



Friend, I am
doing you no
wrong.

Matthew 20:13

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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Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sept. 24, 2023



WORSHIP LEADERS

	Sept. 24	Oct. 1
Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit.	Judy Mills	Judy Mills
Lector	Judy Mills	Joanne Thomas
Ushers	Bill & Rose Bennett	Fred & Crystal Lepley
Musician	Dcn. Arica Demme	Rose Keller
Altar Guild	June Kreider	Barb Wisler
Sound Tech.	Terry Miller	Chaz Stroup
Offering Counters	Sandy Tippet/Lee Mills	Beth Birchall/Ken Hollinger
Livestream	Mark Wisler/ Marianne Burkholder	Ray Kneisley/Kris Brill
Communion Prayers	Marianne Burkholder/ Claire Tito	Beth Birchall/Diana Hebda
Nursery/Class ages 4-5	Kandi Null/Susie Kramer	Diana Hebda/Susie Kramer

Sept. 17, 2023
ATTENDANCE - 64

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

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

Jesus Shall Reign

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: The pris - 'ners

ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; His name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, The wea - ry find e -

shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
 Honors peculiar to our King;
 Angels descend with songs again,
 And earth repeat the loud 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.**

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.

Direct our hearts, O Lord, by your merciful reign, because without your help it is impossible to please you. Grant this, we pray, 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

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let
him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our
God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your
thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the
heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 27:1-9

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?
- ² **When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.**
- ³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.
- ⁴ **One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.**
- ⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.
- ⁶ **And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;

be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸ **You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”**

⁹ Hide not your face from me.

Turn not your servant away in anger,

O you who have been my help.

Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 1st chapter of Philippians

Second Reading: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁹... {F}or I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. ²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

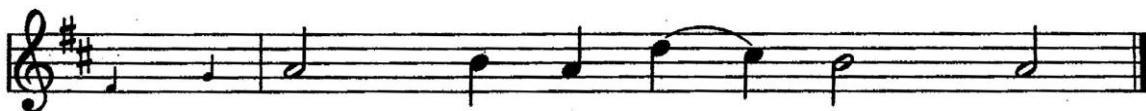


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 20th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

¹{Jesus said,} "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a

denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

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

Blest Are They

Leader or All

1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy -
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; . . . they are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -

king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,

full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
 pure of heart; they shall see God.
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain
All

Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king - dom of God!

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: David Haas

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BLEST ARE THEY
Irregular

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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]



☞ 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

All Creatures of Our God and King

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice with
 2 O rush-ing wind and breez-es soft, O clouds that ride the
 3 O flow-ing wa-ters, pure and clear, Make mu-sic for your
 4 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day Un-folds rich bless-ings

us and sing: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 winds a - loft: Oh, . . . praise him! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lord to hear. Oh, . . . praise him! Al - le - lu - ia!
 on our way, Oh, . . . praise him! Al - le - lu - ia!

O burn-ing sun with gold-en beam And sil-ver moon
 O ris-ing morn, in praise re-joyce, O lights of eve-
 O fire so mas-ter-ful and bright, Pro-vid-ing us
 The fruits and flow'rs that ver-dant grow, Let them his praise

Refrain

with soft-er gleam:
 ning, find a voice. Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!
 with warmth and light,
 a - bun-dant show.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

© Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. William H. Draper, 1855–1933. alt.
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

In your daily prayers please remember those listed below:

Homebound

Debbie Binder
Clair Crist
Donna Hildebeitel
Elizabeth Larsen
Sonya LaGamba
Earl and Janet Harry
Luke Seamon
Deb Kneisley

Additional prayers

Tom Scherer - ALS
Pr. Ted Hummel – bone marrow cancer
Brittany Merrill – chemo, radiation & surgery
Donald Moyer – chemo
Jeff Bradley – recovering from lung cancer surgery
Shirley Kneisley - bronchiectasis
Meghan Mills – colitis
Neil Vital – stem cell transplant
Chuck Landis – cancer
Courtney Tito – kidney transplant
Lauren Didyoung – brain cancer
Jo Zimmerman – dementia
Ed Zook – recovering from heart attack
Dorothy Mills – bleeding esophageal
varices
Patricia Stroup – pulmonary disease
Anthony Riggi – custody of daughter
Jeff Hofsass – high blood pressure
Pr. Bill White – cancer
Pr. Bennett Harris – various medical issues
Pr. Greg Fryer & congregation – legal issues
Jeanne Zeller – pancreatic cancer
Pr. Amy Schifrin – bone infection
BJ Wolfgang – broken arm
Don & Marilyn Graybill – covid
Anne Gleason – broken leg
Pat McDermott – securing a diagnosis
Josephine Benny – finding a care facility
Candy Whitney – recovering from shingles

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
Purl 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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