## Advent Lutheran Church

13009 E. Broadway Avenue, Spokane Valley, Washington 99216
509-928-7733

www.adventlutheranspokane.org

"Called by God's Grace to Love and Serve"



# ADVENT Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

September 14, 2025, 9:30 a.m. Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome!

## Welcome

We welcome everyone to worship on this wonderful day. May God bless our time together in Worship with Word and Sacrament.

If you are visiting with us today, we would love to get to know you. Please fill out a *Welcome* card and place it in the offering plate. The reverse of this card can also be used for prayer requests, or other special needs.

**Need Directions?** Feel free to ask an usher if you need to find a restroom, or another particular room or group meeting here in the church building.

Cell phone off? – We respectfully ask that you silence your cell phone during worship this morning.

For hearing impaired: We now have four hearing receivers and two neck units. If you wish to use one, please see the person at the sound booth in the back of the Sanctuary.

#### THE LORD INVITES EVERYONE TO HIS TABLE

#### We Believe

Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine.

We receive forgiveness of sins and strength for Christian living.

We are renewed in faith with the promise of salvation and eternal life.

#### We Offer

Wine and grape juice (light colored glasses in center of trays) Bread (including gluten-free wafers)

Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good!

#### INTRODUCTION

The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP September 14, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

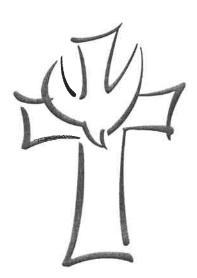
(Congregation please stand)

#### BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

#### Silence for reflection

- P Gracious God,
- have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
- God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
- Amen.



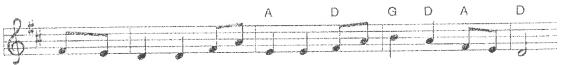
#### **GATHERING HYMN**

#### "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#807



- Come, thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
  Here I raise my Eb-en-e-zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
  Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be:



mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise. streams of hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home. and 30HOC S grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to



hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love. While the sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. Je - sus Prone to



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a bove.

#### GREETING

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



#### "GLORY TO GOD"



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray, O God,
- overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Congregation please be seated)

FIRST READING Exodus 32:7–14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks mercy for them.

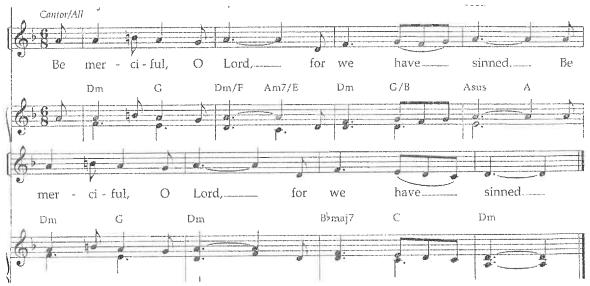
The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; 8they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

"But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever." <sup>14</sup>And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

**P** The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 51



- Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.
- Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
- For I acknowledge my offense, and of my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."
- Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
- A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.
- Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
- Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

#### SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy are called the Pastoral Epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Congregation please stand)

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Singing, we rise to greet Jesus Christ, present in the gospel reading



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that his or her recovery brings joy in heaven.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of

God over one sinner who repents."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

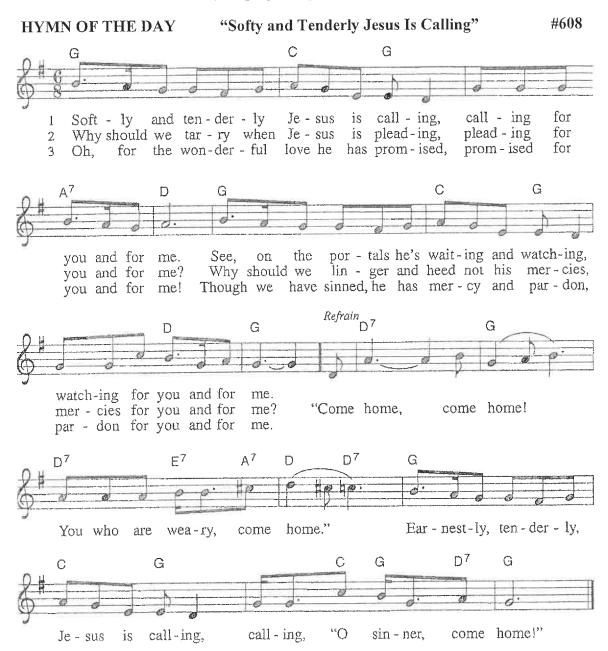
Praise to you, O Christ.

