

WELCOME to

Alamance Lutheran Church

4008 South NC Highway 62

Alamance, NC 27201

Office: 336.226.1034

Website: www.alamancelutheran.org

E-mail:

OFFICE HOURS

Mon. – Thurs. 9:00a – 12:00p

and by appointment

If you are a guest with us today, please sign the guest registry located in the narthex as you enter the sanctuary. Also, please sign the Communion record book found at the end of each pew, denoting any prayer concerns and requests for pastoral visits. Thank you.

CLERGY:

Rev. Ron Philabaum, Pastor

Rev. Bob Hawkins, Homebound Visitation

STAFF:

Kay Howe, Bookkeeper

**Matt Swaim, Director of Contemporary Music;
Coordinator for Media and Publications**

Joy Rust, Director of Traditional Music

GENERAL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday

8:30 Contemporary Worship

10:00 Sunday School

11:00 Traditional Worship

For a complete calendar of events, please see our monthly newsletter or our website.

Large Print Bulletins Are Available

Call the church office and request one in advance.

Bulletins can be accessed from our

website, www.alamancelutheran.org, on the "Publications" page for viewing on your mobile device.

As Lutherans we understand that in, with and under the forms of bread and wine, we receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. We do not pretend to understand how this can be, we trust only in the promises he made—"this is my body..." and "this is my blood" Matthew 26, Mark 13, Luke 22, and I Corinthians 11. **If you are visiting with us, you are welcome to receive this gift with us.** We offer either wine or grape juice for those who prefer it. The pre-filled glasses contain juice. For people unable to tolerate gluten in their diet, gluten-free bread is available. Simply say "gluten free" when bread is offered.

Restrooms are located between the sanctuary and the chapel near the church office and are accessed via the hallway at the rear entrances to the chapel.

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THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please rise

PRELUDE

Violin Prelude

Wallace Palethorpe

“My Father’s World”

The Alamance Ringers

Arranged by Sandra Eithun

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (10:30AM)

HYMN 531 (ELW, Red Hymnal)

“The Feast Is Ready”

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the ✠ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Source of all life,

we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ✠ God’s love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God’s people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Worshippers may exchange the peace of the Lord.)

Please remain standing as you are able.

APOSTOLIC 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

ELW 583

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

L: The Word of the Lord,

P: Thanks Be To God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Prayer Litany”

Words and music by Helen Kemp

SECOND READING:

Philippians 2:1-13

L: The Word of the Lord,

P: Thanks Be To God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew (21:23-32).

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

PASTOR RON'S MESSAGE FOR ALL CHILDREN OF GOD (NO AGE REQUIREMENT!)

SERMON

Rev. Henry Rehder

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN 807

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

A Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A We pray for the mission of the gospel. Unite your church in its proclamation and witness. Let the same mind be in us that is in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Creator God, you provide daily for our nourishment. Bless fields and orchards, oceans and lakes, birds and animals, insects and fish. Sustain those who harvest your life-sustaining bounty. Help us share the gifts you have freely given. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of the nations, give all your people the mind of Christ. Guide national and international leaders to advocate for policies that look to the interests of the most vulnerable. Humble us when we question your mercy toward those who are different from us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Self-emptying God, stir up compassion for those in need. Send your Spirit to those who are in crisis, troubled, weary, or discouraged. We pray especially for **Jerry Combs, Bucky Fogleman, Ruth Gaines, Melba Iwaniec, Fleecie Jerrell, Jim Phelps, Kathy Ritchey, Helen Seymour, Tony Solazzo, Helen Stokes, Kerry Sullivan, John Beam, Bruce Bell, Angela Boyd, Gray Carpenter, Efran Cruz, Amy Deal, Kayla DeGroat, Lawrence Edwards, Will Eidson, Wanda Enoch, Brooks Estep, Sue Evans, Harold Griffin, Walter Griffin, Stacy Hall, Tempy Kimrey, Cheryl Lauzau, Jill Page, Lee Reaves, Johnny Rogers, Alex Sharp, William Sims, Billy Slaughter, Marlene Sullivan, Sue Swaim, Danielle Woods, and Zach Worlary.** Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A We pray for our congregation and community. Guide our deliberations over difficult decisions. Strengthen our commitment to our ministries. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints whose tongues confessed Jesus Christ as Lord. Keep us confident in your promises until we join them in endless praise. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING AND SETTING OF THE TABLE

“Blessings”

Katie Rose Crane

Words and Music by Laura Story

Please rise for the offertory prayer following the special music.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

C Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

“Come As You Are”

Words and music by David Crowder, Matt Maher, and Ben Glover

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

LORD’S PRAYER

(ELW p. 112)

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.

P Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated. All baptized Christians are invited to share in the gift of Holy Communion with this congregation. Communion will be offered continuously by intinction (worshippers receive a wafer from the pastor on their side of the sanctuary and dip into grape juice in the ceramic chalice or wine in the pewter chalices). Worshippers are invited to come forward down the center aisle and to commune at the station on their side of the sanctuary before returning to their seats via the outside aisles. We offer gluten-free bread for people unable to tolerate gluten in their diet. Simply say “gluten free” when bread is offered. The Baptismal font is open and available for those who wish to remember their Baptism by tracing the sign of the cross in water on their forehead.

ELW 814

“Jesus Loves Me!”
“Here Is Bread”

“Take O Take Me As I Am”

*Setting by Jane Southwick Cool
Setting by Lynette Maynard*

Aaron Thomasson, Flute

After all have communed please rise.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C **Amen.**

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN 538

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

DISMISSAL

P Our worship now is over:

C **Our service now begins.**

A Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Please join us for a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall following the service!

