



Beloved Community

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

Reformation Lutheran Church

March 16, 2025 | 11:00 am

Second Sunday in Lent

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 [Pray Ground](#) space is available during worship at the back of the sanctuary. [Worship Bags](#) can be filled at the Pray Ground and taken to your seat. [A professionally staffed nursery](#) 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
 - White grape juice is on the bread tray held by the pastor
 - Red wine is held by the Communion assistant to the side of the pastor

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.

Worship Reflections and Drawing Space

This space is for everyone to make notes, ask questions, doodle, and offer insights or ideas. Feel free to tear out this page to take with you or add to the art display journal next to the pulpit.

Quote to Consider:

“This is the power of gathering:
it inspires us, delightfully, to be more
hopeful, more joyful, more
thoughtful: in a word, more alive.”
– Alice Waters

Question to Consider:

What images or illustrations best
show God’s love?

Gathering

*Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are indicated in bold

Prelude

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,

we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, + God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

Gathering Song*

Better is One Day

Verse 1 **How lovely is Your dwelling place
O Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings**

Chorus **Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
(Than thousands elsewhere)**

Verse 2 **One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place
Your glory dwells
(REPEAT)**

Chorus

Bridge **My heart and flesh cry out For You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You to You**

Bridge **Better is one day better is one day
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day better is one day
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere**

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.**

Kyrie

♩ = 74 Waliger arranged by Flaten

Vocals 1
God have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy God have mer - cy

Vocals 2
God have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy God have mer - cy

4
on - us, God have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy

on - us, God have mer - cy Christ have

7
God have mer - cy on - us...

mer - cy God have mer - cy on - us...

Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

A reading from Genesis.

¹ 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.” ² 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?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ 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.” ⁵ 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.” ⁶ And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. ⁷ Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸ But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:17—4:1

A reading from Philippians.

¹⁷ Siblings, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my siblings, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*

Vocals

O-pen my ears God Help me to hear your voice. O-pen my
ears God Help me to hear.

Gospel*

Luke 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon on the Steps

Sermon

Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan

Hymn of the Day*

Will We Ever Rise (Broken People)

Verse 1 **Will we ever rise will we ever rise above the fear
Can we learn to see the need can we share humanity
I can see another day come**

Chorus **Broken people we can be made whole
We can be made whole we can be made whole
As we lay down our weapons open up our hearts
Love is breaking us
Love remaking us**

Verse 2 **Will we ever rise will we ever rise above the pain
Can we learn another way forgive as You forgave
I can see another day come**

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*

Returning to the Lord, our God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

[After each prayer petition:]

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

[The prayers conclude:]

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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.]

Meal

Offering

[Use pew envelopes or scan code to give online]



Musical Offering

Promises

Maverick City Music
and Naomi Raine

[Children are invited to join the pastor at the altar.]

Setting the Table*

Brooke Ligertwood

Make me Your ves-sel, make me an of-fer-ing

3
Make me what-ev-er You want me__ to be.

5
came here with noth-ing but all you have giv-en me.

7
Je - sus, bring new wine out of me__

Offering Prayer*

Let us pray. Holy God,
gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, 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

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, mighty, and merciful Lord,
. . . be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Lord's Prayer*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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
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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.

