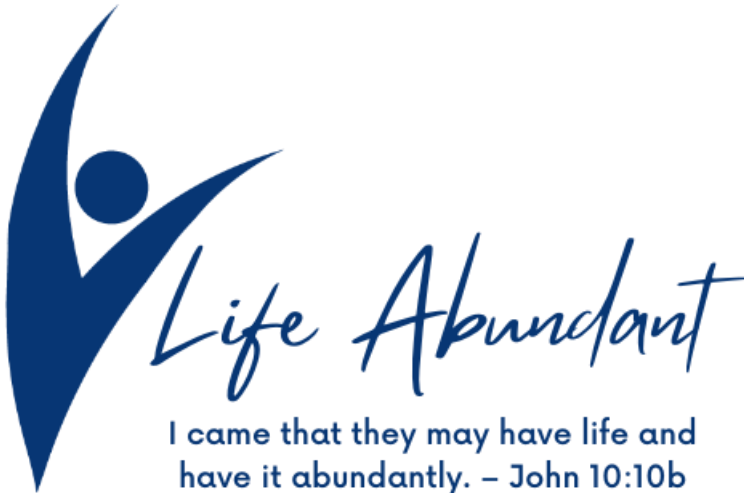


W E L C O M E T O W O R S H I P



**The Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024
8:30 am**

**Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church
102 West Rose Tree Road
Media, Pennsylvania 19063
www.relcmedia.org**

Welcome to Reformation!

Land acknowledgement – Reformation is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Lenapehoking (Lenni-Lenape) people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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 Christ is present in the bread and wine. Instructions for distribution are printed in the service bulletin.

Our Prayer List can be found at relcmedia.org/virtualchurch. To make your prayer request known, please call the church office (610-891-0600, ext. 115) or send an e-mail to rlc@relcmedia.org.

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

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.



Wo

Scan to give online through our secure platform or through Venmo.

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 · 8:30 am

☒ = Congregation

☒ = Assisting Minister

☒ = Presiding Minister

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

In the Bulb There is a Flower

setting, James Biery

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

☒ Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☒ **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

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

☒ **Amen.**

☒ Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

The assembly remembers their baptism as water is poured into the font. Worshipers may touch the water as a reminder of their baptism when they approach the altar to receive Holy Communion or when they leave the service.

☒ We give you thanks, holy and gracious God, for you created the waters of the earth: wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.

☒ **We thank you, O God.**

☒ You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you. Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us. You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

☒ **We praise you, O God.**

☒ Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism. Wash away all the sin within us, and renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

☒ **Amen.**



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
 his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
 All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
 all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, wone God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

ROGATION BLESSING

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Acts 10:44-48

A A reading from Acts.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

A A reading from first John.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Al - le - lu - ia, 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 according to John.

☛ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

After the reading has concluded:

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☛ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

Pastor Alina Gayeuski

Silence for reflection.

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



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

NICENE CREED

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

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 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** Let us rejoice in the risen life of Christ and pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

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

The prayers conclude:

- A** Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

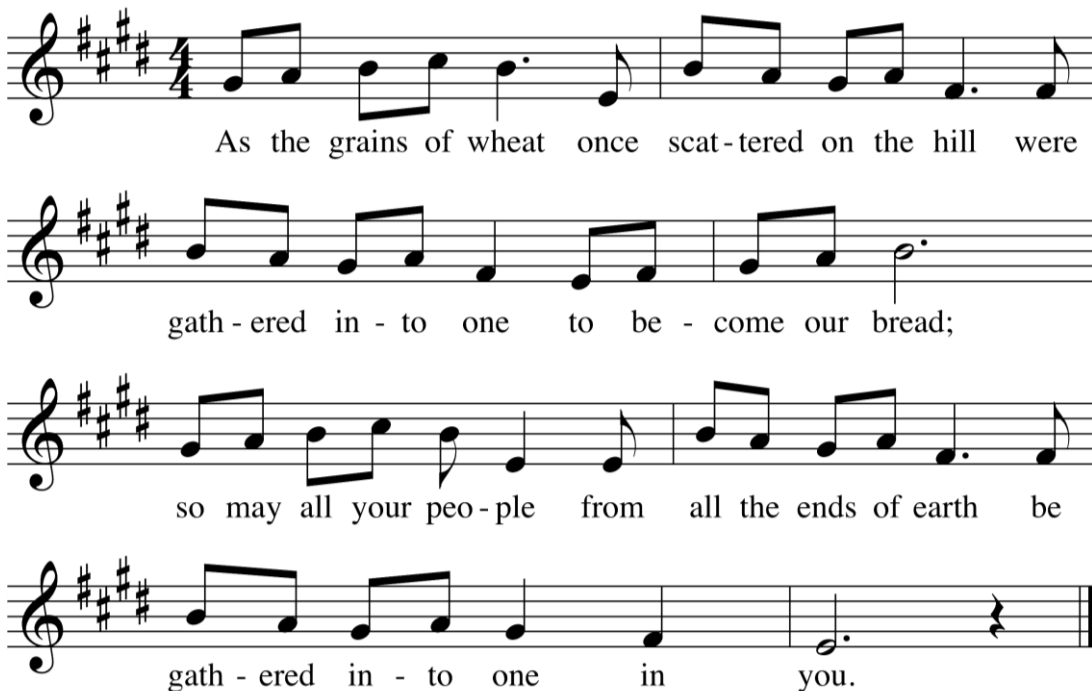
MUSICAL OFFERING

I Sing the Might Power of God
Chancel Choir

arr. James Koerts

SETTING THE TABLE

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



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath - ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be
gath - ered in - to one in you.

OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God,
C ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

P Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! . . . We proclaim the mystery of faith.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Holy God, we remember your Son, . . . His resurrection for us all.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we beg for your Spirit. . . . Nourish the life of the earth.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three praise tomorrow, praise forever!

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

☞ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

☛ **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

☞ This is the feast of victory for our God!

☛ **Alleluia! 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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
(Easter:) you broke the bonds of sin and of
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
death:
peace:
love:

Final Stanza



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

After all have communed, the assembly stands.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A** Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
C Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

☐ Let us pray. Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

☐ The God of life, who raised Jesus from the dead, who sends forth the Spirit to renew the face of the earth, be merciful to you and ✠ bless you, now and forever.

☑ Amen.



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

DISMISSAL

A Called by Christ,

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

A Go in peace. Share the good news!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

March in D

David N. Johnson

**To see the list of today’s worship volunteers,
you can go to relcmedia.org/worshipteam,
scan here:**



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

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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.

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.

The Rev. Alina S. Gayeuski <i>Lead Pastor</i>	ext. 109 PastorAlina@relcmedia.org
The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan <i>Pastor</i>	ext. 108 PastorEileen@relcmedia.org
Vicar Paula Estornell <i>Deacon Intern</i>	VicarPaula@relcmedia.org
Christine Corson <i>Senior Administrative Assistant</i>	ext. 112 rlc@relcmedia.org
Andrea Menta <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	ext. 110 rlc@relcmedia.org
Valerie Rozek <i>Director of Music</i>	cell: 440-478-8163 varozek@relcmedia.org
Erik Flaten <i>Director of Contemporary Music</i>	cell: 509-528-8979 erik.flaten@relcmedia.org
Liz Hazlett <i>Children's Choir Director</i>	lizhazlett@relcmedia.org
John Grantland <i>Council President</i>	president@relcmedia.org

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