



*For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11)*

Reformation Lutheran Church
"Gathered by Christ to be and make disciples."
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Lancaster, PA 17603
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Nativity of Our Lord
Dec. 25, 2022



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES
 First Sunday after Christmas – Jan. 1
 Baptism of Our Lord – Jan. 8

WORSHIP LEADERS

	Dec. 25	Jan. 1
Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit.	Isaac Demme	Melissa Cuff
Crucifer		
Acolyte		
Lector	Isaac Demme	Joanne Thomas
Ushers	Bill & Rose Bennett	Fred & Crystal Lepley
Musician	Dcn. Arica Demme	Rosemary Keller
Altar Guild	June Kreider	Barb Wisler
Sound Tech.	Terry Miller	John Null
Offering Counters	Beth Birchall/Ken Hollinger	Lee Mills/John Null
Livestream	Ray Kneisley/Sandy Tippett	Mark Wisler/Kris Brill

Dec. 18, 2022
ATTENDANCE - 75

“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.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

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.

Psalms 124:8

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

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalms 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

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!

Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God In the high - est:

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: John F. Wade, c. 1711–86; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.:

Spanish tr. Juan Bautista Cabrera, 1837–1916

Tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–86; setting: *The Hymnal* 1940

ADESTE FIDELES

Irregular meter

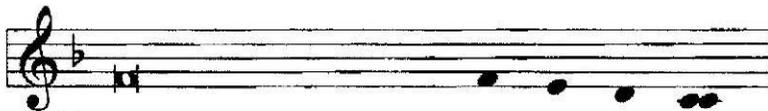
GREETING

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.

Almighty God, grant that the new birth of your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set free all who are held in servitude under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ, your Son, 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
Word
of God

The First Reading is from the 52nd chapter of Isaiah

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸The voice of your watchmen — they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 2

¹ Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

² **The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,**

³ “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

⁴ **He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.**

⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

⁶ **“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**

⁷ I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me,
“You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

⁸ **Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.**

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”

¹⁰ **Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

¹² **Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.**

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 1st chapter of Hebrews

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6 [7-12]

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? ⁶And again, when he brings the

firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." [7Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." 8But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. 9You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." 10And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, 12like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."]

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



C 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. John the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: John 1:1-14 [15-18]

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear

witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵[(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.]

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).

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 Δ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -





have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.



Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c. 413; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, sts. 1-4, alt.;
 tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, st. 5
 Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V; setting: C. Winfred Douglas, 1867-1944, alt.

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
 87 87 877

Text and music: Public domain

1 Tim. 3:16; Rev. 1:8; John 1:1; Phil. 2:11

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.

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 of music 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

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - - - - -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

MINISTRY CONTACTS

Altar guild	June Kreider	717-285-3241
Announcements	Ray Kneisley	717-449-9155
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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