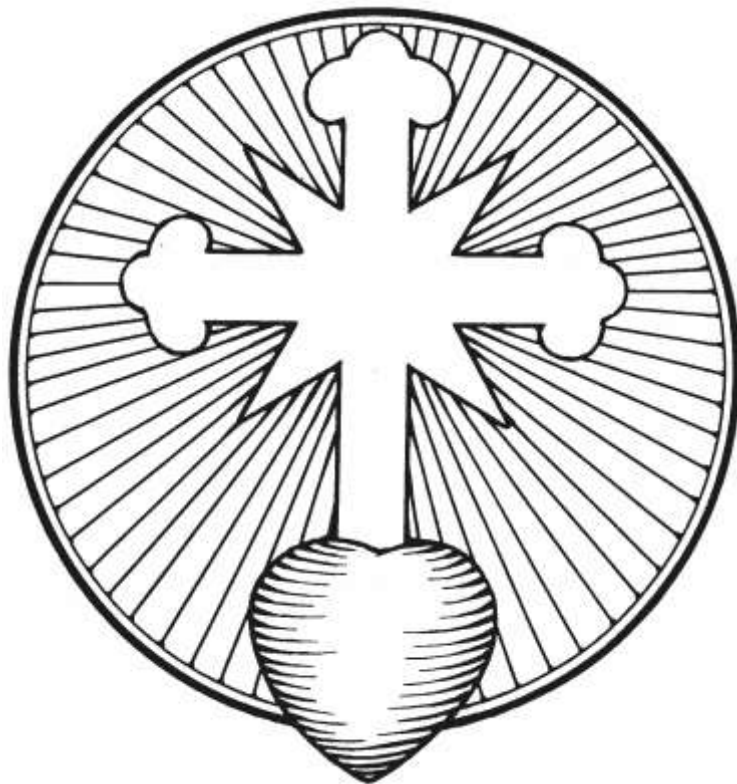


For where your
treasure is, there
your heart will be
also."

Matthew 6:21



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

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES
Feb. 18 – First Sunday in Lent
Feb. 25 – Second Sunday in Lent

WORSHIP LEADERS

	12:30 pm	7:00 pm
	Feb. 14 12:30 pm	Feb. 14 7:00 pm
Assit. Min./ Comm. Assit.	Judy Mills	Ivan Wittel
Lector	Lee Mills	Kim Wittel
Ushers		John & Kandi Null
Musician	Dcn. Arica Demme	Dcn. Arica Demme
Altar Guild		Kathy Miller

“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.



GATHERING

The assembly gathers in silence.

The assembly stands (if able).

The Psalm is read responsively.

Psalm 51:1-13 [14-19]

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my
transgressions.

² **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!**

³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in
your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and
blameless in your judgment.**

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

⁶ **Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ **Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.**

⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ **Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² **Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

- 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.**
- 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- 16 For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.**
- 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- 18 Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem;**
- 19 then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Brief silence for reflection.

C: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

EXHORTATION

P: Brothers and sisters: God created us to experience joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of his creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live. As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love – the discipline of Lent – help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

CONFESSION

P: Most holy and merciful Father:

C: We confess to you and to one another, and to the communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

P: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

P: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

P: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: accept our repentance, Lord.

P: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

C: accept our repentance, Lord.

P: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

C: accept our repentance, Lord.

P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen

The assembly is seated.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES – *Ashes were used as a sign of mourning, repentance and purification in Biblical times.*

Those who desire to receive ashes come forward before the altar.

The minister applies ashes to the forehead of each person with these words:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After all who desire ashes have received them, the minister leads the congregation in the conclusion of the confession.

The assembly stands (if able).

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and Passion of your son, our Lord,

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore we implore him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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.

First Reading: Joel 2:12-19

¹²“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. ¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” ¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. ¹⁹The LORD answered and said to his people, “Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.”

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The Second Reading is from the 5th & 6th chapters of 2 Corinthians

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

^{20b}We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

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

Brief silence for reflection.

The congregation stands (if able).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

¹{Jesus said,} "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ²Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But

when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

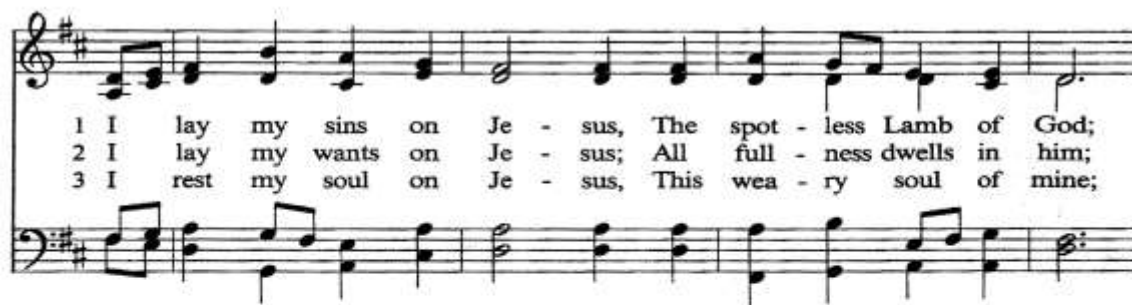
The assembly is seated.