(Congregation please be seated)

**SERMON** 

**Pastor Matthew Larson** 

#### (Congregation please stand)



Let us proclaim our Christian faith:

#### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

- I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

  Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "God of grace," to which the congregation responds, "receive our prayer."

After the concluding prayer, respond with:

G Amen.

#### **EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

(Please be sensitive to those who wish to 'keep their hands to themselves.' Thank you.)

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- And also with you.

Share the peace of God with one another.

(Congregation please be seated)

#### **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

#### "Take My Life, That I May Be"

#583

**Refrain:** Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

**Verse 2:** Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

**Refrain:** Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- Let us pray, Jesus, Bread of life,
- you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



The minister continues with the eucharistic prayer.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

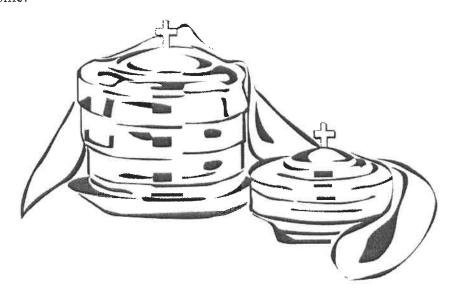
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. P

THE LORD'S PRAYER
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.

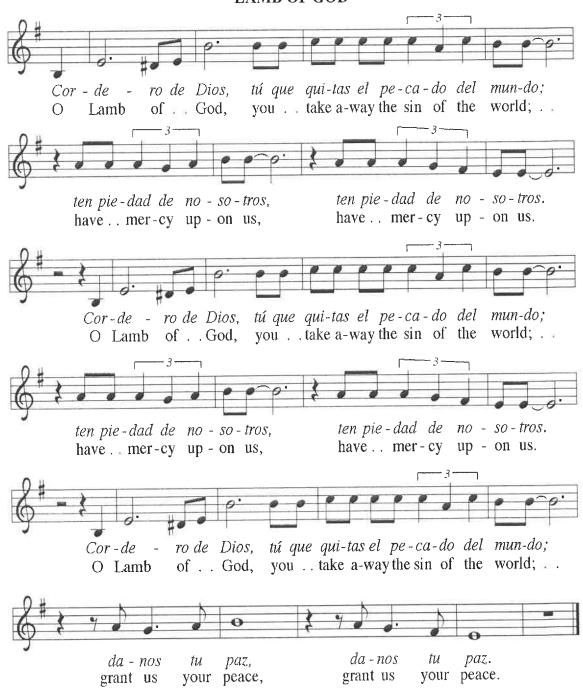
(Congregation please be seated)

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!



#### LAMB OF GOD



#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION - All who believe Jesus Christ is present in this meal, offering forgiveness and new life, are welcome to the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are also available. PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive Communion, please ask an usher to tell the pastor — Holy Communion can be brought to you.

#### (Congregation please stand)

- May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.
- Amen.

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.
- C Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### BENEDICTION

- The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, +be upon you now and forever.
- G Amen.

#### SENDING SONG

#### "Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing"

#544



- As people of God, this is our mission at Advent:
- "Called by God's Grace to Love and Serve."

#### DISMISSAL

(God sends us to live as Christ's body in the world.)

- Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### Serving in Worship Today-9:30 am

Presiding Minister

Preacher

Assisting Minister

Communion Assistants

Pianist

Musician Cantor Reader

Greeter

Ushers Audio/Video

Fellowship Hosts

Cookies Tellers Pastor Matthew Larson

Pastor Matthew Larson

Vicar Brendan Wiechert Betty Quinn, Linda Sweet

Shirley Roraback

Wes Todd

Liz Law

Tom Sernka

Bill Johnson, Linda Semmen

Ian Larson
Missy Bliesner
Shirley Baraback

Shirley Roraback

Diehl

The words to all music included in this bulletin are reproduced under CCL1 License 630761. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #729708-A. All liturgical music included in this bulletin is reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, ©2006, Augsburg Fortress Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg License Number 15326-LIT.

