – Christmas (12 days in length) and Easter (50 days in length). Each of these festival seasons is preceded by a season of preparation. For Christmas, the season of preparation is Advent. For Easter, the season of preparation is Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for forty days (not counting Sundays) through the Saturday before Easter.

It is helpful to think of Lent as a season of “honesty” and “renewal.” As a season of honesty, we are encouraged to take an honest look at ourselves and to take stock of how well we are living into Jesus’s command to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We examine the sincerity of our relationships, the choices we make, and the true motives behind our decisions and actions. That honesty also includes accepting our own mortality, which we do in a profound way on the very first day of Lent – Ash Wednesday – when we receive ashes on our forehead and hear the words, “Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” In the midst this honest self-examination, Lent calls us to a renewal of our faith. Lent reminds us that God’s grace, which is made available to us in Jesus, brings us forgiveness of our sins and failures, strength to amend and reorient our lives, and the hope of eternal life. At Easter, we will celebrate God’s ultimate victory over sin, brokenness, and death through the resurrection of Jesus.

During Lent, we simplify our worship space and use the color purple, which is traditionally associated with penitence. We also refrain from using the word, “Alleluia” in worship since that word is an exclamation of holy joy. Our liturgy during Lent takes on a more penitential tone and usually begins with the act of confession and absolution. On a personal level, Lent is traditionally a time of recommitment to spiritual practices and disciplines that strengthen our relationship with God, such as charitable giving, prayer, fasting, and scripture study.

So, in the words of our prayer book, I invite to the observation of a holy Lent.

Rev. Tim

TWO SUGGESTED SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

Suggestion One – Spend time praying the Sunday collects.

Our prayer book appoints a collect (a particular type of prayer) for the start of each Sunday service. These prayers are the first prayer we pray after the confession on the Sundays in Lent. The collects appointed for the Sundays in Lent are particularly powerful. Take the worship bulletin home with you each Sunday, and commit to praying that Sunday's collect each day during the upcoming week. Ask yourself these questions: 1) Are there particular words, phrases, or images in this Sunday's collect that really resonate with me? 2) Are there any parts of this prayer that seem challenging or uncomfortable? Why? 3) What changes is this prayer calling me to make in my life?

Suggestion Two – The Daily Examen

The Daily Examen is an ancient, prayerful way of reflecting on your day to identify where you have encountered God in your daily activities and to identify where you are in need of grace. It is most effective if the Daily Examen is prayed each evening at the close of your day, and it only takes a few moments. The steps to praying the Daily Examen are below.

1. Ask God for light.

I want to look at my day with God's eyes, not merely my own.

2. Give thanks.

The day I have just lived is a gift from God. Be grateful for it.

3. Review the day.

I carefully look back on the day just completed, being guided by the Holy Spirit, paying particular attention to the moments when I felt God's presence (joy, peace, contentment, closeness with others) or absence (anger, jealousy, fear, rejection).

4. Face your shortcomings.

I face up to what is wrong in my actions, reactions, and choices.

5. Look toward the day to come.

I ask where I will need God in the day to come.

(adapted from Loyola Press)