# Prayer Service

# Ribbon Cutting & Open House

PHASE III CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

LET THE CHILDREN COME

LUKE 18:16

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

## 24 October 2026 Anno Domini

## 5:00pm

***Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."***

**Luke 18:16-17**

***"Spare yourself neither money nor expense, neither trouble nor effort, for your children are the churches."***

**- Martin Luther**

Our Church & School is aptly named. **Advent** means ***"to come".*** God's promise to rescue and redeem the world finds its fulfillment in the "Advent" of the Christ, His Son, our Lord Jesus. He comes to fulfill God's Law and demand for holiness. He comes as a man to bear the punishment for the sin of all mankind. He is the Lamb of God who takes away our sin! He comes to us still today in Word and Sacrament as we gather for His Divine Service each Sunday. And He especially asks that we ***"let the children come."*** This has been the theme of our historic Capital Campaign to raise money and build Phase III for our church and school. Christ has come and we are freely justified before God by His grace. What joy and freedom we have as those redeemed & forgiven! Here at Advent, God has worked powerfully through the pure teaching of His Word and the right administration of His Sacraments. And now we celebrate the completion of our task. Thanks be to God for His gracious provision of additional classroom and fellowship space. Thank you for your gifts of time, treasures and talents! Soli Deo Gloria!

**- Rev. Marcus J. Mackay, Senior Pastor**

The mission of Advent Lutheran Classical School is to train the heart, mind, and habits of a child for undivided loyalty to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is achieved through exceptional education in the liberal arts tradition and Lutheran catechesis. Lord willing, this school will, like the classic literature we read, stand the test of time. This school will stand as a beacon for others to see and follow, and in its classrooms and hallways, all that is Good, True, and Beautiful will ring out for future generations of students. This Building Expansion enables Advent to continue in its mission and to serve the coming generations of Advent's children. On behalf of the school, its teachers, and our school families, our most humble thanks for your support. May God's goodness, truth, and beauty continue to boldly ring out in our school building! Soli Deo Gloria!

**- Rev. Aaron Schultz, Headmaster & Assoc. Pastor**

***"If we want to help Christendom, we most certainly have to start with the children."***

**- Martin Luther**

What a wonderful time to be a member here at Advent! It was nearly three years ago when we initiated the Phase III Pledge Campaign, ***"Let the Children Come!"*** From the initial pledge tally, you, the faithful stewards of Advent, supported the Phase III Expansion with an initial commitment of more than two million dollars for the construction of the new school building. You also supported the additional pledge request over the summer to further furnish the facility. As the final pledge and donation metrics are being assessed, you will have given just over three million dollars for the completion of the project! Praise be to God! On behalf of our Church Council - a sincere thank you for your unwavering support of our school and its mission to enable a gospel-focused, classical education to its students.

As we dedicate the building, there are so many people to thank. As mentioned, the congregation's unwavering support of this program has been nothing short of remarkable. The building committee's relentless pursuit of excellence to achieve the beautiful structure that now graces our grounds has been exemplary. The partnership between the Building Committee, our Treasurer and the Trustees has been outstanding. The countless hours of planning, triaging of issues and resolution of these issues that come with construction projects have successfully delivered our school that is now open. With this new facility, and the existing structure, we have positioned Advent's called staff, teachers and aides, from Early Childhood to our K-8 Classical School, to instruct our children with Christ at the center. We put our trust in the Lord to see what the future holds for our growing school - and this important mission for our Church.

Sincere thanks and blessings to all!

**- Mr. Steve Vogtman, Chairman of the Congregation**

***"Christians can do no better work and do nothing more valuable either for God, for Christendom, for all the world, for themselves, and for their children than to bring up their children well."***

**- Martin Luther**

On behalf of the School Board, we are incredibly grateful to the generous hearts at Advent who invested their time, money, and other resources to make our new school building a reality. It is hard to believe that our school began just five short years ago with four students and has grown far beyond our expectations to sixty-nine children who hear, learn, and memorize God's Word and Lutheran theology each day. The classical education model we have adopted is shaping these children and their families in ways that will impact our church and community well beyond each student's eighth-grade graduation. At full capacity, the school will be able to educate nearly 150 students annually, challenging them to learn how to think rather than simply what to think. With the new facility, we will be better equipped to immerse our students in classic literature, history, Latin, mathematics, memorization, and science, while keeping all studies centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ. We are beyond thrilled to be in our new building and cannot wait to see what the future holds for our growing school.

