

“Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven
is at hand.”
Matthew 3:2



Reformation Lutheran Church
"Gathered by Christ to be and make disciples."
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Second Sunday of Advent
Dec. 4, 2022



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES
 Third Sunday of Advent – Dec. 11
 Fourth Sunday of Advent – Dec. 18
 Christmas Eve service – Dec. 24

WORSHIP LEADERS

	Dec. 4	Dec. 11
Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit.	Judi Reeder	Rosemary Keller
Crucifer		
Acolyte		
Lector	Judi Reeder	Ken Hollinger
Ushers	John & Kandi Null	Fred & Crystal Lepley
Musician	Rosemary Keller	Dcn. Arica Demme
Altar Guild	Barb Wisler	Kandi Null
Sound Tech.	Chaz Stroup	John Null
Offering Counters	Lee Mills/John Null	Ken Hollinger/Fred Lepley
Livestream	Mark Wisler/Kris Brill	Mason & Sandy Tippett

Nov. 27, 2022
ATTENDANCE - 65

“CRY ROOM AVAILABILITY”

For parents with children younger than one year, there is a “Cry Room” near the front entrance if you would need to use that during the worship service.

Please maintain silence for meditation as soon as the candles are lit until the beginning of the service.

TODAY'S COMMEMORATION

John of Damascus



John (ca. 675–749) is known as the great compiler and summarizer of the orthodox faith and the last great Greek theologian. Born in Damascus, John gave up an influential position in the Islamic court to devote himself to the Christian faith. Around 716 he entered a monastery outside of Jerusalem and was ordained a priest. When the Byzantine emperor Leo the Isaurian in 726 issued a decree forbidding images (icons), John forcefully resisted. In his *Apostolic Discourses* he argued for the legitimacy of the veneration of images, which earned him the condemnation of the Iconoclast Council in 754. John also wrote defenses of the orthodox faith against contemporary heresies. In addition, he was a gifted hymnwriter (“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”) and contributed to the liturgy of the Byzantine churches. His greatest work was the *Fount of Wisdom* which was a massive compendium of truth from previous Christian theologians, covering practically every conceivable doctrinal topic. John's summary of the orthodox faith left a lasting stamp on both the Eastern and Western churches.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The second candle which we light today is called the Bethlehem Candle. While Mary was pregnant, a decree went out that a census should take place. Because she was engaged to Joseph they went together to the town of Bethlehem, the city of King David, because Joseph was of the house and lineage of David. And while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to her firstborn son and they named him Jesus.



This fulfilled what was written by the prophet Micah:

“But you, O Bethlehem, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me One who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient of days. . . He shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. They shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.” (Micah 5:2, 4)

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Cindy Berry

The assembly stands (if able)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our Sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

C: Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too may bring,
 His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; Their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

© Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. hymnal version, 1978
 Tune: Swedish folk tune, 14th cent.

BEREDEN VÅG FÖR HERRAN
 76 76 77 66

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Let us pray . . .

As we light the second candle of our Advent wreath, the Bethlehem Candle, we give thanks to you, O God, for the little town of Bethlehem. Though it was once too small to be counted amongst your people, yet from its members came our Good Shepherd and King, your Son Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

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.**

KYRIE

Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray | to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray | to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray | to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us | gracious Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that by his coming we may be enabled to serve you with pure minds; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON



The First Reading is from the 11th chapter of Isaiah

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 72:1-7

- ¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!
- ² **May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!**
- ³ Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness!
- ⁴ **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor!**
- ⁵ May they fear you while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- ⁶ **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth!**
- ⁷ In his days may the righteous flourish,
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 15th chapter of Romans

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." ¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the

peoples extol him." ¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Brief silence for reflection.

The assembly stands (if able) to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God. *John 20:31*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and

thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands (if able).

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And make us

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; Oh, let your face up -

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine And fill the world with love di - vine.

5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
 Whose advent has our freedom won,
 Whom with the Father we adore,
 And Holy Spirit, evermore.

NICENE CREED

**C: 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 CHURCH

**P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all
people according to their needs.**

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these or similar words:

P: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

**P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3

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

C: **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and
voic - es, Who won-drous things has done, In whom his world re -
joic - es; Who, from our moth - ers' arms, Has blest us on our
way With count-less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
67 67 66 66

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P: It is truly right and salutary we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. **C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us 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.**

The assembly is seated.



