I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

Mark 1:8

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

Second Sunday of Advent

Dec. 10, 2023



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

Third Sunday of Advent – Dec. 17 Fourth Sunday of Advent – Dec. 24 (a.m.) Nativity of Our Lord - Dec. 24 (7:00 p.m.)

WORSHIP LEADERS

	Dec. 10	Dec. 17	
Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit.	Melissa Cuff	Kandi Null	
Lector	Ken Hollinger	Kandi Null	
Ushers	Fred & Crystal Lepley	John & Kandi Null	
Musician	Joanne Thomas	Dcn. Arica Demme	
Altar Guild	Barb Wisler	Kathy Miller	
Sound Tech.	Chaz Stroup	Terry Miller	
Offering Counters	Ken Hollinger/Fred Lepley	Sandy Tippett/Lee Mills	
Livestream	Mark Wisler/	Clarence Clark/	
Livesiledili	Marianne Burkholder	Judy & Lee Mills	
Communion	Sandy Tippett/	Fred & Crystal Lepley	
Prayers	Marianne Burkholder		
Nursery/Class	Deb McCarthy/	Melissa Cuff/	
ages 4-5	Susie Kramer	Susie Kramer	

Dec. 3, 2023 ATTENDANCE - 85

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

This fulfilled what was written by the prophet Micah:

named him Jesus.

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

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

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: AmenMatthew 28:19b;[18:20]

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

[Hebrews 10:22]

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

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

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

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

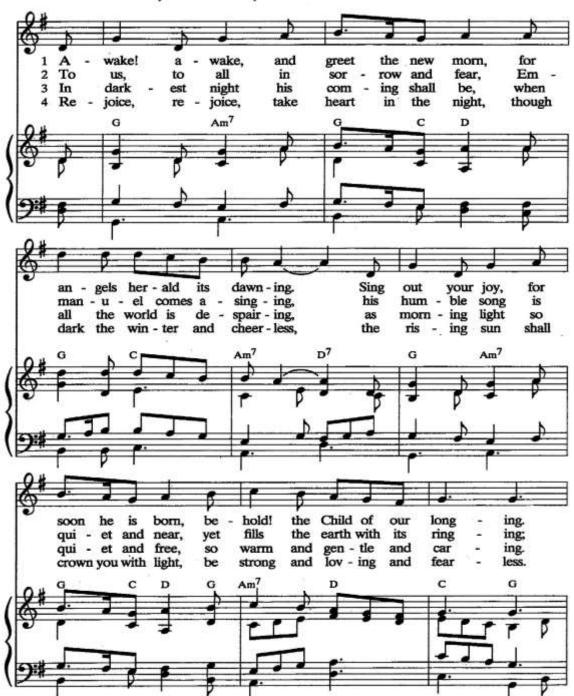
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN

Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn





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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Let us pray . . .

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

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray | to the Lord.
- 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.
- Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray | to the Lord.
- Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us | gracious Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON



The First Reading is from the 40th chapter of Isaiah

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. 3A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. 5And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." 6A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. 7The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. 8The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. 9Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" 10Behold, the LORD God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 11He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 85

- ¹ LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- ² You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
- ³ You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
- ⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!
- ⁵ Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- 6 Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.
- 8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.
- ⁹ Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- 11 Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- ¹² Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³ Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 3rd chapter of 2 Peter

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

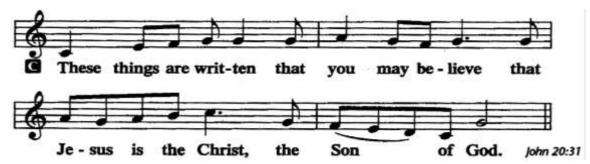
⁸Do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. ¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

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



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, ³the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare

the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," ⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