Serving in Worship Today at 10:30

Worship Assistant: Marilyn Adkins

Lector: Heidi Hollingsworth

Acolyte: Luke Lewis

Communion Assistants: Lindsey Isley, Carli Patterson

Communion Setup: John Ritchey

Communion Cleanup: Steve Cole

Council Duty: Jim Clinton

PARISH CALENDAR**Sunday, October 1**

Homecoming

9:30am Sunday School

10:30am Homecoming Celebration

Worship (Sanctuary)

12:00pm Covered Dish Lunch in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, October 2

6:00pm Poundfit

Wednesday, October 4

10:00am Alanon

10:30am Bible Study at Low's

6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice

6:30pm Chapel Choir Practice

7:45pm Alamance Ringers Practice

Thursday, October 5

6:00pm Poundfit

6:30pm ALC Hosts NC Synod Leadership Training

Sunday, October 8

8:30am Contemporary Worship

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Worship

5:00pm Quilting

News and Announcements**WELCOME BACK PASTOR HENRY REHDER!**

This morning we welcome back to ALC Pastor Henry Rehder, our former vicar who will be our sermonist this morning. Pastor Henry is currently pastor of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Ocean Isle Beach, NC and has also served in parish ministry in Summerfield, NC. He and his wife Diane live in Shallotte, NC.

PASTOR RON will be on vacation in Ohio this week. For any emergencies, please call Pastor Bob.

CROPWALK, OCTOBER 7TH

ALC will be participating in the annual Alamance County Crop Walk on October 7th (*next Saturday!*). Please see Martha Sink for more information; participants can register or donate online at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/burlingtonnc/>. Please help us support this great ministry!

THE ALAMANCE LUTHERAN NEW DIRECTORY TEAM (ALMNDT), OTHERWISE NICKNAMED "THE ALMOND TEAM" WILL BE CONTACTING YOU SOON TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER FOR OUR NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY. Pastor Ron would like to have a new directory that has updated phone numbers and addresses and pictures! The directories we have, include beehive hairstyles, mullets, muttonchops beards and poodle skirts. It's a fine representation of Americana, but we know we all have changed- let's come together for a directory that represents us now. We have photographers coming October 29-30th to take your family pictures. Each family gets a free 8x10 and a directory.

As our community of faith at Alamance Lutheran changes, we have the opportunity to update this directory. We have carefully selected this company due to their history of no pressure and professionalism. Please respond to the call from the ALMOND team as they "crack the nut" on our new directory!

SAVE THE DATE- AN AFTERNOON TEA WITH JENN AND SACHIN!

All are invited to come and celebrate the newest leaf of the Agarwal-Ritchey Family Tree that will be meeting the world in January 2018! Join the brave parents to be, Sachin and Jenn, on Saturday October 28, 2017 at 2:00pm at ALC, in the Fellowship Hall for an afternoon celebration with some fun teas. Your presence is all the gift we need, though if you do feel moved to bring something along, we encourage you to bring your favorite dessert, snack or sandwich to pair with the teas (we'll provide the tea!). Everyone is welcome...gentleman are encouraged to come too! More details to come- To RSVP please go the following link

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS FOR A MUSICAL CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION!

Sunday, October 29, 2017 at 4:00 pm, Alamance Lutheran Church Sanctuary

We will celebrate with musical offerings in the gospel choral style as well as with classic organ music. The Graham High School Choir will provide choral sounds including such titles as "Walk in Jerusalem" by Rollo Dillworth, "Ain'a That Good News", "Total Praise" and "You Are Good".

Joining us from the organ department of UNCG will be brilliant doctoral candidate Mengfei Xu (pronounced "shoe"), sharing classic organ standards of the time. This is a perfect way not only to celebrate this special occasion, but also to invite others to our worship space. A free will offering will be taken.

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING- NYG HOUSTON 2018, a journey in growing discipleship and faith. Please save these fundraising dates:

- November 4th, 2017. Rummage/Bake Sale. Please bring donations for the sale to the Breakfast Club's Youth Sunday School room, prior to November 3rd. We will need items to sell, and baked goods. All unsold items will be donated to Hospice Thrift Store. There are a few items that cannot be donated or sold such as baby strollers, cribs, etc. For complete list please go to hopehospice.net. To help us expedite our set up, please bring your items bagged or boxed.
 - December 16th, 2017. We will be helping you WRAP up Christmas. More details to follow for this exciting day! Thank you in your support for the Youth in their mission to Houston.
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Prayers and Concerns

Lord we humbly pray for the residents of the Caribbean, Florida, Mexico, and Texas. We pray for the churches, schools, businesses and hospitals who are impacted by the devastation of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria and the earthquakes in Mexico. We pray for rest for all the relief workers, including those from the ELCA's Disaster Relief teams who have boldly gone into harm's way to provide hope and mercy to those who have lost everything. Lord come and give them rest and give us the resources to share with them so that their relief efforts will be supported in full! Lord in your abundant mercy, we humbly pray.

We pray for Sue Swaim, Matt Swaim's mother, who is recovering from surgery.

We pray for Helen Stokes, who is recovering at Twin Lakes following a fall.

We pray for Jerry Combs, who is awaiting additional treatment for heart issues.

We pray for Bruce Bell, husband of Rev. Glynn Bell, who recovering from a procedure to restore blood flow to his leg at a nursing facility in Virginia and other health problems.

We pray for Will Eidson, young son of Pastor Brad and Lauren Eidson.

We pray for Angela Boyd, who is awaiting a kidney and liver transplant.

If you know of anyone who is sick, has had a recent hospitalization, has a surgery scheduled, or is homebound who is not currently on our prayer concern list, please call or text Pastor Ron.