

“By what
authority are you
doing these
things, and who
gave you this
authority?”
Matthew 21:23

Reformation Lutheran Church
"Gathered by Christ to be and make disciples."
2100 Manor Ridge Dr.
Lancaster, PA 17603
Pastor Mark Chavez
www.reformation-nalc.org
Phone: (717) 947-4284
Email: pastor@reformation-nalc.org

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Oct. 1, 2023



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES
Oct. 15 – Spiritual Sunday

WORSHIP LEADERS

| | Oct. 1 | Oct. 8 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit. | Ivan Wittel | June Kreider |
| Lector | Ivan Wittel | June Kreider |
| Ushers | Fred & Crystal Lepley | John & Kandi Null |
| Musician | Rose Keller | Dcn. Arica Demme |
| Altar Guild | Barb Wisler | Kathy Miller |
| Sound Tech. | Chaz Stroup | John Null |
| Offering Counters | Beth Birchall/ Ken Hollinger | John Null/Sandy Tippett |
| Livestream | Ray Kneisley/Kris Brill | Mason Tippett/Sandy Tippett |
| Communion Prayers | Beth Birchall/ Diana Hebda | Jerry & Susie Kramer |
| Nursery/Class ages 4-5 | Diana Hebda/ Susie Kramer | Rachel Kline/Susie Kramer |

Sept. 24, 2023
ATTENDANCE - 55

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 – *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

arr. Michael Wilson

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.

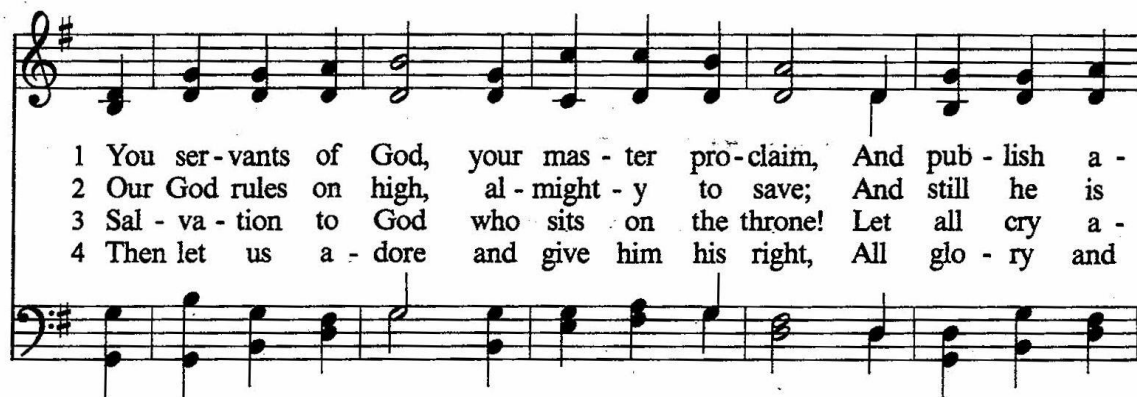
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we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

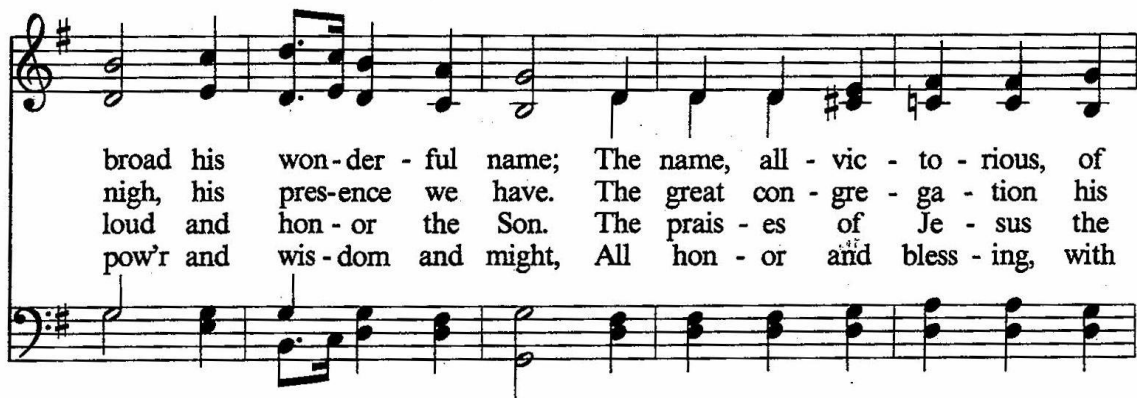
[John 20:19-23]

C: Amen.

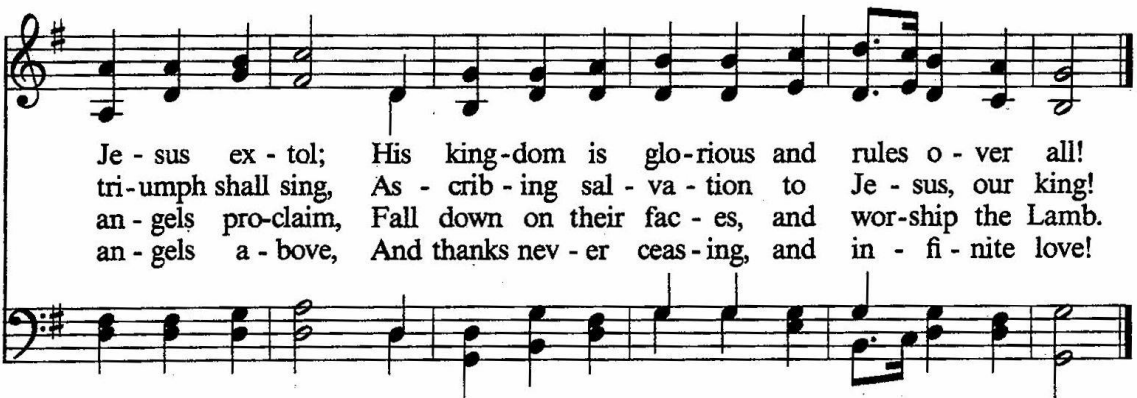
You Servants of God



1 You ser - vants of God, your mas - ter pro - claim, And pub - lish a -
 2 Our God rules on high, al - might - y to save; And still he is
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, All glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; The name, all - vic - to - rious, of
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, All hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; His king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
 tri - umph shall sing, As - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
 an - gels pro - claim, Fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
 an - gels a - bove, And thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fi - nite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
 Tune: Johann M. Haydn, 1737-1806, adapt.