**- Mr. Andy Fordice, Chairman of the School Board**

As Chairman of the Building Committee, I've been fortunate to be part of this project from the early planning and design all the way through construction. Seeing the finished building today is something we can all be proud of. A project like this takes a tremendous amount of work from a lot of people. I want to sincerely thank all of the men and women who spent countless hours building this facility. There were long days, challenges to work through, and plenty of details that had to come together along the way. Thank you for your hard work, your craftsmanship, and the pride you took in building something that will serve Advent for many years to come.

I also want to thank everyone who generously supported the Let the Children Come! Capital Campaign. This building simply would not have been possible without the support of our congregation and donors. Every contribution helped turn the plans we looked at for so long into the classrooms, offices, gymnasium, and other spaces we see today. More importantly, your generosity has given our church and school a place that can serve our children and families for generations.

I especially want to recognize Tierney Williams and Jerry Munk for the countless hours they put into the coordination and design of this project. There were a lot of drawings to review, decisions to make, details to coordinate, and problems to solve throughout the process. Tierney and Jerry were there every step of the way, and I am very thankful for their time, commitment, and partnership in getting this project across the finish line.

I also want to personally thank David Kopeschka, Ryan Scrogham, and Kyle Bredehoeft, who are recognized in the program as our IT Infrastructure team. These guys put in countless hours pulling wire, programming, troubleshooting, and testing to make sure everything worked the way it should. Much of that work happened behind the scenes and off hours and probably won't ever be noticed by most people, but it was an important part of finishing this building. David, Ryan, and Kyle, thank you for putting in the hours, working through the problems, and doing whatever was needed to get the job done.

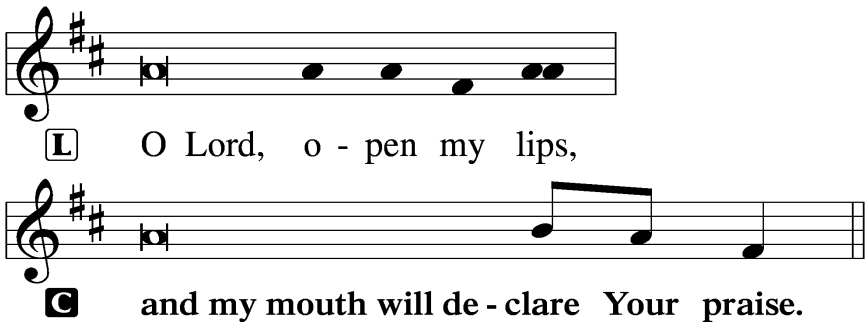
Finally, I want to thank our entire Building Committee, all of the volunteers, and everyone else who had a hand in this project. The Building Committee included David Colson, Dave Kopeschka, Brad Williams, Tierney Williams, Jerry Munk, Chris Colson, Michael Gillette, Ray Rodkey and TJ Burns. There were a lot of people who gave their time and talents to make this building possible, and I'm grateful to have been part of it with all of you.