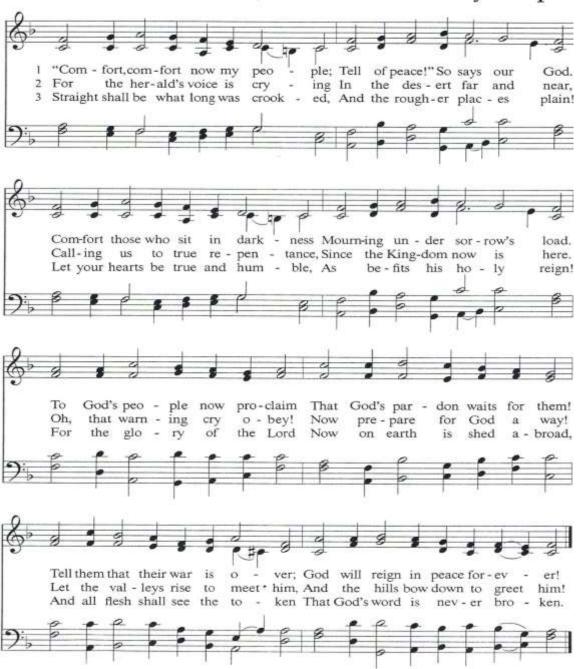
SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands (if able).

HYMN OF THE DAY

Comfort, Comfort Now My People



Text: Johann Oleanus, 1611-1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt. Time: Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

FREU DICH SEHR 87877788

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,

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.

and his kingdom will have no end.

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

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

Today we bless prayer shawls made by women at Reformation. The prayer shawls are given to people experiencing grief and illness.

OFFERTORY

Now Thank We All Our God



Text: Martin Rinkhurt, 1588-1649; ir. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878 Time: Juhann 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 indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

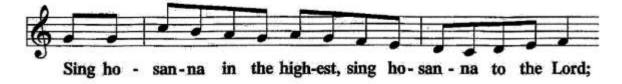
SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3

G 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.





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

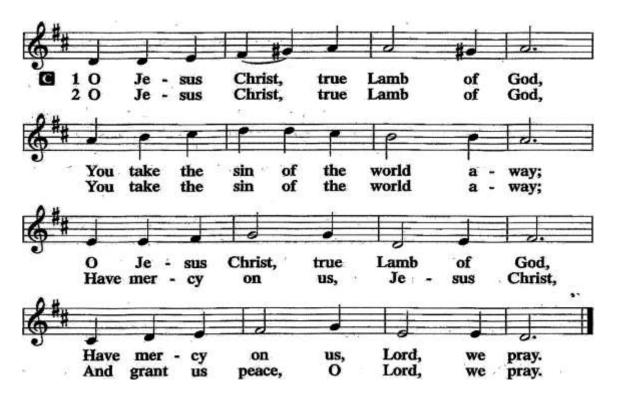
- P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
 - In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when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

AGNUS DEI John 1:29



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 and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. C: Amen



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

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

C: Amen

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord. C: Thanks be to God. [Psalm 103:1]

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound!



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
Donna Hiltebeitel
Elizabeth Larsen
Sonya LaGamba
Earl and Janet Harry

<u>Additional prayers</u>

Tom Scherer - ALS

Pr. Ted Hummel – bone marrow cancer **Brittany Merrill** – chemo, radiation & surgery

Donald Moyer – chemo

Shirley Kneisley – suitable care facility

Meghan Mills – colitis remission

Chuck Landis - cancer

Courtney Tito – kidney transplant Lauren Didyoung – brain cancer

Jo Zimmerman – dementia

Dorothy Mills – bleeding esophageal

varices

Patricia Stroup – pulmonary disease Anthony Riggi – custody of daughter Jeanne Zeller – pancreatic cancer Pr. Amy Schifrin – bone infection

BJ Wolfgang – broken arm

Anne Gleason – rehab for broken leg
Pat McDermott – securing a diagnosis
Josephine Benny – finding a care facility
Candy Whitney – recovering from shingles

Rose Keller - chemo

Christine Caporaletti – recovering from

back surgery

Bill Seigford – recovering from a fall

Family of Don Graybill – mourning his death

Cathy Holford – find housing or shelter

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 OPPORTUNITIES (conti.)

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 Tippett (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	717-823-7739
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.



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Website address: www.thenalc.org

"NOTES FROM WORSHIP OR SUNDAY SCHOOL"