



And the favor of
God was upon him.
Luke 2:40

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

First Sunday after Christmas
Dec. 31, 2023



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES
Baptism of Our Lord – Jan. 7 (8:30 a.m.)

WORSHIP LEADERS

| | Dec. 31 | Jan. 7 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit. | June Kreider | Dcn. Arica Demme |
| Lector | June Kreider | Isaac Demme |
| Ushers | Bill & Rose Bennett | Fred & Crystal Lepley |
| Musician | Joanne Thomas | |
| Altar Guild | Kandi Null | Barb Wisler |
| Sound Tech. | John Null | Terry Miller |
| Offering Counters | John Null/Sandy Tippett | Ken Hollinger/Sandy Tippett |
| Livestream | Mark Wisler/Sandy Tippett | |
| Communion Prayers | Kim & Ivan Wittel | Diana Hebda/Sandy Tippett |
| Nursery/Class Ages 4-5 | Rachel Kline/Susie Kramer | Crystal Lepley/ Marianne Burkholder |

Dec. 24, 2023
AM ATTENDANCE – 47

Dec. 24, 2023
PM ATTENDANCE - 83

“CRY ROOM AVAILABILITY”

For parents with children younger than one year, there is a “Cry Room” near the front entrance if you would need to use that during the worship service.

Please maintain silence for meditation as soon as the candles are lit until the beginning of the service.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The assembly stands (if able)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

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

[Hebrews 10:22]

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

C: who made heaven and earth.

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.

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

C: Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, Light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, oh, come . . . ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee . . . be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

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

Refrain

Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,

Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786; tr. composite
 Tune: attr. John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786

ADESTE FIDELES
 irregular

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been redeemed and made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, 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 61st chapter of Isaiah

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the LORD God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 111

¹ Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.**

³ Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶ **He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;

⁸ **they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!**

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 4th chapter of Galatians

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Brief silence for reflection.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God. *John 20:31*



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, {Joseph and Mary} brought {Jesus} up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory

to your people Israel.”³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” ³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

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).

Holy Child within the Manger

Carol at the Manger

Capo 1 (D) E^b (G) A^b (D) E^b

1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -
 2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your
 3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

(Bm) Cm (Em⁷) Fm⁷ (A) B^b (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm

go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry
 love for us was shown, when the im - age of your
 ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry

(A) B^b (Bm) Cm (Em⁷) Fm⁷ (A⁷) B^b (D) E^b

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.
 glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.
 stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

(Bm) Cm (G) A^b (D) E^b (A) B^b (D) E^b

As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the
 Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and
 In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

(G) A^b (D) E^b (A) B^b (F#7) G7 (Bm) Cm (A) B^b

out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -
 fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -
 strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

(G) A^b (D) E^b (Em7) Fm7 (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.
 pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.
 giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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JOYOUS LIGHT
 8787D

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NICENE CREED

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin
Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all
people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these or similar words:

P: Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and

voic - es, Who won-drous things has done, In whom his world re -

joic - es; Who, from our moth - ers' arms, Has blest us on our

way With count-less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
67 67 66 66

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

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

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. **C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The assembly is seated.



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION 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

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

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

C: Amen

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

[Psalm 103:1]

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in p'rais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

REGENT SQUARE
87 87 87

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 Hildebeitel
Elizabeth Larsen
Sonya LaGamba
Earl and Janet Harry

Additional prayers

Tom Scherer - ALS
Pr. Ted Hummel – bone marrow cancer
Brittany Merrill – chemo, radiation & surgery
Donald Moyer – chemo
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
Family of Josephine Benny – mourning her death
Candy Whitney – recovering from shingles
Rose Keller – chemo
Christine Caporaletti – recovering from back surgery
Erin Viozzi – healing
Riggi Family – bronchitis, coughing
Denise Force – colon cancer
Rob Zwally – migraine headaches

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 |
| Pursh 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 | Sandy Tippet | 717-344-2600 |
| 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 |
| Jake Burkholder | | 717-826-1518 |

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

