

# ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

## SERVICE OF REDEDICATION OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, Pentecost XVII -- 10:00 a.m.



**Advent Lutheran Church**  
**Service of Dedication for Building Renovations**

September 16, 2018

10:00 a.m.

**P: Presiding Minister**

**L: Lay Reader**

**\* - Stand**

Preludes *(Please silence all cell phones)*

*"Prelude on a Theme of Thomas Tallis" (ELW Hymn #332)*

arr. Richard Lloyd

*"Fugue in E Flat Major (St. Anne's)"*

J.S. Bach

Announcements

\* Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: *And also with you.***

P: With gratitude for the renovation of Advent Church we are gathered here to dedicate it for the worship of almighty God and for the building up of the body of Christ. From this day forward, let this church be a place for the gathering of the people of God, a place for proclaiming the gospel through word and sacrament, a place for bringing life and hope to us and to this community.

\* Processional Hymn, #533

*"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"*

**Dedication of the Place of Baptism**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water is poured into the font.*

L: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea, you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word, you claim us as your sons and daughters, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that new life may be given to all those who are baptized in this font. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

\* Hymn, #456

*"Baptized in Water"*

\* Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Most High God, whom the heavens cannot contain, we give you thanks for the gifts of those who have built this house of prayer to your glory. We praise you for the fellowship of those who by their use will make it holy, and we pray that all who seek you here may find you and be filled with joy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Choir Anthem

*"Praise My Soul The King of Heaven"*

Chapel/Chancel Choir

Mark Andrews

## Dedication of the Place of the Word

P: Let us give thanks for the gift of God's Word.

L: We give you thanks, O God, for you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. You called your people Israel to proclaim freedom from captivity, a pathway home from exile, and wisdom for life with you. Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to proclaim forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, and the way of your self-giving love. Send your Spirit of truth, O God; from this pulpit that we set apart today, rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**C: *Amen.***

### First Lesson

L: A Reading from First Kings.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David. "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place.

Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

*(1 Kings 8:22-30)*

L: The Word of the Lord.

***C: Thanks be to God.***

#### Psalm 84

L: How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

***C: My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.***

L: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young at thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

***C: Blessed are those who dwell in thy house, ever singing thy praise!***

L: Blessed are those whose strength is in thee, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

***C: As they go through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.***

L: They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

***C: O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!***

L: Behold our shield, O God; look upon the face of your anointed! For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

***C: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.***

L: For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.

***C: O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in thee!***

## Second Lesson

L: A Reading from First Peter.

**C: *Thanks be to God.***

L: Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (*1 Peter 2:1-9*)

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: *Thanks be to God.***

\* Gospel Acclamation

S142a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**C: *Glory to you, O Lord.***

P: At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." (*John 10:22-30*)

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Tom McKee

\* Hymn of the Day, #654

*"The Church's One Foundation"*

\* Apostles' Creed

p. 105

P: With whole church, let us confess our faith...

\* Prayers of the Church

P: ...Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

\* The Peace is Shared.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## Meal

Offering

Offertory Anthem

*"In My Father's House"*

Chapel/Chancel Choir

arr. Philip W.J. Stopford

\* Congregational Offertory

*"Let the Vineyards..."*

Hymn #182

\* Offertory Prayer for Gifts

P: Sisters and brothers, today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we set apart the contributions and gifts of this congregation in talent, time, and money to the glory of God. Let us pray: We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for you have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift, You have commanded us to show your splendor to our children, and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy. Send your blessing on all the gifts given to this project which we set apart today; may we make use of them in reverence and love, giving glory to your holy name. To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Dedication of the Place of Holy Communion

P: Let us give thanks for the gift of the Lord's Supper.