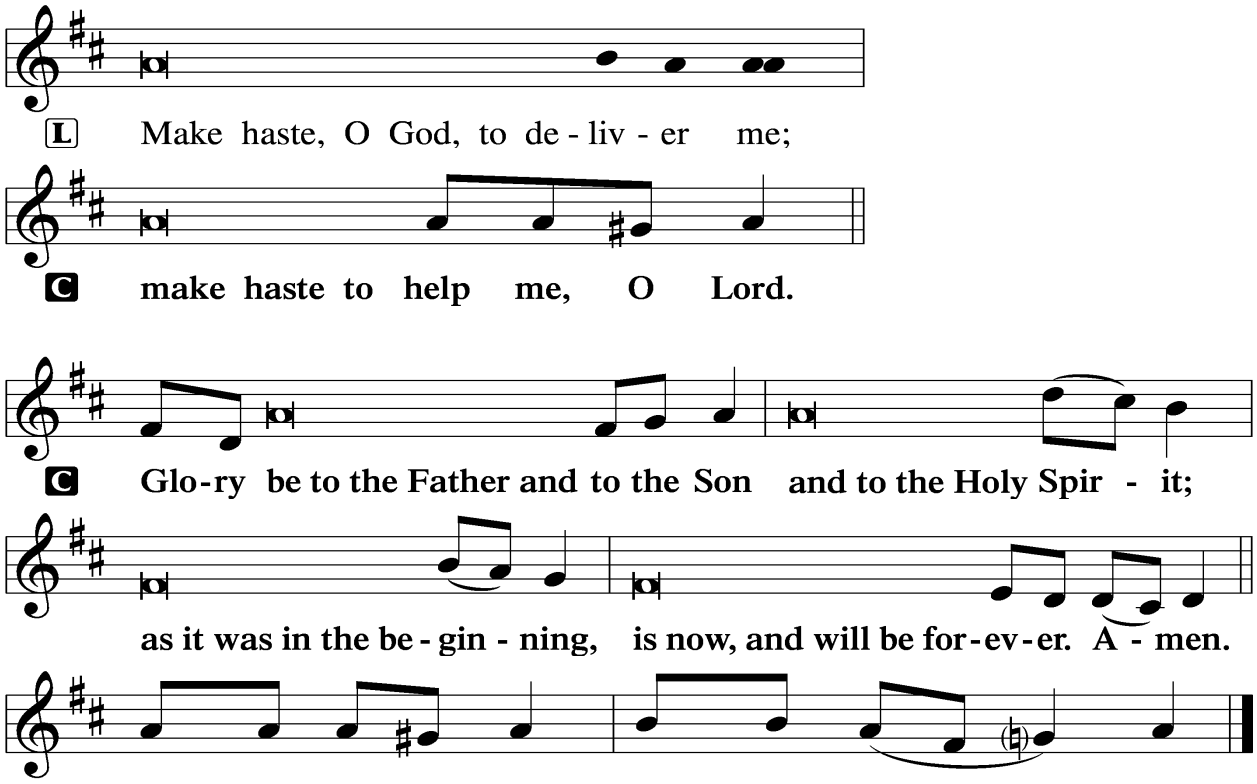
At the end of the day, this building is about much more than concrete, steel, walls, and finishes. My hope is that many years from now, these classrooms and hallways will still be filled with children learning, growing, and hearing Gods word. Thank you to everyone who helped make this building possible, and above all, thanks be to God!

**- Mr. Steve Sitkowski, Chairman of the Building Committee**

# Prayer Service

*Stand* ***Psalm 51:15; 80:1***






## Psalmody

***Psalm 121:1-2; 90:1-2, 14, 16-17***



A I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*
From where does my | help come?

**C My help comes | from the LORD,***
**who made | heav'n and earth.**

A Lord, you have been our | dwelling place*
in all gener- | ations.

**C Before the mountains were brought forth,**
**or ever you had formed the earth | and the world,***
**from everlasting to everlasting | you are God.**

A Satisfy us in the morning with your | steadfast love,*
that we may rejoice and be glad | all our days.

**C Let your work be shown to your | servants,***
**and your glorious power to their | children.**

A Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands up- | on us;*
yes, establish the work | of our hands!

**C Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**
**as it was in the be- | ginning,***
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Sit*

**Reading** ***Psalm 127***

**L** A reading from Psalm, chapter 127.

1Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.
2It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his belovèd sleep.

3Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.
4Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth.
5Blessèd is the man who fills his quiver with them!
He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

**Reading** ***Proverbs 6:20–23; 9:9; 22:6***

**L** A few readings from the book of Proverbs

6:20My son, keep your father's commandment,
and forsake not your mother's teaching.
21Bind them on your heart always;
tie them around your neck.
22When you walk, they will lead you;
when you lie down, they will watch over you;
and when you awake, they will talk with you.
23For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light,
and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,

9:9Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

22:6Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

**Hymn** ***Father Welcomes*** ***LSB 605***




Text and tune: Robin Mann, 1949 Text and tune: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110017163

**Reading** ***Matthew 7:24–27***

**L** A reading from Matthew, chapter 7.

24 "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a
wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods
came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it
had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine
and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.
27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that
house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

**Choir Anthem** ***Upon this Rock*** *Jay Althouse, Alfred Publishing Co., 1975*

*Upon this rock we will build Thy church, for here Thy temple stands.*
*How lovely this, Thy dwelling place built with loving hands.*

