

W E L C O M E T O W O R S H I P



# Renewed in Christ

By God's great mercy **we have been born anew**  
to a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3b

**Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**August 7, 2022**  
**8:30 am**

**Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**102 West Rose Tree Road**  
**Media, Pennsylvania 19063**  
[www.relcmedia.org](http://www.relcmedia.org)

# Welcome to Reformation!

**A special welcome to visitors** – we pray that the encounter with God in worship will nurture us in Christian faith and equip us for our life of loving service and justice in the world.

**Children in worship are a blessing.** We invite our smallest members to sit toward the front where it is easiest for them to see and hear worship and to join the pastors for the Sermon on the Steps.



**Worship bags** (filled with coloring books and crayons) are available at the back of the sanctuary and can be taken to your seat.

**A play space** is also available at the back of the sanctuary with additional books and soft toys.

**A professionally staffed nursery** is available for children from birth to age 4. Patty Boccella is our nursery attendant. Worship is livestreamed to the nursery as well as to the lobby.

**All are welcome at the table** of our Lord Jesus Christ where God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. We believe and teach that in the Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Instructions for distribution are printed in the service bulletin.



**Our Prayer List** includes prayer requests for a 3-week period. If continued prayers are desired, please make the request again. To make your prayer request known, please call the church office (610-891-0600, ext. 115) or send e-mail to [rlc@relcmedia.org](mailto:rlc@relcmedia.org). If you would like your prayer request to be e-mailed to the congregation, please state that in your request.

**Williams Personal PA Receivers** are available for use by the hearing impaired.

**Large print bulletins are available from an usher.**

# Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

## August 7, 2022 · 8:30 am

☒ = Congregation

☒ = Assisting Minister

☒ = Presiding Minister

# GATHERING

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

*PRELUDE*

*I Am the Bread of Life*

setting, Ron Schmoltze

*WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*

☒ This is the day that the Lord has made.

☒ **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.** (Psalm 118:24)

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*

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

☒ **Amen.**

☒ 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.

☒ **Amen.**

☒ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

☒ Most merciful God,

☒ **we confess that we are captive 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.**

☒ God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

☒ **Amen.**



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,  
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;  
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;  
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;  
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;  
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,  
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.  
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.  
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

### GREETING

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY*

☞ Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

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

*FIRST READING*

Genesis 15:1-6

☞ A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

☞ The Word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

**A** A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### GOPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

*After the reading has concluded:*

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*SERMON ON THE STEPS*

*SERMON*

Vicar Eileen Ruppel-Doan

*Silence for reflection*

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

*APOSTLES' CREED*

**P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C** **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 to the dead. 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*

*Opportunity will be provided for you to offer prayers for concerns on your heart, silently or aloud. Please conclude each prayer petition with the words, “Lord, in your mercy.”*

- A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

- A** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

- A** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**C** **Amen.**

*PEACE*

- 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 saying “Peace be with you” or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*OFFERING*

