

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

# **Reformation Lutheran Church**

June 22, 2025 | 8:30 am Second Sunday After Pentecost

#### 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
  - 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.

**Worship is livestreamed** and recorded. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the balcony or speak to a pastor.

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** 

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Al Roberts

#### **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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 



#### **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. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### Word

First Reading Isaiah 65:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. <sup>2</sup> I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; <sup>3</sup> a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; 4who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; 5 who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. <sup>6</sup> See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps <sup>7</sup> their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. 8 Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. <sup>9</sup> I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Galatians 3:23-29

A reading from Galatians.

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

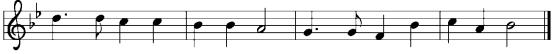
# **Gospel Acclamation\***



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel\* Luke 8:26-39

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup> Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—<sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) 30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. 31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. <sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. 34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. 37 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. 38 The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

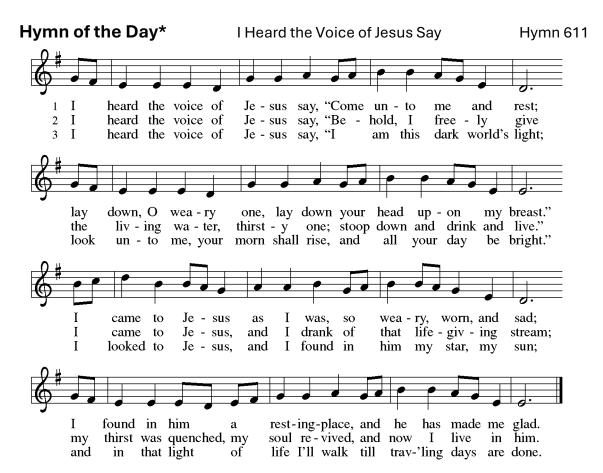
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon on the Steps** 

Sermon

Deacon Pat Polilli



### **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:]

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through 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]

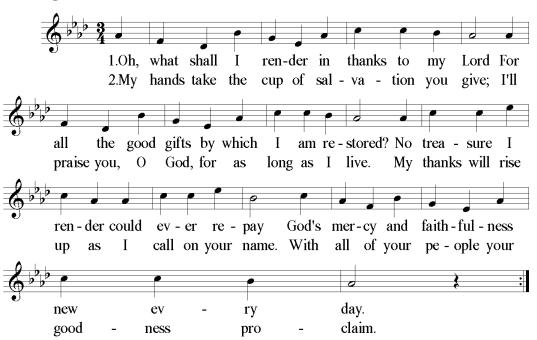


### **Musical Offering**

He Leadeth Me

John Purifoy

# **Setting the Table\***



### Offering Prayer\*

Let us pray. God of all creation,

all you have made is good, and your loves 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\***

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

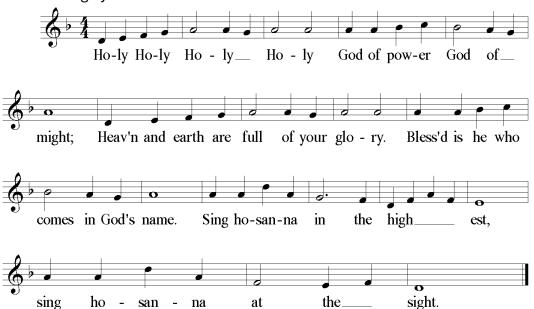
Lift up your hearts.

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:



at

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer...

na

san

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 the 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.

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)
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  - 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.

[The assembly sings the following during communion:]

#### **Lamb of God**



#### **Communion Song**

Here is Bread

Hymn 483

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

#### Refrain

In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever. In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

- 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us. Know the grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here.
- 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us. We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified.

### **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. 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. **Amen.** 

# **Sending**

#### Blessing\*

Almighty and merciful God + bless, preserve, and keep you, this day and forevermore.

Amen.

## Sending Song\*

#### On Our Way Rejoicing

Hymn 537



#### Dismissal\*

Called by Christ,

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

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** 

Trumpet Tune in A

David N. Johnson

# **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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