

“The kingdom of
heaven is like
treasure hidden in
a field, which a
man found and
covered up.”
Matthew 13:44



Reformation Lutheran Church
"Gathered by Christ to be and make disciples."
2100 Manor Ridge Dr.
Lancaster, PA 17603
Pastor Mark Chavez
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Phone: (717) 947-4284
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Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 30, 2023



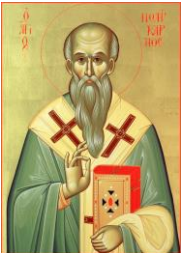
WORSHIP LEADERS

	July 30	Aug. 6
Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit.	Judi Reeder	Judi Reeder
Lector	Lee Mills	Judi Reeder
Ushers	John & Kandi Null	Ken & Joan Hollinger
Musician	Rose Keller	Dcn. Arica Demme
Altar Guild	Kathy Miller	Kandi Null
Sound Tech.	Terry Miller	Chaz Stroup
Offering Counters	Lee Mills/John Null	Ken Hollinger/Fred Lepley
Livestream	Mark Wisler/ Marianne Burkholder	Clarence Clark/Kris Brill
Communion Prayers	Kim & Ivan Wittel	Fred & Crystal Lepley

July 23, 2023
ATTENDANCE - 58

TODAY'S COMMEMORATION

Irenaeus of Lyons



Pastor Irenaeus (ca. A.D. 130-200), believed to be a native of Smyrna (modern Izmir, Turkey), studied in Rome and later became pastor in Lyons, France. Around 177, while Irenaeus was away from Lyons, a fierce persecution of Christians led to the martyrdom of his bishop. Upon Irenaeus' return, he became bishop of Lyons. Among his most famous writings is a work condemning heresies, especially Gnosticism, which denied the goodness of creation. In opposition, Irenaeus confessed that God has redeemed his creation through the incarnation of the Son. Irenaeus also affirmed the teachings of the Scriptures handed down to and through him as being normative for the Church.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.

“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 – *Children of the Heavenly Father*

arr. Erinn Jarrell Schwarz

The assembly stands (if able)

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen

Matthew 28:19b; [18-20]

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969
 Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

CWM RHONDDA
 87 87 877

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al-might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the

Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-

lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

○ God, your almighty power is most clearly shown in your mercy and pity. Multiply your grace that we may run to your promises and be made to share in your heavenly joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

First Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

⁶{Moses said to the Israelites,} “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations”

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 125

¹ Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

² **As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore.**

³ For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.

⁴ **Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts!**

⁵ But those who turn aside to their crooked ways
the LORD will lead away with evildoers!
Peace be upon Israel!

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 8th chapter of Romans

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died — more than that, who was raised — who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

John 6:68

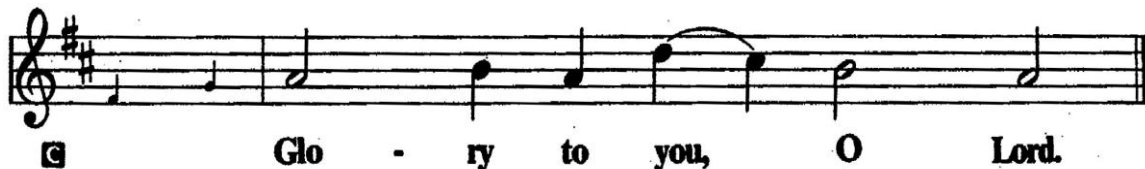


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter.



Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴{Jesus said to the disciples,} "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands (if able).

HYMN OF THE DAY

What Wondrous Love Is This

G Dm C Am C Dm F Em Dm

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And

Am Am7 F Em Dm Dm7 G Am Am7 Dm G

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free, I'll

Am Bbmaj7 C Dm G Dm C F Em

caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
 neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown for my
 is the great I Am, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
 sing his love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

Dm G Em Dm Am Am7 F Em Dm

soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: American folk hymn, alt.
 Tune: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

WONDROUS LOVE
 129 66 129

APOSTLE'S CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the
virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.

He will come again 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 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

Ps. 104:14-15; Is. 25:6; 1 Cor. 5:7



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

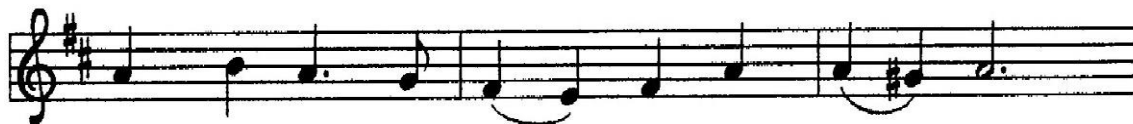
P: It is indeed right and salutary we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the 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.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND TO PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

We invite you to pray silently for someone in the congregation while sitting in the pew before or after receiving Communion or while in line waiting to receive. Two people will be at the back of the sanctuary praying for everyone at this time.

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 you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43; 1 Chronicles 16:8-10]



☉ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

This Is My Father's World

D F#m D Em A A7

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, And to my lis-t'ning ears All
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; The birds their car-ols raise; The
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; Oh, let me not for-get That,

D F#m Bm A D A7 D

na-ture sings, and round me rings The mu-sic of the spheres.
 morn-ing light, the lil-y white, De-clare their mak-er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul-er yet.

A7 D G A7 Bm D G D A E7 A A7

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought Of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; He shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; Why should my heart be sad? The

D F#m Bm A D A7 D

rocks and trees, of . . skies and seas; His hand the won-ders .wrought.
 rus-ting grass I . . hear him pass; He speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let the heav-ens ring; God reigns, let the earth be . . glad!

Text: *Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901*
 © Tune: *Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt.*

TERRA PATRIS
 SMD

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PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

Prayer Chain participants are emailed prayer updates. Contact Judy Mills (pabluebird1242@icloud.com) to be included in the updates, or request removal from the chain.

STEWARDSHIP



Offering plates are not passed during the service. They are on a table in the back of the nave. You may also mail checks to Sandy Tippet (3377 Horizon Drive, Lancaster PA 17603) or make a donation online at <https://www.reformation-nalc.org/giving/>.

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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