*Upon this rock we will build Thy church and we shall be the stone.*
*This strong foundation shall survive until we see Thy throne.*

*Those in need of grace shall find this holy place.*
*Upon this rock Thy church will stand 'till we see Thy face.*

*Upon this rock we will build Thy church and praise Thy holy name.*
*This house shall flourish with Thy love to heaven Thy power proclaim.*

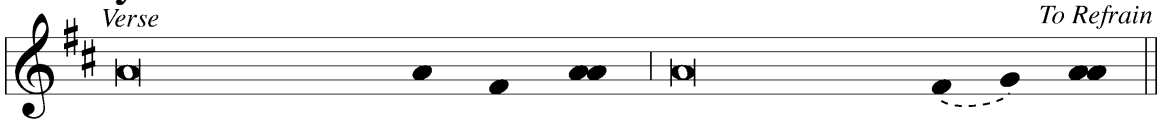
**Reading** ***Luke 18:15–17***

**L** A reading from Luke, chapter 18.

15 Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And
when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. 16 But Jesus called them to him,
saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs
the kingdom of God. 17 Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom
of God like a child shall not enter it.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsory** ***Psalm 86:11; 119:105***




**L** 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.
2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



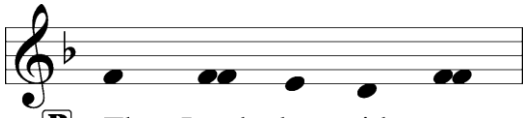

**C** **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

*Kneel/Stand*

**Kyrie** ***Mark 10:47***




**Salutation** ***2 Timothy 4:22***







**Collects**

L Almighty God, You have called Your Church to witness that in Christ You have reconciled us to Yourself. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may proclaim the good news of Your salvation so that all who hear it may receive the gift of salvation. To that end, receive our thanksgiving for the gift of our new school building; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.




L Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all of Advent's members and School children and families. Mercifully grant that by Your grace we may all serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.




L Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, by Your Holy Spirit enlighten those who teach and those who learn that, rejoicing in the knowledge of Your truth, they may worship You and serve You from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



℣ O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



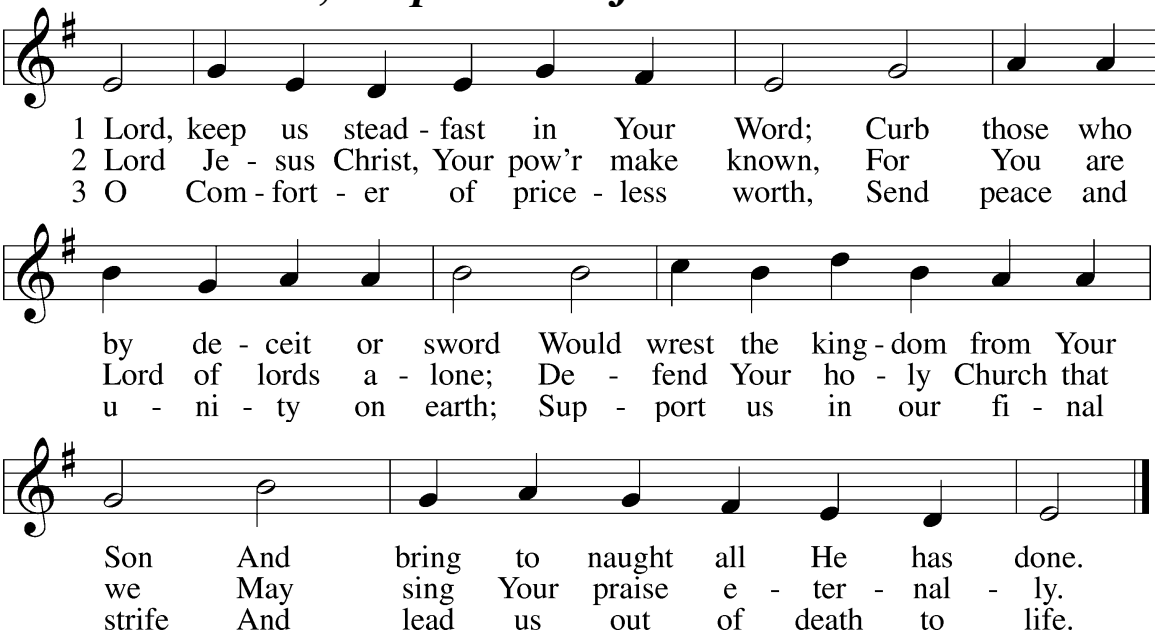

**Benedicamus** ***Psalm 103:1***




*Join us in procession outside and to the front of the School Entrance. In case of inclement weather, we will process down the hallway into the Phase III addition.*