L: We give you thanks, O God, that in Holy Communion you refresh us through the bread of life in Jesus Christ, strengthen us in faith toward you, and nourish us in fervent love for one another. Bless all who come to this table of the Lord, and sanctify all who receive the body and blood of Christ at this altar, which today we set apart to your service. Give all who taste this holy feast grace to live in faith and love throughout our lives, until at last we all behold you face to face at the heavenly banquet where your saints and angels praise you forever. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### Holy Communion

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And now we give you thanks for your blessing on this house of prayer, where through your grace we offer you the sacrifice of praise, and are built by your Spirit into a temple made without hands, even the body of your Son Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; and we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Therefore we pray with confidence, as our Lord has taught us:

\* Lord's Prayer

***C: 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.***

#### AN INVITATION

Believing that the Christ who is truly present in this Holy Sacrament is Lord of His Church and this Supper, and this same Lord Christ calls all believers to "take and eat . . .," WE INVITE THE BAPTIZED OF ALL FAITH TRADITIONS who seek to commune with the crucified and risen Lord to participate in this Holy meal.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please fill out a Communion Record Card and give it to the Usher as you are invited to come forward. Stand to receive the Elements. Adults not receiving communion, as well as young children who have not yet celebrated their first Communion, are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing. To commune: After you have received the bread from the Pastor on your side of the church, please walk to the person holding the tray. When the tray of communion glasses is presented to you, select wine (amber colored) or grape juice (purple colored) according to your personal preference. Should you have difficulty removing the communion glass from the tray indicate to the Server your preference and it will be presented to you. After you have communed, return to your pew by the side aisle.

## Distribution

(Please sing “Lamb of God” (p. 146); “Eat This Bread” Hymn #492; “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” Hymn #484; and conclude with “Jesus Remember Me” Hymn #616)

### \* Concluding Prayer of Dedication

P: Let us give thanks for the body of Christ, for God’s house of living stones.

We give you thanks, O God, for you transcend the boundaries of space and time, yet you are willing to make your home in human hearts. We are the temple of your presence and this building is the house of your church. Gather us in this place to share with others the promise of baptism, to hear your word, to be nourished by the body and blood of your Son, and to praise your name with all the company of heaven. Send us from this place to be the body of Christ in the world, to proclaim your love in word and deed, to invite others into the promise of baptism, and to glorify your name in our daily living. Pour out the abundance of your blessing on us and on this place, which we dedicate to your glory and honor and to the service of all people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

## Sending

- \* Recessional Hymn, #858  
*“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

Organ Postlude

*"Tocata (Symphony #5)"*

Charles-Marie Widor

\* Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Share the Good News.

**C: *Thanks be to God.***

## *Evangelism Tip for September*

*Kind Words Conquer*



### **WORSHIP LEADERS AND ASSISTANTS**

**Presiding Minister:** Pr. Daniel Biles, Interim Pastor

**Preacher:** Pr. Tom McKee, Synod Secretary and Assistant to the Bishop

#### **Altar Guild**

Sandy Maier  
Lucy Warner  
Paul Pugsley  
Lori Loken

#### **Ushers**

Jane Girton, Linda Askey, Megan Askey,  
David Freedline, Michelle Freedline, Jared  
Freedline, Hayden Freedline, Ben Fetter

#### **Lay Readers for Prayers**

Cody Willoughby  
Elizabeth Dellinger  
Luther Sowers

#### **Acolyte/Crucifer**

Laura Willoughby  
Grace Decker

#### **Communion Assistants**

Gary Hensel, Council President  
Cathi Wampler, Rededication Committee Chair

#### **Director of Music**

Sammi Blevins

#### **Lector**

Mark Zerbe

#### **Organist**

Frederick Meads

## **Building Renovation Committee**

Chris Waite, Susan Feldmann, Duane Doll, Carol Myers, Michael Barton, Rev. David Ritterpusch, Rev. Brenda Ritterpusch, Gwen Summers (in the role of Council President)

***Others Who Shared Their Expertise at Meetings:*** Todd Unger, William Crowley, Michael Sulpizio, Donald Dubs, Erika Dubs (joined the Design Team in September 2017), Kathy Lauer, Carol Hensel, and Barry Attig.