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine.

HOW WE COMMUNE: When you come forward the pastor will first give you bread to eat. Then, take a cup from the tray. The assistant will pour in wine to drink. Afterward, you will place the empty cup in the water in the plastic container at the side aisle, and return to your seat.

If you are unable to consume wine, you may commune with only the bread. Unbaptized and those who have yet to receive first communion may come forward to receive a blessing. Signify by holding your hands to your chest instead of reaching out for the bread and wine.

The assembly stands (if able) when everyone has received the sacrament.

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. C: Amen

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of six lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are arranged in two columns, with the first column starting on the first line and the second column starting on the second line. The lyrics are: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De - 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One; A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un - For as in the be - gin - ning, Is to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re - peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el. sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, we thank you for feeding us with the sacrament of Christ's body and blood – that which strengthens us in faith and assures us of new life now and in eternity. As we wait and watch for the return of the Messiah in these last days, continue to feed us with the life-giving bread and the cup of salvation.

C: Amen

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

[Psalm 103:1]

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, The watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, And in her
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore you, And saints and

on the heights are cry - ing; A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart new joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom,
an - gels sing be - fore you. The harps and cym-bals all u - nite.

Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, And at the
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, dwell - ing

thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious. Her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 with the choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round your daz - zling light.

The bride - groom comes! A - wake; Your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Oh, come, you Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has seen, no ear Has yet been trained to hear.

Al - le - lu - ia! Pre - pare your - selves to meet the
 Sing ho - san - na! We go un - til the halls we
 What joy is ours! Cre - scen - dos rise; your halls re -

Lord, Whose light has stirred the wait - ing guard.
 view Where you have bid us dine with you.
 sound; Ho - san - nas blend in cos - mic sound.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.
 Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

WACHET AUF
 PM

AROUND THE WORD DEVOTIONS



Around the Word publishes a weekly devotion with daily meditations. These devotions include a Psalm, Verse, Prayer, and Hymn of the Week, as well as the order of devotion from the Small Catechism. You can download the most recent devotion by going to our website (www.reformation-nalc.org) and clicking on the link, or sign-up to receive these devotions by email.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements for the bulletin about upcoming events should be emailed to rose.a.keller@gmail.com **AND** pastor@reformation-nalc.org or you can call Rosemary Keller (717-333-1448) or Pastor Mark (717-947-4284) no later than **Sunday** by 6:00 pm. The events will then be added to the bulletin. It is always helpful to let us know how long you want the announcement to run. See Rosemary Keller with any questions.



STEWARDSHIP



Offering plates are not passed during the service, they are located on a table in the back of the nave. You may also mail checks to Sandy Tippett, 3377 Horizon Drive, Lancaster PA 17603.

COFFEE TIME

Enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship after worship and before Sunday school. If you would like to sign-up for a Sunday to host Coffee Time, it's as simple as bringing store bought snacks, If you like to bake, homemade goodies are always welcome! If you have any questions about Coffee Time, see Joan Hollinger or Rose Bennett for the details. See you at Coffee Time!



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



Sunday School for the older youth class will meet after the worship service.

Facebook and Instagram Users

Help advertise our church and its activities by “liking” or following us in Facebook and Instagram. Our Facebook page is [Reformation Lutheran Church NALC – Lancaster PA](#), and our Instagram page is [reformation.lutheran.church](#).



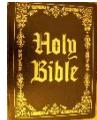
LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

December Lunch Bunch will be on December 13 at 10:00 am in fellowship hall. We will have lunch at Longhorn Steak House at 11:30 am. Signup at the back of the church or call Judi Reeder 717 341 7821.

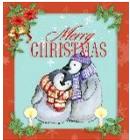


HASHING OUT THE SERMON

Adults are invited to an informal discussion with Pastor Mark of the sermon and the Scripture readings for today's worship upstairs in the Prayer room from 10:45-11:30 am.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE



Save postage and exchange Christmas cards with our church family. There are mail boxes with each family's name in the rear hallway behind the sanctuary. Don't forget to check your mailbox for any cards.

Please Plan ahead for the King Cake Event on January 7th.

