



The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m., Sunday, Sept 27, 2026

**The Episcopal Church of the Advent
Kennett Square**

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), 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 priests at (610) 444-4624 or rector@adventks.org (Rev. Tim) or emma@adventks.org (Rev. Emma). **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 for students age 4 to 11 resumes today at 9:45 am.

Jr/Sr High Sunday School resumes today at 9:45 am in the St. Jude Room.

Adult Formation – Today, the St. James School will lead an adult forum in the parish hall at 9:45. Please come, and learn about the upcoming expansion of the school! Next week, Rebecca Rollison will lead an adult forum on resources for deepening your faith.

Readings for Next Week (October 4): Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Midweek Eucharist: 8 am, Tuesday, Sept. 29, Chapel (St. Michael & All Angels)

*Our liturgy this morning is taken from Enriching Our Worship,
an authorized supplement to the Prayer Book.*

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Canon (Sarabande)

Louis Couperin

OPENING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

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

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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

THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
 incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
 I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
 and what our forefathers have told us, *
 we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
 the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
 and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
 in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
 he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
 and all the night through with a glow of fire.

- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

THE SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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*At the Name of Jesus*#435, v. 1-2 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

SEQUENCE HYMN*At the Name of Jesus*#435, v. 3-4 in **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 or remain seated for the prayers.)*

The response is “Gracious God, hear us, we pray.”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Silence is observed.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY DUET

The Gift of Love
Emily Dryden and Guen Calabrese Finley

arr. Hal Hopson



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

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. *(vs. 3 of hymn #380)*

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.**

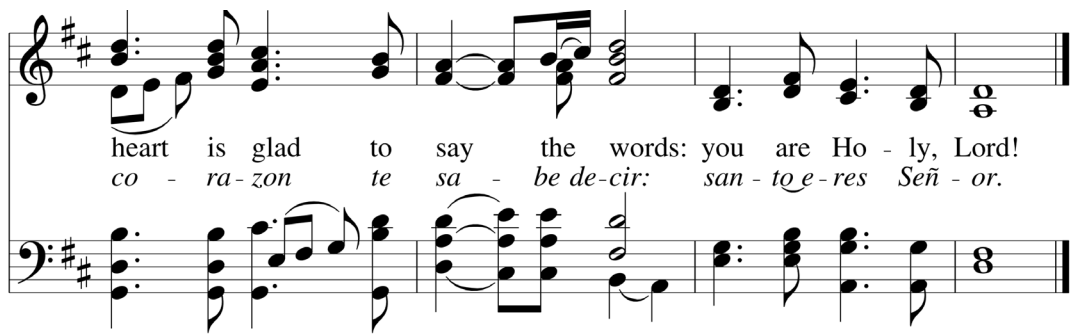
All thanks and praise are yours at all times in all places...

...we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sing 3 times in English.

Musical notation for the hymn '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'. The notation is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is written on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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



(Please remain standing, kneel, or sit for the remainder of the prayer.)

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent...

...your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us...

...Blessed are you now and for ever. **AMEN.**

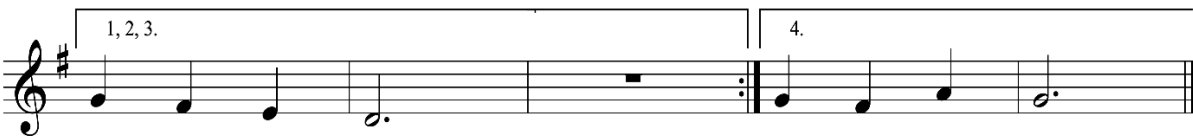
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**



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



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

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COMMUNION ANTHEM

Lead Me Lord
Guen Calabrese Finley, Soloist

S.S. Wesley

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please stand as you are able.)*

Celebrant Let us pray

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
#460, v. 1,2,5, in **the Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Festival Postlude

Domenico Zipoli

Our liturgy is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 1979, the Book of Occasional Services 2022, and Enriching Our Worship 1997, as used in the Episcopal Church in the United States. Reprinted/livestreamed with permission; all rights reserved. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license # A-732383. All rights reserved.

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored this week by
The Rev. Judith Greene in thanksgiving for her family.

WORSHIP SUPPORT

Lector / Eucharistic Minister: Dennia Glasgow

Sub Deacon: Barbara Thornton

Director of Music: Wilson G. Somers

The Advent Altar Guild

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.