***Rededication Committee:*** Pastor Dan Biles, Pat Breneman, Marge Farrell, Peter Pentz, James Sumey, Cathi Wampler, Lesli Willoughby

***Mission and Mortar Finance Team:*** Robert Bowen, Donald Dellinger, Elizabeth Dellinger, Amanda Dubs, Stephen Feldmann, Keith Kates, Gary Lauer, Gwen Summers, John Ulrich, Rev. David Ritterpusch

***And a Special Thank-You to Ryan Barton*** for his many contributions to this project.

## **Contractors**

Arthur Funk & Sons, Inc.; Beers & Hoffman Ltd; Spangler & Boyer Mechanical, Inc.; Choice Communications; Clair Solutions; Hertzler Electric

***Special Acknowledgment:*** We send our prayers and appreciation to all the Adventers who supported the calling of the Mission and Mortar Enhancement Project with their prayers, positive words, service on task forces, and financial generosity. Thank-you for “planting trees beneath which others will sit!” --

*Pastors David & Brenda Ritterpusch*

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# ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH: A HOLY PLACE

## *A Brief History of the Renovation Project*

Carol Myers

In March 2010, Rev. David Ritterpusch assembled a team, with the approval of Church Council, to begin to discern “How do we keep Advent a strong and vital Gospel witness?” With a passion for the future of Advent, a Mission Statement was developed, followed by an assessment of our building and property so that it would be an instrument of faith, a home for hospitality, and support for the Mission. The team assembled was referred to as the Mission and Mortar Team comprised of the following folks: Susan Feldmann and Chris Waite were appointed because of their familiarity with music and performance in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall; Duane Doll and Carol Myers were invited because of their background with program needs and building challenges; Mike Barton brought extensive architectural and structural experience; and Pastors David and Brenda Ritterpusch brought awareness of worship design and new-to-the-faith challenges.

Shortly after the team was formed, it came to our attention that a professional facility assessment seminar entitled “Church Facilities Going Into the Twenty-First Century” was taking place in York. All of us attended and we quickly became aware that the issues we had at Advent were precisely what was presented at the seminar, and what was being experienced by many churches. We believed being led to this gathering was truly a “God Moment.” The timing could not have been better.

During the ensuing months, the Mission and Mortar Team held a large number of meetings, encouraging everyone to attend, so that as many folks as possible could be informed of our thoughts and ideas. Importantly, we held further meetings seeking feedback and answering questions. We wanted complete project transparency.

Three construction companies recommended by our Architect, Beers and Hoffman, were interviewed. We spent extensive time evaluating each one and ultimately voted unanimously to hire Arthur Funk & Sons.

Meanwhile, the Mission and Mortar Finance Team, chaired by Robert Bowen and Stephen Feldmann, was working diligently to determine what resources Advent had to pursue the project. They wanted to be certain Advent was in a positive financial position to support the proposed goals.

On January 10, 2017, the project finally got off the ground. It has been arduous at times, but it has also been a joyful and fulfilling journey as we observed Advent’s sacred space changing and developing in ways we might never have thought possible.

Thank you seems inadequate to acknowledge everyone’s contributions of time, financial generosity, patience, flexibility, and perseverance. In closing, I give thanks and gratitude to God for His unending love and guidance. May we now strive together to carry out the mission before us.

## **Advent Lutheran Church**

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Follow us on Facebook

### ***We're On A Mission***

*Advent is a community of Christian Believers: experiencing, witnessing, and growing in the love of Jesus, and proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel by sharing God's gift with all people . . . friends and strangers alike.*

***To this adventure we invite you!***

### ***Ministers***

The People of the Parish

#### ***Pastor***

Pr. Daniel V. Biles

*Interim Pastor*

#### ***Program Staff***

Samantha M. Blevins  
Frederick M. Meads  
Paula J. Rineer  
Bethany A. Horn

*Director of Music Ministries*  
*Organist*  
*Director of Youth Groups, Technology Outreach Coordinator*  
*Nursery Care*

#### ***Ministries***

Lisa A. Deeter  
Pamela R. Mitchell  
James L. Mitchell

*Fellowship Team Coordinator*  
*BreadBreakers Coordinator*  
*Lay Hospital Visitation Coordinator*  
*Table Grace Communion Visitation Coordinator*

#### ***Staff***

Erika A. Dubs  
Kathy A. Baublitz  
Lisa P. Beil  
Michael S. Paules

*Financial Secretary*  
*Administrative Assistant*  
*Administrative Assistant*  
*Sexton*

#### ***Mission Partners***

Stephen M. Deal  
Pastor Jeffrey Truscott  
Molly O'Brien

*Costa Rica*  
*Singapore*  
*Australia*

A Companion Congregation with Ipinda Lutheran Congregation, Tanzania  
***Lifting Up Christ...Building Up People...Preparing the Way***