#### + PRAYER AND PRAISE +

New this Week: With great sadness we share that Ken Leonard had a heart attack last week and sadly passed away. Please keep his wife Jane and their family in your prayers as they are mourning his passing. Continued prayers for Bob & JoAnn Dunlap as Bob is now home from the hospital and recovering. Prayers of healing are needed for Sandy Coombs as she recovers from a bad fall. She is in quite a bit of pain.

Church Family and Friends: Ahern family, Ania, Barbara, Barney Barnhart & family, Harry & Manda Benton, Bolster family, Linda Bradford, Belle Campbell & family, Cherie, Dave & Sharon Cook, George & Sandy Coombs, Georgia Coulston, Genevieve Davenport, Bonnie Davis, Janet Esser, Nancy Filardo & family, Joyce Flanigan & family, Dorothy Grier, Leigh & Steve Hopkins, Mary & Clancy Howard, family of Audrey Jackson, Jay & Judy, Judy Jaramillo & family, Savannah Kelley, Midge Kiourkas, Terry Kolden, Larson family, Leatha family, Jan Madden & family, Duncan McMillan, McCune family & Donny, Megan, Ian & SaraLu Moore, Moseman family, Kathleen Naliboff, Craig Nurvic, Otteman family, Myrna Robb, Twila O'Gallagher, Gerry O'Rourke, Tim O'Rourke, Jared & Cindy Pauletto, Myrna Rehn, Roger & Carol Scheurer, Tom Sernka & family, Eva Sturges, Tinch family, Rick Velategui, family of Margot Wilson, and Anna Yeoman.

For Family Members & Friends Serving in the Military:

CPT Ashley Allinger, Chaplain US Army, CPT Zane Allinger, USAF, CPL Damien Anderson, Major Ryan Baker, Majors Megan & Robert Barnwell, SGT Alex Baron, USAF, Capt. Jordon Bolster, SSgt. Andy Falk, Army, CPT Christopher Finch, Robert Guyton, CW2 Aaron Lang, Capt. Richard Luna III, USAF, MSgt. Duncan McFarlane, Bryan McGoon, SSG Aaron Moeller, Sam Nelson, Mst. Sgt. Alex Pohle, AF Staff Sgt. Garytt Shirey, Kurt Strigel, Colin Wells, U.S. Air Force, Ryan Wells, Master Sgt. AF Nat'l Guard Sarah Meddock, TSG Jason Wood, CPT Michael West, Staff SGT Jacob McKenzie, Major Stephen King, Airman Chase Strunk, U.S. Air Force, LCPL Jared Martin, Rafe Rector, USMC, Staff Sgt. Dan Zabriskie in the National Guard.

If you have a prayer request, please send an email to the church office at alcspokane@comcast.net or call the church office at (509) 928-7733.

### Coming This Week: Sunday, September 14, 2025 - Sunday, September 21, 2025

SUNDAY 9:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion

After Worship

Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am High School Sunday School-Starbucks on Sprague

4:00 pm-7:00 pm Mt. Zion Romanian Church

MONDAY 8:30 am-9:30 am Fitness Class

6:00 pm Boy Scouts

TUESDAY 9:00 am-12:00 pm Happy Piecemakers

6:00 pm Cub Scouts

WEDNESDAY 8:30 am-9:30 am Fitness Class

11:00 am Child Center Chapel in the sanctuary

6:30 pm-7:30 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) meeting

THURSDAY 9:00 am Happy Helpers

10:00 am Mid-Week Bible Study 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AA Meeting

FRIDAY 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast –Revel Community, 16807 E. Mission

Avenue, Spokane Valley

SATURDAY 9:00 am-noon Fall Clean-Up Day at Advent

4:00 pm AA Quarterly meeting

SUNDAY 9:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion

After Worship

Coffee Fellowship

'New Faces' Orientation-Meet in the classroom

10:45 am High School Sunday School-Starbucks on Sprague

4:00 pm-7:00 pm Mt. Zion Romanian Church

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Online Worship: www.youtube.com/c/adventlutheranspokane

#### MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

Mid-Week **Bible study** meets each Thursday, at **10:00** am. Everyone is welcome! We are currently studying the Gospel of Luke.