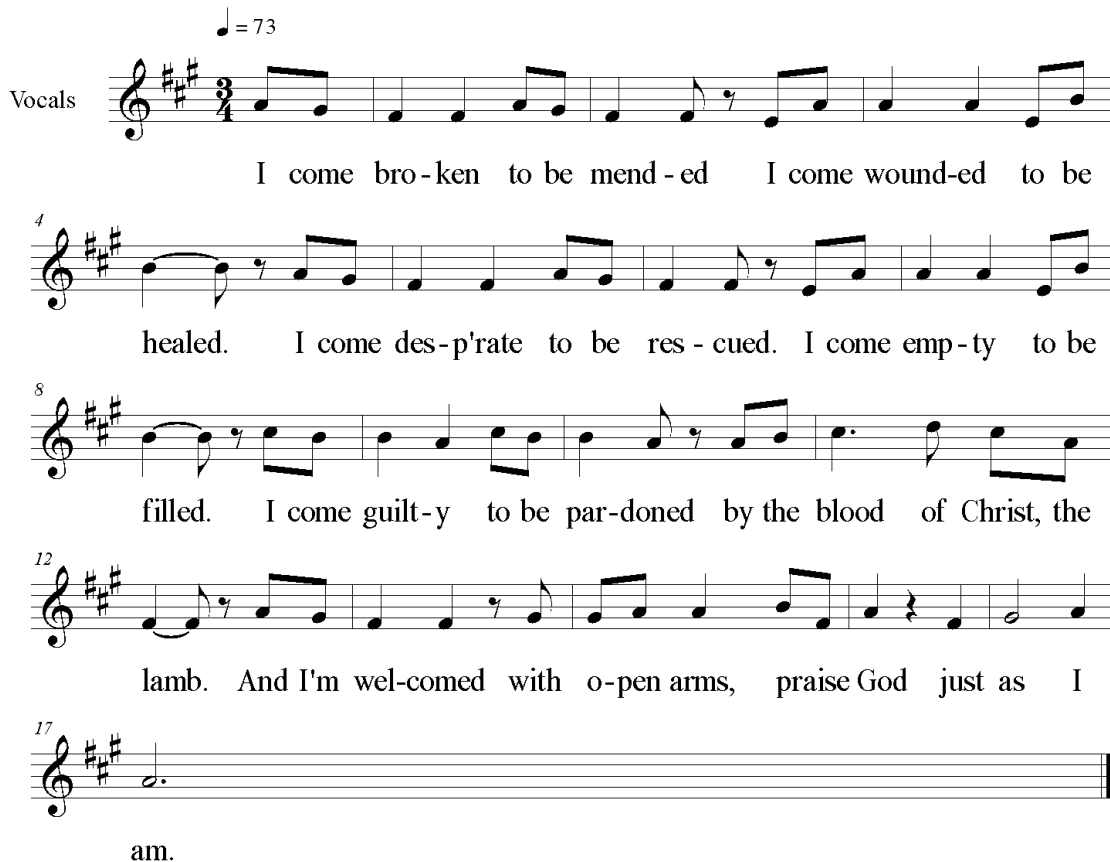
[The assembly sings the following during communion:]

Lamb of God

Travis Cottrell

$\text{♩} = 73$

Vocals



I come bro-ken to be mend-ed I come wound-ed to be
4 healed. I come des-p'rate to be res-cued. I come emp-ty to be
8 filled. I come guilt-y to be par-doned by the blood of Christ, the
12 lamb. And I'm wel-comed with o-pen arms, praise God just as I
17 am.

Communion Song

Every Promise

- Verse 1 **From the breaking of the dawn To the setting of the sun
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
Words of power strong to save That will never pass away
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
For Your covenant is sure And on this I am secure
I can stand on ev'ry promise from Your word**
- Verse 2 **When I stumble and I sin Condemnation pressing in
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
You are faithful to forgive That in freedom I might live
So I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
Guilt to innocence restored You remember sins no more
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word**
- Verse 3 **When I'm faced with anguished choice I will listen for Your voice
And I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
Through this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with Your hand
As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
And You've promised to complete Ev'ry work begun in me
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word**
- Verse 4 **Hope that lifts me from despair Love that casts out ev'ry fear
As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
Not forsaken not alone For the Comforter has come
And I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word
Grace sufficient grace for me Grace for all who will believe
We will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word**

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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. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing*

Almighty and merciful God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

Sending Song*

My Feet Are on the Rock

Verse 1 **I can see the clouds roll in
I can feel the winds they try to shake me
I will not be moved my feet are on the Rock**

Verse 2 **I can feel the waters rise
I can hear the howling lies that haunt me
Fear won't hold me now my feet are on the Rock**

Chorus **When I feel my hope about to break
I will cling to Your unchanging grace
Let the waters come and the earth give way
I'll be dancing in the rain
(My feet are on the Rock)**

Verse 3 **I can see the morning light
I can feel the joy on the horizon
Here my faith is found I stand on solid ground**

Chorus

Bridge **On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
So stomp your feet and clap your hands
Our feet are on the Rock (repeat 2 more times)**

Chorus, repeat Chorus

Ending **My feet are on the Rock
My feet are on the Rock
My feet are on the Rock
My feet are on the Rock**

Dismissal*

Called by Christ,

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

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Instrumental Musicians

Matthew Murphy, Guitar

Michael Hagarman, Bass

Today's Worship Team

relcmedia.org/worshipteam



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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