

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
10:30 a.m., Sunday, May 5, 2024
The Episcopal Church of the Advent
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania



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!**

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer
Advent Handbell Choir

Linda Lamb

OPENING HYMN #291 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)
We Plow the Fields

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Celebrant
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA #S-280 in the front of the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal) Powell

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant & People

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding; Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 #178, vs. 1 & 2 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

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

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

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to

go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #178, vs. 3 & 4 in the **Hymnal 1982** (bluehymnal)
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

HOMILY The Reverend Timothy Johnson+, Rector

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 be seated for the prayers of the people.)

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

arr. Lloyd Larson

Advent Handbell Choir

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

(Please stand as you are able. Sung to hymn tune #400 in the Hymnal 1982 – the blue hymnal.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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 truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks...

...we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

Sanctus –S-129

Holy, Holy, Holy

Powell

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full, 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 sit for the remainder of the prayer.)

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power...
...we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People:

**We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you,
Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy...
...in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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 Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us!
People **Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Celtic Laud
Advent Chancel Choir

Craig Courtney

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray

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

THE EASTER BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #690 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

Guide me, O thou Great Jehovah

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Spanish Dance
Advent Handbell Choir

Kevin McChesney

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This Festival Sunday Altar Flowers are sponsored today:
in honor of Carol & Bill Remy's anniversary on May 7;
AND by Tom and Bobbe Curry in thanksgiving for
their children and grandchildren.

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored today by
Kathleen Rhodes in honor & memory of William P. Rhodes, III.

WORSHIP SUPPORT

Celebrant: The Reverend Timothy Johnson+, Rector

Lector/Eucharistic Minister: Monica Eboda

Sub Deacon: Archdeacon Dennis Coleman

Usher: Pete Peterson

Director of Music: Wilson G. Somers

Director of Family Ministries: Benjamin Miller

Diaconal Intern: Elizabeth Brickle

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.