#### **MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

The Men's Prayer group continues to meet each Friday morning at 6:30 am at Revel Community, 16807 E. Mission Avenue, Spokane Valley. All men are welcome!

#### **FALL CLEAN-UP DATE AT ADVENT**

Saturday morning, September 20, is designated as Advent's Fall Clean–Up Day - from 9 AM to 12 PM. Questions? Please contact Forrest Diehl at 509-991-4736. If you are available, we would love to have you join us! Please bring your work gloves and any yard tools you wish to help spruce up the grounds of Advent. We will have a truck with a trailer to haul away brush clippings, weeds, leaves, and other debris. We also have a sign-up sheet on the table for areas you may wish to help with. Thank you.

#### 'NEW FACES'

Pastor Matt will be doing an orientation on September 21 for those who are new to our congregation. We will be meeting in the classroom after worship. If you have not come up and been introduced during a 'New Faces' Sunday, please come, we will have a 'New Faces' Sunday on September 28 during the worship service.

#### SPOKANE VALLEY PARTNERS FOOD BANK

Thank you for your generosity in bringing your food donations for the Spokane Valley Partners Food Bank as we continue to "FILL THE SHELF"!! You may place your food donations in the barrel in the Narthex. Thank you!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS-Continued**

#### **GOLDENAGERS' DAY OUT**

Tuesday, September 23rd from 10am-2pm, the Goldenagers will be going to Camp Lutherhaven for the Fall Goldenagers' Day Out. Please meet at the church and ready to leave by 8:45 am and we will return by 2:45 pm. Lunch is included. We plan to carpool. Questions? Contact Linda Semmen at 509-389-4191. Advent Lutheran Church will cover the costs for attendees. Pastor Dave Ellingson from Edmonds, Washington will be the guest speaker. Dave, the Paddle Pilgrim, has taught courses in spirituality, environmental ethics, human development, and youth ministry at Trinity Lutheran College. He is a Lutheran pastor, author, kayaker, Master Gardener, former distance runner and triathlete, and has a Doctorate in Holistic Health. He is married, father of five grown children and enjoys his five grandchildren. He readily admits that from the earliest age, his middle name has been activity!

#### NAME TAG ORDER

Do you need a name tag? The name tags come with a magnetic back. If you have a pacemaker or other medical condition that would prevent you from using a magnetic back, please let us know. We are happy to order you a name tag with a pin. Thank you. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex. This order will be placed on October 13.

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HAPPY HELPERS BREAKFAST**

Volunteers are needed to come to Advent on Thursday, October 23rd, between 8am and noon to assist with cutting and coring apples so the Happy Helpers can make their homemade applesauce. The Happy Helpers also need people to assist with setting up and cooking the sausage on Saturday, October 25, at 1:30 pm and serving the food at the breakfast on Sunday, October 26th. See the sign-up sheets on the table in the Narthex. Questions? Please contact Butch Yarnell at 360-513-0396 or call the church office at 509-928-7733. NOTE: For those signing up to volunteer for this wonderful breakfast, please plan to meet after worship on October 19th to go over planning. (We can do it over coffee in the fellowship hall.)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS-Continued**

#### HAPPY HELPERS BREAKFAST

Happy Helpers Breakfast: Sunday, October 26th, beginning at 8:00 am. (Breakfast will be served from 8:00 am until approximately one hour after the worship service). All are welcome! This breakfast is the Happy Helpers' primary effort to raise money for the operating expenses for the annual maintenance of our facility. Join us! No one goes away hungry! Breakfast menu: scrambled eggs, sausage links, pancakes, and homemade applesauce. Drinks will be coffee, tea, apple and orange juice.