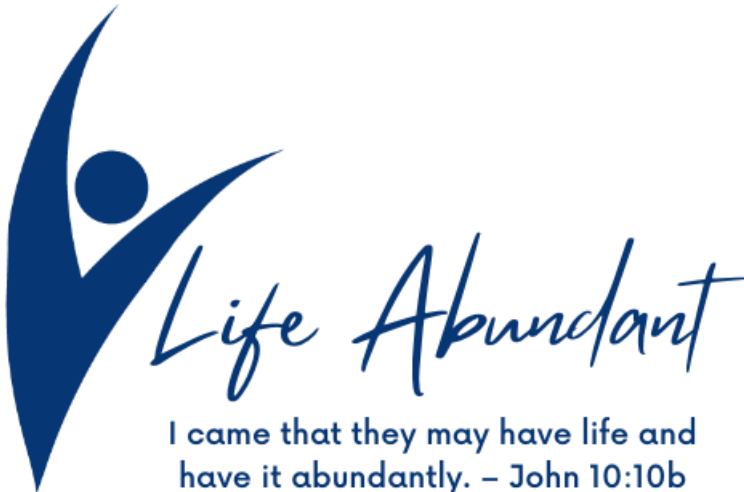


# W E L C O M E   T O   W O R S H I P



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 5, 2024**  
**11:00 am**

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

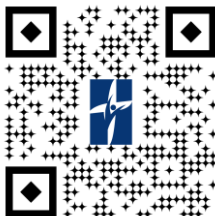
**A professionally staffed nursery** is available for children from birth to age 4. Patty Boccella is our nursery attendant. Worship is livestreamed to the nursery as well as to the lobby.

**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](http://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](mailto:rlc@relcmedia.org).

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

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



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

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

## May 5, 2024 · 11:00 am

☒ = Congregation

☒ = Assisting Minister

☒ = Presiding Minister

# GATHERING

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

## PRELUDE

### 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.**

*GATHERING SONG*

*Never Walk Alone*

Verse 1      **You are my shepherd faithful forever  
Your hand is strong where my faith is weak  
Close as my heartbeat You won't forsake me  
You are the love that will carry me**

Pre-Chorus    **And I won't be afraid  
I will trust Your heart and say**

Chorus        **I will never ever ever walk alone  
You are with us for us always holding on  
Though I wander Your love goes further  
You are my hope and future  
I will never walk alone**

Verse 2       **Questions may haunt us casting a shadow  
Still You're the hope and the fire in me  
I will not tremble I will not stumble  
You are my courage my bravery**

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

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*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.

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So 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.

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This 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.*

An-cient words, ev-er true, chang-ing me, chang-ing  
you; We have come with o-pen hearts, O let the an-cient words im - part.

## GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

☐ The Holy Gospel according to John.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I 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. <sup>16</sup>You 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. <sup>17</sup>I 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.*

*HYMN OF THE DAY*

*Friend of God*

Verse           **Who am I that You are mindful of me  
That You hear me when I call  
Is it true that You are thinking of me  
How You love me it's amazing  
(It's amazing it's amazing)**

Chorus           **I am a friend of God  
I am a friend of God  
I am a friend of God  
You call me friend (repeat)**

Verse

Chorus

Bridge           **God Almighty Lord of Glory  
You have called me friend (repeat bridge)**

Chorus

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*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 Don’t Have Much*

Leonhardt

## SETTING THE TABLE

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



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

## 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.

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

Crowder, Dodson, Maher, and Waldrop  
Erik Flaten

Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly

7 Ho - ly Heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry, your

12 glo - ry. Bless-ed is He who comes comes in the na - me of the

16 Lo - rd. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! . . . We proclaim the mystery of faith.
- ☑ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- ☐ Holy God, we remember your Son, . . . His resurrection for us all.
- ☑ **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- ☐ Holy God, we beg for your Spirit. . . . Nourish the life of the earth.
- ☑ **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**
- ☐ You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three . . . . praise tomorrow, praise forever!
- ☑ **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.:

*Behold the Lamb of God*

Matt Maher

Vocals

And now we see Your sac - ri-fice, the great - est gift, our  
great - est prize. Be-hold the Lamb of God, be-hold the lamb of  
God, who takes a-way the sins of the world.

COMMUNION SONG

*My Worth is Not in What I Own (at the Cross)*

Verse 1      **My worth is not in what I own  
Not in the strength of flesh and bone  
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross**

Verse 2      **My worth is not in skill or name  
In win or lose in pride or shame  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross**

Chorus        **I rejoice in my Redeemer  
Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul  
I will trust in Him no other  
My soul is satisfied in Him alone**

Verse 3      **As summer flowers we fade and die  
Fame youth and beauty hurry by  
But life eternal calls to us at the cross**

Verse 4      **I will not boast in wealth or might  
Or human wisdom's fleeting light  
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross**

Chorus

Verse 5      **Two wonders here that I confess  
My worth and my unworthiness  
My value fixed my ransom paid at the cross**

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*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*

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

## SENDING

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

*BLESSING*

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

Verse 1      **It all comes down to this  
What you require of me  
Love my neighbor as myself  
And You above all things**

Chorus        **Act justly love mercy walk humbly  
With You God  
In all things in all ways walk humbly  
With You God**

Verse 2       **It all comes down to this  
To be Your hands and feet  
Good news to all the world  
The truth will set us free**

Chorus

Bridge        **It's beauty for ashes  
It's mourning to dancing  
It's closer and closer  
The Kingdom of heaven (repeat)**

Verse 3       **Years from now we'll see  
The fruit our hands have sown  
Faith just like a seed  
The only way it grows**

Chorus

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*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!

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

## 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  
*Lead Pastor*

ext. 109  
PastorAlina@relcmedia.org

The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan  
*Pastor*

ext. 108  
PastorEileen@relcmedia.org

Vicar Paula Estornell  
*Deacon Intern*

VicarPaula@relcmedia.org

Christine Corson  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*

ext. 112  
rlc@relcmedia.org

Andrea Menta  
*Administrative Assistant*

ext. 110  
rlc@relcmedia.org

Valerie Rozek  
*Director of Music*

cell: 440-478-8163  
varozek@relcmedia.org

Erik Flaten  
*Director of Contemporary Music*

cell: 509-528-8979  
erik.flaten@relcmedia.org

Liz Hazlett  
*Children's Choir Director*

lizhazlett@relcmedia.org

John Grantland  
*Council President*

president@relcmedia.org

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