This announcement seems early, but our King Cake* event comes up so quickly after Christmas that we would like you to plan ahead to come to this family event on January 7, 2023, from 11:00 to 1:30. Every family will make their own King Cake. Besides making the cake, we will have lunch and some other activities. We do need to know ahead of time because the yeast dough is made ahead of time. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church.



*King Cakes originated in Europe as a celebratory food of the Feast of Epiphany or Twelfth Night Celebration which is January 6th (12 nights after Christmas).

Save The Date Fellowship Events

Fellowship is planning the following events – Hope to see you there!

Sunday, December 4th: Advent Pancake Breakfast – All the pancakes, plus other breakfast goodies, you can eat during coffee time. Come hungry!!

Sunday, December 18th: Cookies & Carols – Bring some cookies to share with the congregation and your singing voice. Ivan Wittel and Rose Keller will lead us in singing Christmas carols during coffee time.

Saturday, January 14th: Winter Dinner – Chase away the winter blahs by sharing a hot evening meal with your church family. Details about the event (time and menu) will be in the bulletin closer to the event date.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING



We are beginning to plan for Christmas decorating. If anyone is interested in helping us decorate on Dec. 18th after the cookies and carols event please see June Kreider.

UPCOMING SOCIAL MINISTRY EVENTS

There are two upcoming Church Events, supported by our congregation, with monetary contributions. They are our Christmas Stockings filled with goodies for our Homebound members and the Faith Friendship Villa Party, held there on Saturday Afternoon from 1 to 3 on 12/24. If you are able to help at the Faith Friendship Villa Party there will be a sign up sheet at the back of the Church.



We will be assembling the Homebound and Faith Friendship Villa Gift Bags after Church downstairs, if you are able to help, Sunday 12/18. If you are able to deliver a Christmas Stocking to a Homebound member please pick up on 12/18.

Please place donations in wrapped box on table at rear of Church, or put in offering plate marked Christmas Gifts. The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank all for your continued support.



MINISTRY CONTACTS

Altar guild	June Kreider	717-285-3241
Announcements	Rose Keller	717-333-1448
Assistant ministers	Judy Mills	717-468-7571
Coffee Time	Joan Hollinger	717-684-8584
Funeral Luncheons	Rose Bennett	717-468-8106
Lectors	Judy Mills	717-468-7571
Luther Lager League	Pastor Mark	717-947-4284
Prayer Requests	Judy Mills	717-468-7571
Purl's Shawl Ministry	Judy Mills	717-468-7571
Sound	Chaz Stroup	717-684-2760
Ushers	Rose Keller	717-333-1448

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS AND LIAISONS

President	Ken Hollinger	717-951-0323
Vice President	Melissa Cuff	610-457-6412
Secretary	Kim Wittel	717-468-7917
Treasurer	Fred Lepley	717-629-6371
Christian Ed	Melissa Cuff	610-457-6412
Communications	Betty Scheich	717-464-6759
Mission Team	Melissa Cuff	610-457-6412
Fellowship	Ken Hollinger	717-951-0323
Finance/Stewardship	Fred Lepley	717-629-6371
Property	Jack McCarthy	717-471-5855
Social Ministry	Terry Miller	717-898-0001
Worship & Music	Kim Wittel	717-468-7917

CORE VALUES OF THE NALC

Christ-Centered

We confess the apostolic faith in Jesus Christ according to the Holy Scriptures. We affirm the authority of the Scriptures as the authoritative source and norm, “according to which all doctrines should and must be judged” (Formula of Concord). We accept the ecumenical creeds and the Lutheran Confessions as true witnesses to the Word of God.

Mission-Driven

We believe that the mission of the Church is to preach the Gospel and to make disciples for Christ. We believe that making disciples — in our congregations, in our communities and nations, and around the world — must be a priority of the Church in the present age.

Traditionally-Grounded

We affirm the ecumenical creeds and the faithful witness of the Church across time and space. We endorse the form and practices of the universal Church that are consistent with Scripture, particularly the office of the ministry and the tradition of worship under Word and Sacrament. We seek dialogue and fellowship with other Lutheran churches and with faithful Christians of other confessions.

Congregationally-Focused

We strive to be a church body that is organized to facilitate the ministries of local congregations in a posture of servanthood and a spirit of partnership, through the provision of resources, connections and information.



NALC

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