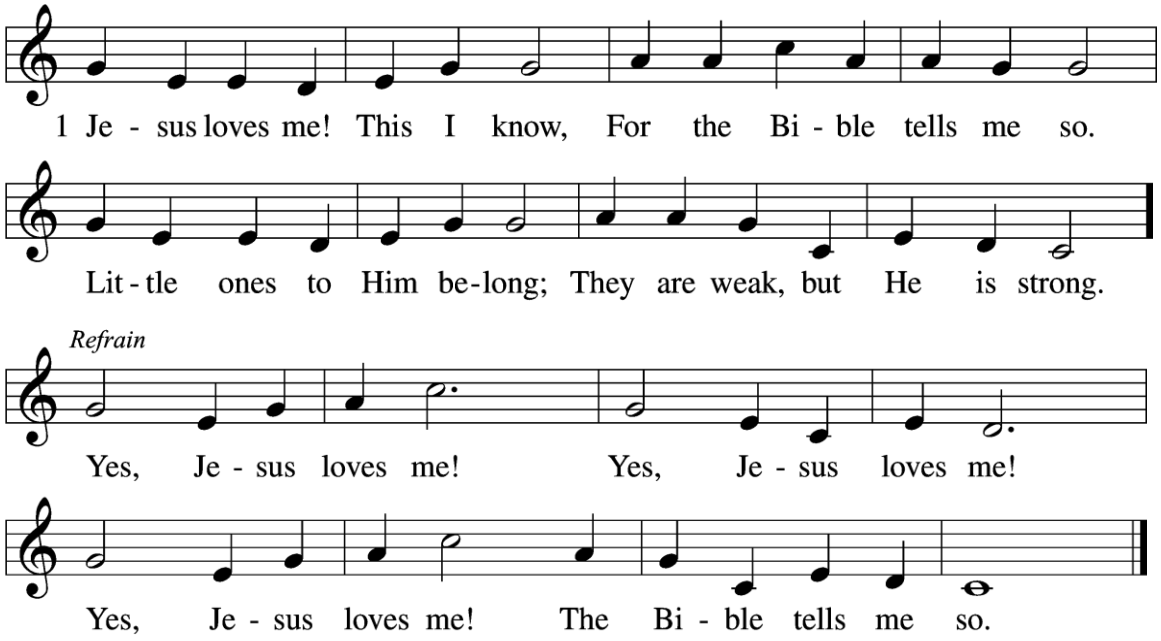
*Please join us in glad song as we process!*

**Hymn** ***Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*** ***LSB 655***




Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

**Hymn** ***Jesus Loves Me*** ***LSB 588***




2 Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven's gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lets His little child come in.
*Refrain*

3 Jesus loves me! He is near,
He is with His Church so dear.
And the Spirit He has sent,
In His Word and Sacrament.
*Refrain*

4 Jesus loves me! God's own Son,
Over sin the victory won.
When I die saved by His grace,
I shall see Him face to face.
*Refrain*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt. Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68 Text Public Domain

# Ribbon Cutting

*We gather at the front doors and the Pastors, Chairmen & Officials take their places behind the Ribbon.*

**P** Let the doors of this Phase III Expansion for Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church & School be opened in the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*The Ribbon is cut.*

P Beloved in the Lord, the psalmist declares that the learning of God's Word is to His praise, saying, "I will praise You with an upright heart, when I learn Your just and righteous decrees. Blessed are You, O LORD; teach me Your statutes."

