

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God. - 1 John 4:7

# **Reformation Lutheran Church**

November 17, 2024 | 11:00 am Thanks Living Sunday

### Welcome to Reformation!

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

**Welcome!** First time visitors are invited to stop by our welcome center in the lobby. All are invited to **check in** with us using the friendship pads in your row or online at relcmedia.org/hello.

**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 recognize and honor all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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. A <u>Pray Ground</u> space is available during worship at the back of the sanctuary. <u>Worship Bags</u> can be filled at the Pray Ground and taken to your seat. <u>A professionally staffed nursery</u> is available for children from birth to age 4. Worship is livestreamed to the nursery as well as to the lobby. A family restroom is located on the lower level.

**All are welcome at the table** where we celebrate the presence of Christ. As ushers direct you forward:

- 1. Receive the bread (for gluten free, ask a pastor during distribution)
- 2. Dip the bread in one of the chalices
  - Grape juice is on the bread tray held by the pastor
  - Wine is held by the Communion assistant to the side of the pastor

Children and those who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please let an usher know if you need Communion brought to your seat.

**Our Prayer List** can be found at relcmedia.org/virtualchurch. To make your prayer request known, please call or email the church office at 610-891-0600, rlc@relcmedia.org.

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

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.

## **Gathering**

\*Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are indicated in bold

**Prelude** 

Come, Light Our Hearts

McCracken

### **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\*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.** 

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

[Silence is kept for reflection]

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Reform us to be a church empowered by your love, acting for justice and seeking the healing of your whole creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.** 

## **Gathering Song\***

### **Great Things**

Verse 1 Come let us worship our God

Come let us bow at Gods feet You have done great things See what our Savior has done See how Gods love overcomes

You will do great things God you do great things

Chorus O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave

You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things

We dance in Your freedom awake and alive O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high

O God You have done great things

Verse 2 You've been faithful through every storm

You'll be faithful forevermore You have done great things And I know You will do it again For Your promise is yes and amen

You will do great things God You do great things

Chorus

Bridge Hallelujah God above it all

Hallelujah God unshakable

Hallelujah You have done great things

(REPEAT)

Chorus

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## **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 our Parent, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

## Word

# First Reading Joel 2:21-27

A reading from Joel.

- <sup>21</sup> Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things!
- <sup>22</sup> Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- <sup>23</sup> O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. <sup>24</sup> The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- <sup>25</sup> I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.
- <sup>26</sup> You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. <sup>27</sup> You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

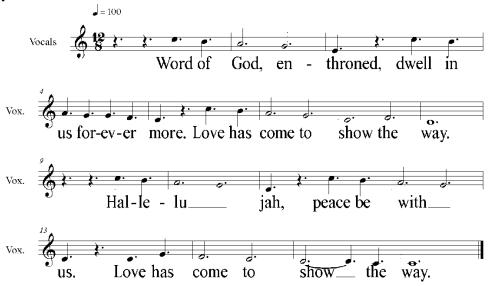
A reading from first Timothy.

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Acclamation\***



Gospel\* Matthew 6:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

## **Sermon on the Steps**

Sermon

Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan

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

## **Hymn of the Day\***Blessed Be Your Name

Verse 1 Blessed be Your name, In the land that is plentiful

Where your streams of abundance flow

Blessed be Your name

Verse 2 Blessed be Your name, When I'm found in the desert place

Though I walk through the wilderness

Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus Ev'ry blessing You pour our I'll turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in Lord, Still I will say

Chorus Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Verse 3 Blessed be Your name, When the sun's shining down on me

When the world's all as it should be

Blessed be Your name

Verse 4 Blessed be Your name, On the road marked with suffering

Though there's pain in the offering

Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge X2 You give and take away, You give and take away

My heart will choose to say, Lord blessed be your name

Chorus

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## **Apostles' Creed\***

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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\***

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 prayer petition:]

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

[The prayers conclude:]

Trusting in your mercy and goodness, we bring before you these prayers and whatever else you see we need, in the name of the one who sets us free, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

## Peace\*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

[The people greet one another with "Peace be with you" and a sign of Christ's peace.]

## **Offering**

[Use pew envelopes or scan code to give online]

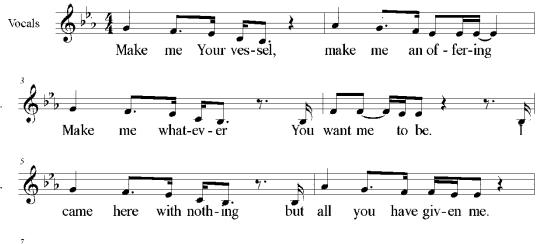


## **Musical Offering**

We Give You Thanks

Jordan, Ingram, Leonard

# Setting the Table\*





## Offering Prayer\*

Let us pray. Blessed are you,

O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **Great Thanksgiving\***

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



Blessed are you, . . . as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night . . . remembrance of me.

## Lord's Prayer\*

Joining our hearts and voices, 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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Thanks be to God!

All are welcome at the table where we celebrate the presence of Christ. As ushers direct you forward:

- 1. Receive the bread (for gluten free, ask a pastor during distribution)
- 2. Dip the bread in one of the chalices
  - Grape juice is on the bread tray held by the pastor
  - Wine is held by the Communion assistant to the side of the pastor

Children and those who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please let an usher know if you need Communion brought to your seat.

[The assembly sings the following during communion:]

## **Lamb of God**



## Communion 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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## **Table Blessing\***

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

## **Prayer after Communion\***

Let us pray. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

# **Sending**

# **Blessing\***

God all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.** 

## Sending Song\* Honey in the Rock

Chorus 1

There's honey in the rock, Water in the stone

Manna on the ground, No matter where I go
I don't need to worry, Now that I know

Everything I need You've got, There's honey in the rock

Verse 1 Praying for a miracle, Thirsty for the Living Well
Only You can satisfy
Sweetness at the mercy seat, Now I've tasted it's not hard to see
Only You can satisfy

Chorus 2 There's honey in the rock (4x)

Verse 2 Freedom where the Spirit is, Bounty in the wilderness You will always satisfy

Chorus 3

There's honey in the rock, Water in the stone
Manna on the ground, No matter where I go
I don't need to worry, Now that I know
Everything I need You've got

There's honey in the rock, Purpose in Your plan Power in the blood, Healing in Your hands Started flowing when You said it is done Everything You did's enough There's honey in the rock

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## Dismissal\*

Called by Christ,

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

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

#### Instrumental Musicians

Matthew Murphy, Guitar Michael Hagarman, Bass Noah Adams, Drums

## **Today's Worship Team**

relcmedia.org/worshipteam



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#### Welcome to Reformation!

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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