

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Episcopal Church of the Advent

Kennett Square, PA

Sept 13, 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 priests by calling the church office (610 444-4624) or by email: rector@adventks.org (The Rev. Tim Johnson) or emma@adventks.org (The Rev. Emma Di Pace). **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. Don't forget to register your child for Sunday School!

Jr/Sr High Sunday School is on summer break and will resume on Sept 27. Don't forget to register your youth for Sunday School!

Adult Formation is on summer break and will resume on Sept 27 with a presentation from the leadership of the St. James School at 9:45 in the Parish Hall.

Readings for Next Week (Sept 20): Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Next midweek Eucharist at 8 am in the Chapel: Feast of the Holy Cross (Monday, Sept 14); Feast of St. Matthew the Evangelist (Monday, Sept 21); Feast of St. Michael & All Angels (Tuesday, Sept 29).

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

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Arioso

Handel

OPENING HYMN

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven
#410 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, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

<i>Reader</i>	The word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Psalm 114

¹ Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

² Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

³ The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

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

sing 3 times



Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me,

and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

Hear My Prayer, O Lord
Leon Spencer, Bass

Antonin Dvorak



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!**

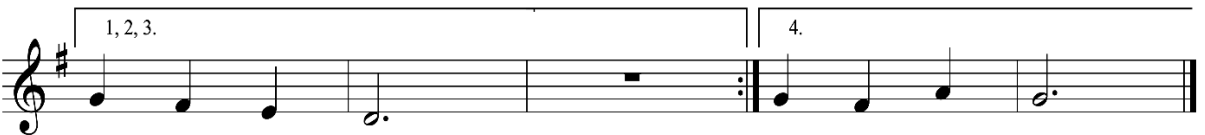
And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**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.

Words and Music by Dean Olawski, alt., 1984 Word Inc., Distributed by OCP. All rights reserved.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come With Us, O Blessed Jesus

#336 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue 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

Praise to the Lord
#390 in **The Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

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

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Buxthude

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.

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 / Sub Deacon: Dick Sanford
Eucharistic Minister: Monica Eboda
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.

PARISH WEEKEND RETREAT, JANUARY 29TH-31ST, 2027

THEME: BEING ATTENTIVE TO GOD'S PRESENCE

Join us on our parish weekend retreat at the St. Raphaela Center in Haverford, Pennsylvania. The weekend will include opportunities for learning, fellowship, worship, and rest/leisure. The cost is \$235 per person, which includes lodging for two nights (single and double occupancy available) and all meals. For additional information or to register, scan the QR code below.

For additional information on the St. Raphaela Center, go to:

<https://www.straphaelacenter.org>

