



Calendar

Serving Schedule

Our serving schedule is temporarily on hold until we are no longer social distancing during worship.

August

Birthdays

David McLellan	1
Sallie McLellan	4
Sharon Vold	14
Bridget Diehl	17
Ethan Gauthier	18
Cayden Combs	25

Anniversaries

Vera & Joe Kordella	3
Sharon & Noel Vold	6
David & Sallie McLellan	16
Ron & Henrietta Brown	18

Advent Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9 am

Holy Communion follows
Service of the Word



Greetings in Christ's Holy Name,

Revelation 7:9–12 (ESV): After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

What is the book of Revelation to you? For many it remains a cryptic menagerie of strange signs and symbols awaiting the intrepid decoding efforts of evangelists and other self-qualified hawkers of religion. For some, it is a terrible and vindictive book about Jesus beating up those who rejected Him in life. For others, it's simply a closed book, better to never directly encounter – as it may lead to greater and greater perplexity. And perhaps for most, it is a book that is not really known at all, but which is often invoked and from which curious ideas like “rapture”, “tribulation”, “millennium” emanate. [In reality, the term “rapture” does not appear in the work at all.

I don't really think any of these are terribly accurate when one considers the writing itself, its overall message, and its continuing relevance for Christians. If I were to give it a go, I'd say something like “the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John is a form of apocalyptic prophecy, in letter form, meant to sustain, comfort, and challenge various churches in their continuing adherence to the Person of Jesus Christ.”

That's a mouthful, and I plan to unpack it in a ZOOM class that will begin on August 10th at 7pm. We will use Michael J. Gorman's *Reading Revelation Responsibly: Uncivil Worship and Witness: Following the Lamb into the New Creation* and Beale's *Shorter Commentary on Revelation*.

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Advent Lutheran Church

1508 Valley Avenue • P.O. Box 3204 • Winchester, VA 22604
540-313-4912

adventlutheranwinchester.org

Letters

Dear Friends of Advent,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers and the prayers we received at the death of my mom.

It meant so very much to us. My mother always appreciated the love and kindness shown her at Advent Lutheran.

Blessings to each one of you.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Noel and Sharon Vold

To my Friends at Advent Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your prayers and get-well cards!

They are greatly appreciated.

Mary Pierce

NALC Disaster Relief

Council is asking that we gather materials for the NALC Disaster Relief Health Kits. With a grant from Thrivent, Sally Coates was able to purchase the towels and wash cloths, but donations are still needed for a tube of toothpaste, 2 bars of bath soap, a toothbrush, a pack of dental floss, and deodorant to complete the kits. Mary Bates, the NALC Disaster Coordinator will be here on August 9 to speak to the congregation and collect our health kits.

Thank you for helping us provide these necessary toiletries to supplement the NALC Disaster response efforts!

For any who are interested, I highly recommend getting a copy of Gorman's book and reading ahead. It's engaging, with brief chapters that end with reflection questions. I will use the Kindle version in the class, as well as my own materials and some other forms of media (I have a few helpful YouTube resources).

I am convinced that Revelation is a wonderful witness to Jesus Christ and to the cosmic implications of His Life and present reign. It can be responsibly brought to bear on our lives – it can be a means of the Spirit's power. It can speak to our deepest concerns, fears, and contemporary conundrums, and when we neglect it or allow others to foist alien ideas upon it, we lose something valuable.

In the meantime, consider these little nuggets:

The title of the "book" in question is Gk., *Apokalupsis Joannon*, "a revelation to John". This is what is known as a "superscription" (meaning "written above") and may have been added by a later scribe or editor. It is *singular*. There are many visions and other transports in the work, but it is all together one Revelation – one revealing of the Person Jesus Christ, as the first verse makes clear.

Many texts from Revelation have found their way into the Church's regular worship... the Sanctus (in a particular form), the newer Lutheran addition that we call "This is the Feast" – technically called *Worthy is Christ*. The WOV canticle *Salvation Belongs to Our God* is also a near direct appropriation of texts from Revelation.

It was "spoken against" (*antilegomenon*) by many in the early church and did not appear in some listings of the books of the New Testament. Luther also spoke against the writing, sometimes harshly.

It is thoroughly saturated in references and allusions to the Old Testament, more than any other New Testament writing.

I hope you will join me in what I am sure will be a fascinating and edifying study of God's Word!

