

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Episcopal Church of the Advent

Kennett Square, PA

August 23, 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), 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. **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 on Sept 27.
Children's Chapel will be offered during the 9 am service in August.

Jr/Sr High Sunday School is on summer break and will resume on Sept 27.

Adult Formation – on summer break and will resume on Sept 27.

Readings for Next Week (August 30): Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Next midweek Eucharist at 8 am in the Chapel: Monday, 8/24 (St. Bartholomew)

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

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

OPENING HYMN

When Morning Guilds the Skies
#427 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.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it.

When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 124

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

SEQUENCE ALLELUIA (*Please stand as you are able for the Alleluia & Gospel.*)

sing 3 times



THE GOSPEL – Matthew 16:13-20

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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 “Lord, have mercy upon us.”

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.

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

Deep River
Leon Spencer, Bass

arr. Moses Hogan



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

(Please stand as you are able.)



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



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



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



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 1 from *Enriching Our Worship*)

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.**

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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.

8

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

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life...

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

Remember his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation...

...Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise for ever and ever. **AMEN!**

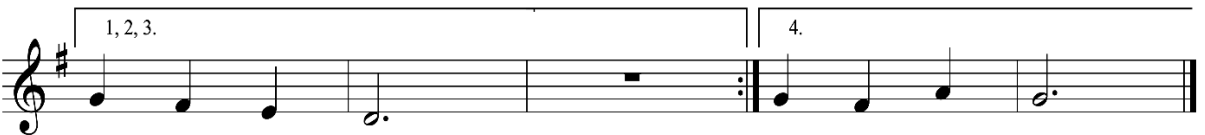
And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**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.
Prince of Peace.
Bread of Life.
us, grant us peace.

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COMMUNION HYMN

One Bread, One Body

#151 in **Lift Every Voice and Sing** (black & red hymnal)

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

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

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation
#525 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
People **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Prelude in E Minor

J.S. Bach

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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.

*The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored this week by Cindy Freeman
in memory of Donald and Roberta Holcroft.*

WORSHIP SUPPORT

Lector: Bill Hutchins *Sub Deacon:* Barbara Thornton
Eucharistic Minister: Branan Cooper *Director of Music:* Wilson G. Somers
Usher(s): Charles Hart, Nancy Hart, Mike Bell
The Advent Altar Guild
Guest Organist: Chris Dome

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.