LYONS
 10 10 11 11

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



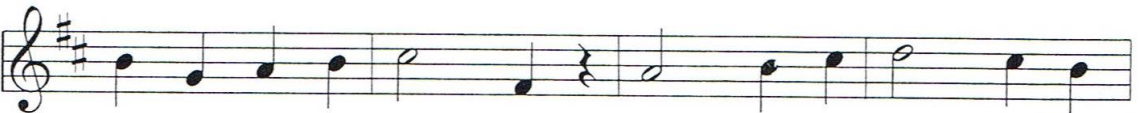
A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



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.

O Almighty and most Merciful God, through your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that you would have us do. Grant this, we pray, 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

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the LORD God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the LORD is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the LORD is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the LORD God; so turn, and live.”

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 25:1-10

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² **O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.**

³ Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ **Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

⁶ **Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

⁸ **Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰ **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 2nd chapter of Philipians

Second Reading: Philipians 2:1-18

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born

in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

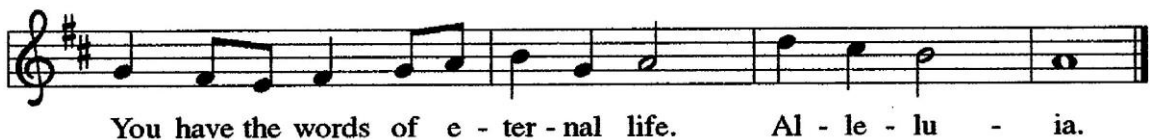
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Brief silence for reflection.

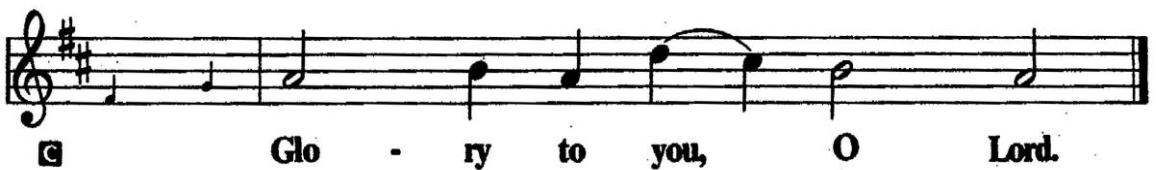
The assembly stands (if able) to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 21st chapter.



Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

²³When {Jesus} entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

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

Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult Of our
 2 As of old St. An - drew heard it By the
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship Of the
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, Days of

life's wild, rest - less sea, Day by day his clear voice
 Gal - i - le - an lake, Turned from home and toil and
 vain world's gold - en store, From each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, Still he calls, in cares and

sound - ing, Say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 kin - dred, Leav - ing all for his dear sake.
 keep us, Say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."

5 Jesus calls us! In your mercy,
 Savior, make us hear your call,
 Give our hearts to your obedience,
 Serve and love you best of all.

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



bles-sing. 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.

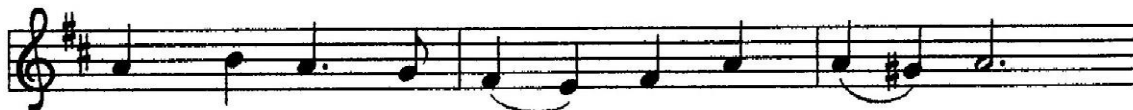
P: It is indeed right and salutary we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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]



C 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

O God, My Faithful God

1 O God, my faith - ful God, True foun - tain ev - er flow - ing,
 2 Give me the strength to do With read - y heart and will - ing
 3 Keep me from say - ing words That lat - er need re - call - ing;
 4 When dan - gers gath - er round, Oh, keep me calm and fear - less;

With - out whom noth - ing is, All per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
 What - ev - er you com - mand, My call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
 Guard me, lest i - dle speech May from my lips be fall - ing;
 Help me to bear the cross When life seems dark and cheer - less;

Give me a health - y frame, And may I have with - in
 To do it when I ought, With all my strength—and bless
 But when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
 Help me, as you have taught, To love both great and small,

A con - science free from blame, A soul un - stained by sin.
 What - ev - er I have wrought, For you must give suc - cess.
 Then to my words give grace, Lest I of - fend the weak.
 And, by your Spir - it's might, To live at peace with all.

*Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.
 Tune: Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629-1701*

WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT
 67 67 66 66

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

To request a prayer during today's worship for a person not on the list above, "print" the name on the prayer request form on the table in the back of the nave before worship.

Names on the additional prayers list will be printed for one month. Contact Rose Keller (717) 333-1448 or (rose.a.keller@gmail.com) or Pr. Mark at (pastor@reformation-nalc.org) to keep a name listed for another month, to add a new name, or to remove a name.

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 |
| Purls 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

North American Lutheran Church

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New Brighton, MN 55112-9304

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Toll-free: 888-551-7254

Website address: www.thenalc.org