Prayerfully,

Pastor Porter



Joanna, Mary and Salome

Known in some traditions as the faithful women, the visit of these three persons and other women to the tomb of Jesus on the first Easter morning is noted in the Gospel records of Matthew (28:1), Mark (16:1), and Luke (24:10). Joanna was the wife of Cuza, a steward in Herod's household (Lk. 8:3).

Mary, the mother of James (the son of Alphaeus), was another of the women who



C-CAP Corner

We all look forward to CCAP opening, but for now CCAP remains closed. At this time, only food is being collected to be given to our most needy neighbors. Advent can continue to collect food items, box goods, rice, beans and canned flip-top food.

Some exciting news! CCAP has been selected as “2020 Chain of Checks” recipient. This year’s campaign will help purchase a box truck with a lift to deliver food and material goods to people with no transportation.

Many thanks for your continued support for CCAP!

— Jan Calamari
C-CAP Representative

CALENDARS FOR CCAP!

At this time of year, we are all inundated with calendars from various charities. If you have extra calendars, it is greatly appreciated if you would bring them to church for Jan to deliver to CCAP. The calendars are very helpful for CCAP clients to keep track of important dates and appointments.

Thank you!

Advent Worship:

Service of the Word, followed by
Holy Communion: 9:00 am Sundays
Online Service of the Word, Lebanon’s
Facebook page: 11:00 am Sundays

faithfully provided care for Jesus and His disciples from the time of His Galilean ministry through His burial after the crucifixion. Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee Matthew (27:56), joined with the women both at the cross and in the bringing of the spices to the garden tomb. These faithful women have been honored in the church through the centuries as examples of humble and devoted service to the Lord. *August 3*

Hannah

Hannah was the favored wife of Elkanah, the Ephraimite, and the devout mother of the prophet Samuel. He was born to her after years of bitter barrenness 1 Samuel (1:68) and fervent prayers for a son (1:9-18). After she weaned her son, Hannah expressed her gratitude by returning him for service in the House of the Lord at Shiloh (1:242-8). Her prayer (psalm) of thanksgiving (2:1-10) begins with the words, My heart exults in Lord; my strength is exalted in the Lord. This song foreshadows the Magnificat, the Song of Mary centuries later Luke (1:46-55). The name Hannah derives from the Hebrew word for grace. She is remembered and honored for joyfully having kept the vow she made before her son’s birth and offering him for lifelong service to God. *August 20*



Council Meeting Notes

Council met by teleconference and gratefully acknowledged that Advent members are faithfully contributing their offering to the church. At the end of June, our funds totaled \$430,844.76, of which \$200,000 is designated for the purchase of a church building.

Council also accepted a \$500 Memorial Gift that will be designated as Pastor’s Discretionary Fund and will be used to help others with special needs and emergencies.

Sally Coates
Council President

NALC Convocation

At a Special-Called Congregational Meeting held on July 12, the Congregation elected Carolyn Frye to serve as the church’s official voting delegate to the NALC’s first virtual mission convocation.

The meeting will be held virtually August 7-8. Many thanks to Carolyn for taking on this role.

ADVENT CHURCH CALENDAR AUGUST 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Eighth Sunday after Trinity 9 am Worship	3 7 am Pastor's Devotional Time 10 am Bible Study ZOOM 7:30 pm Revalation ZOOM	4 10 am Credo	5	6 Bulletin to Printer	7 6 pm Online NALC Convocation	8 Family Day 2 pm Online NALC Convocation
5 Ninth Sunday after Trinity 9 am Worship	6 7 am Pastor's Devotional Time 10 am Bible Study ZOOM 7:30 pm Revalation ZOOM	11 10 am Credo	12	13 Bulletin to Printer	14	15 Family Day Youth & Family Ministry Online Sessions
12 Tenth Sunday after Trinity 9 am Worship	13 7 am Pastor's Devotional Time 10 am Bible Study ZOOM 7:30 pm Revalation ZOOM	19 10 am Credo	19	20 Bulletin to Printer	21	22 Family Day
19 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity 9 am Worship	20 7 am Pastor's Devotional Time 10 am Bible Study ZOOM 7:30 pm Revalation ZOOM	25 10 am Credo	26	27 Bulletin to Printer	28	29 Family Day
26 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity 9 am Worship	27 7 am Pastor's Devotional Time 10 am Bible Study ZOOM 7:30 pm Revalation ZOOM	September 1 10 am Credo	2	3 Bulletin to Printer	4	5 Family Day