SERMON

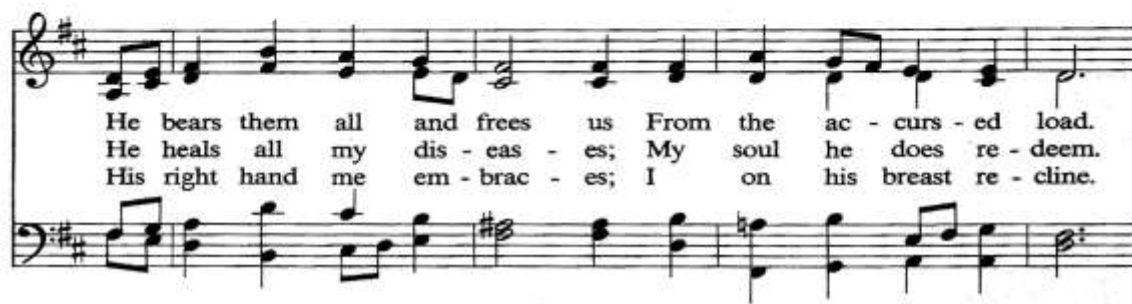
The congregation stands (if able).

HYMN OF THE DAY

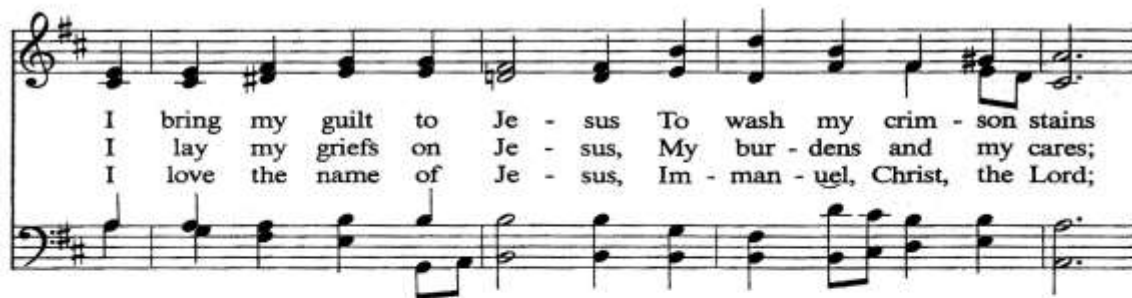
I Lay My Sins on Jesus



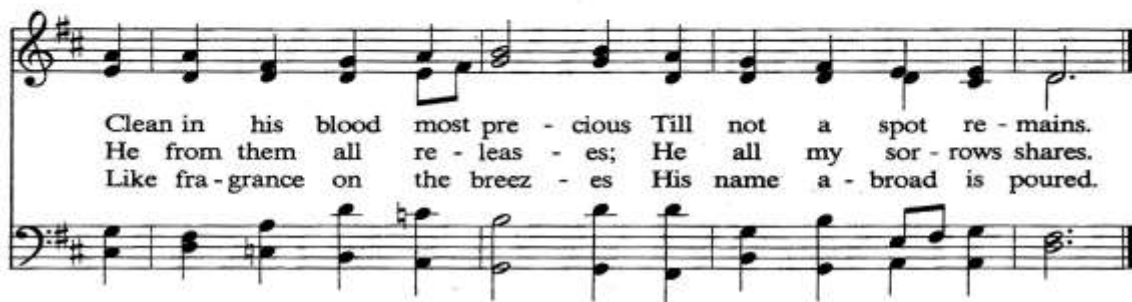
1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul he does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on his breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in his blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

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**

The congregation is seated.

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.

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.

The assembly is seated.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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

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

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.

Gluten free wafers are available for those that are gluten intolerant. Please notify the pastor as you come forward to receive Communion that you require a gluten free wafer.

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 PRAYER

A: Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 3 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 Ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?

Help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!

- 5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

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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

Megahn Mills – colitis recovery

Patricia Stroup – pulmonary disease

Steven Stroup – reconstructive knee surgery

Anne Gleason – rehab for broken leg

Candy Whitney – recovering from shingles

Rose Keller – chemo

Denise Force – colon cancer

Rob Zwally – migraine headaches

John Tippett – recovering from strokes

Mike Haas – prostate cancer

Nathaniel Cuff – healing

Mary Gates – recovering from stroke

Kathy Jacobson – pancreatic cancer

Barbara Wood – breast cancer surgery

Gail Cuff

Linda Anderson – recovering from surgery

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES (conti.)

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/>.



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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