Since the Lord has taught us in His holy Word that all things are holy when sanctified by the Word of God and prayer, it is fitting that we bless and sanctify this Phase III Expansion for Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church & School that it may be a place where all may grow in the knowledge and wisdom of the only true and saving God.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, since You have committed the care and nurture of children to Your people, graciously enlighten those who teach and learn at this school that they may know the truth and trust in You all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ✢ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this our new Phase III Expansion for Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church & School to the praise and honor of His name.
C **Amen.**

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
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.**

℗ Let us bless the Lord.
℄ **Thanks be to God.**

℗ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✢ give you peace.
℄ **Amen.**

*The Doors are unlocked.*

# *Open House*

*Tours will be available or you are free to explore at your leisure.*

*Please stay and join us for our Annual Reformation Fest in the new Gymnasium/Auditorium, beginning at 6:00pm until 8:00pm.*

*Thank you for joining us today!*

**In His Service Today**
Rev. Marcus J. Mackay, Senior Pastor
Rev. Alexander Blanken, Associate Pastor
Rev. Aaron Schultz, Headmaster & Associate Pastor
Mr. Phil Lehman, Kantor & Organist
Mrs. Deb Trewartha, Choir Director & EC Director
Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church Choir

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

God the Father who has created & preserved us, God the Son who has redeemed & justified us, God the Holy Spirit who has sanctified us.

All donors to our Phase III *"Let the Children Come!"* Capital Campaign

The Building Committee: Steve Sitkowski (Chair), David Colson, Dave Kopeschka, Brad & Tierney Williams, Jerry Munk, Chris Colson, Michael Gillette

Our IT Infrastructure team: Ryan Scrogham, Kyle Bredehoeft & Dave Kopeschka

The English District of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund

T&W Design & Build, Contractors & Sub-Contractors

The City of Zionsville, Boone County and the State of Indiana

Accreditation & guidance from the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education

Parents who have entrusted us with the education of their children

ALL the many volunteers at our Church, EC & School who have labored on this project, including those we did not name on this list. You know who you are and we thank you!

CHURCH

CAMPAIGN PLEDGE

-GIVE NOW-
*Open your camera app, point your phone at the QR Code, click the pop-up and sign up!*

-VOLUNTEER-
*Email the main office at info@adventlutheran.org for more details!*

PRESCHOOL

SCHOOL

## Acknowledgments

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# *A Brief History of Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church & School*

On October 22, 1992 a small but mighty band of Lutheran Christians met in Zionsville to discuss forming a church. A part of the devotion included the words given to St. Paul at Corinth, Acts 18: *"Do not be afraid, keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, for I HAVE MANY PEOPLE IN THIS CITY."*

The first worship of "Zionsville Lutheran Church" was held at Somer Conference Center, 11707 North Michigan Road, on Easter Sunday, April 11, 1993, with an attendance of 137. It was then formed and incorporated by 117 brave and faithful souls who earnestly desired the Lord's gifts of Word and Sacrament. The congregation joined the (LC-MS) Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, its constitution accepted by the Indiana District Board of Directors on September 18, 1993. Later the church was re-named Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church in January of 1995.

An agreement was reached between the church and the property owners for the purchase of Bennett Family Farms and a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the church site on August 27, 1995. Phase I included the Narthex, Sanctuary, Library, two classrooms and offices. The first service occurred on May 17th, 1997, with a funeral service. It was a service of joy and thanksgiving…joy in the knowledge of forgiveness through faith in Christ and thanksgiving for life everlasting.

Advent then recognized a need for a Preschool while the Church had also grown and needed additional space for Sunday School, Youth, Bible Classes and Fellowship events. Groundbreaking for Phase II occurred in 1999 and included a beautiful Fellowship Hall, Offices, nine Preschool and School classrooms and a small gathering space.

In 2020, a School Feasibility Study began, researching the prospect of expanding our education offerings beyond Preschool. In 2021, a School Expansion Committee and Fund were established. The support for the School Expansion was overwhelming to support the initial startup cost of staff and school supplies. In 2022, after over 20 successful years of Early Childhood Education, Advent voted to start a School. In the Fall of 2022, 1st-2nd grades were offered with continued growth up to 8th grade currently. In the Summer of 2023, Advent voted unanimously to start a Capital Campaign for the Phase III Building Expansion, which was initially planned in 1999 as the next step in providing additional space, not just for school use, but also for church events and activities. With significant growth in the Church, Preschool and School, Advent had run out of space. A Building Committee was formed for Phase III and groundbreaking occurred in the summer of 2025. Phase III includes 9 classrooms, offices, a gymnasium/auditorium and kitchen. And here we are today!

ADVENT
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL
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