*Tithes and offerings are gathered for the mission of the church*

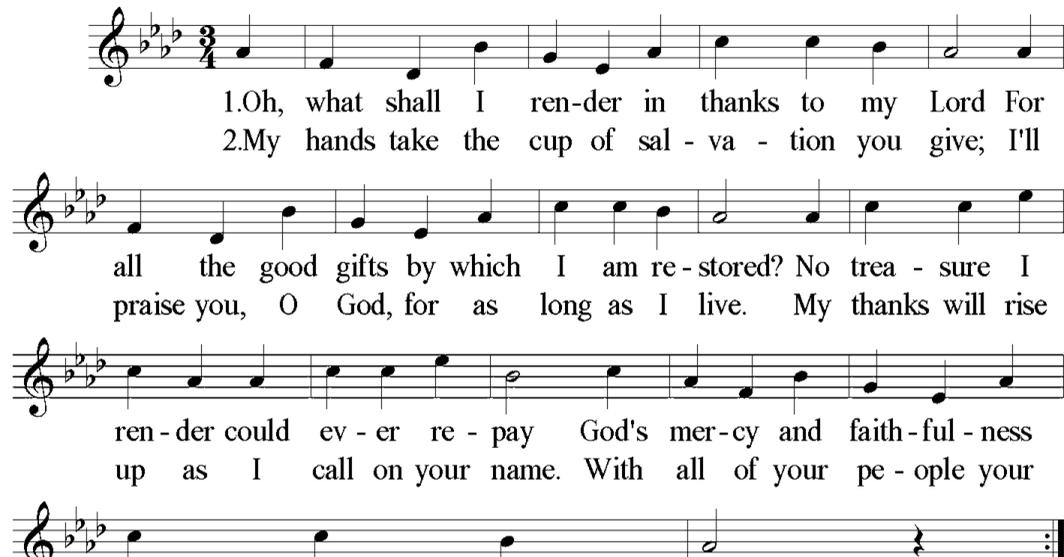
*MUSICAL OFFERING*

*Andante Moderato*

Healey Willan

## SETTING THE TABLE

The assembly stands to sing as the gifts are brought forward.



1. Oh, what shall I ren-der in thanks to my Lord For  
2. My hands take the cup of sal - va - tion you give; I'll  
all the good gifts by which I am re - stored? No trea - sure I  
praise you, O God, for as long as I live. My thanks will rise  
ren - der could ev - er re - pay God's mer - cy and faith - ful - ness  
up as I call on your name. With all of your pe - ople your  
new ev - ry day.  
good - ness pro - claim.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. God of all creation,

**C** all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 our thanks and praise.

- ☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho-ly Ho-ly Ho - ly\_\_ Ho - ly God of pow-er God of\_\_  
might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Bless'd is he who  
comes in God's name. Sing ho-san-na in the high\_\_\_\_ est,  
sing ho - san - na at the\_\_\_\_ sight.

- ☐ Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer...  
Through him all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

### *LORD'S PRAYER*

- ☐ With the confidence of children of God, let us pray:
- ☑ **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.**

*COMMUNION*

☐ The gifts of God for the people of God.

☑ **Thanks be to God!**

*The assembly is seated.*

All are welcome at the table of the Lord! We believe and teach that Christ is present in the mystery of the sacrament of Holy Communion and that by communing with him we receive forgiveness of our sin.

Communion will be distributed by intinction – after you receive the bread, you may dip it in the chalice on the bread tray, which has grape juice, or the chalice held by the communion assistant, which has wine. Children who have not received instruction for communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to walk to communion, please let an usher know so that a pastor can bring communion to your seat. Gluten free wafers are available upon request to the pastor distributing the bread.

*As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: Amen*

*The assembly sings the following during communion:*

*LAMB OF GOD*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*After all have communed, the assembly stands.*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C** **Amen.**

*PRAYER*

- A** Let us pray. Generous God, we give you thanks that again this day you have opened wide your hands and satisfied us with the food of life, the body and blood of Christ. Sharing your compassionate heart, may we be blessed and given to all who hunger and thirst; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## SENDING

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

*BLESSING*

- P** Almighty and merciful God † bless, preserve, and keep you, this day and forevermore.  
**C** **Amen.**



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;  
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;  
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.  
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.  
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.  
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.  
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

## DISMISSAL

**A** Called by Christ,

**C** We invite all people, serve our neighbors, and build a living faith.

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

## Holy Manna

Dale Wood

**To see the list of today's worship volunteers,  
you can go to [relcmedia.org/worshipteam](https://relcmedia.org/worshipteam), scan here:**



**or visit the Worship Team information  
stand in the lobby.**

**OUR MISSION:** Called by Christ, we **INVITE** all people,  
**SERVE** our neighbors, and **BUILD** a living faith.

**WELCOME:** Called by Christ we invite all people, celebrating the diversity of God's creation. Reformation is an affirming congregation for all: rejoicing with the young and old, welcoming people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, working to cultivate an accessible and inclusive community for all abilities, and embracing all races, cultures, and faith traditions.

We serve our neighbors following the teachings of Christ. Reformation responds to the needs of the most vulnerable - providing nourishment and comfort, supporting the work of the local and global church, and protecting God's creation for future generations.

We build a living faith emboldened by the Holy Spirit. Reformation embodies the unconditional love of God through worshiping and learning together and valuing the gifts of everyone. To create the fullness of our community of faith, we nurture relationships, pursue racial equity and gender justice, and advocate for the wellbeing of the marginalized.

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# Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church Leadership Team

To contact those with an extension please call **610-891-0600** and use the listed extension number or send e-mail to the listed address.

**Urgent Pastoral Care Line: 610-314-7747**

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**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9:00am – 3:30pm  
Friday, Closed