



Reformation Lutheran Church

September 7, 2025 | 11:00 am

Thirteenth 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 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.

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

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*

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

- Verse 1 **You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand**
- Chorus **And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine**
- Verse 2 **Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now**
- Chorus **And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine**
- Bridge **Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Saviour (repeat bridge)**
- Chorus 2 **I will call upon Your name
Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine**

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. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Installation of Christian Education Leaders

Word

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philemon 1-21

A reading from Philemon.


¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

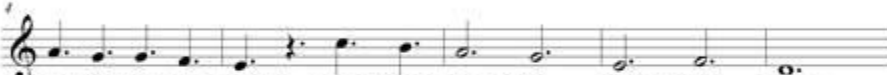
The Word of the Lord.


Thanks be to God.


Gospel Acclamation*

$\text{♩} = 100$

Vocals 
Word of God, en - throned, dwell in

Vox. 
us for-ev-er more. Love has come to show the way.

Vox. 
Hal-le - lu____ jah, peace be with____

Vox. 
us. Love has come to show____ the way.

Gospel*

Luke 14:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon on the Steps

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sermon

Pastor Alina Gayeuski

Hymn of the Day*

I Will Follow

**Intro Where You go I'll go Where You stay I'll stay
 When You move I'll move I will follow**

**Verse 1 All Your ways are good All Your ways are sure
 I will trust in You alone Higher than my sight
 High above my life I will trust in You alone**

**Chorus Where You go I'll go Where You stay I'll stay
 When You move I'll move I will follow You
 Whom You love I'll love How You serve I'll serve
 If this life I lose I will follow (You)**

Interlude Yeah I will follow You yeah

**Verse 2 Light into the world Light into my life
 I will live for You alone You're the One I seek
 Knowing I will find All I need in You alone
 In You alone**

Chorus

**Bridge In You there's life everlasting In You there's freedom for my soul
 In You there's joy unending joy And I will follow**

Chorus, repeat Chorus

**Ending Yeah I will follow You yeah
 I will follow You yeah
 I will follow You yeah**

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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 confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all those in need.

[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.]

Meal

Offering

[Use pew envelopes, scan to give online,
or text 844-628-3176 with the amount you wish to give.]



Musical Offering

These are the Days

Lauren Diagle

Setting the Table*

Vocals

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

Vox.

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

Vox.

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

Vox.

Je - sus, bring new wine out of me.

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:

Crowder, Dodson, Maher, and Waldrop
Erik Flaten

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

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

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

Lo - rd. Ho - sa - na in the high - est._____

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
 - White grape juice is on the bread tray held by the pastor
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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

$\text{♩} = 73$

Vocals 

I come bro-ken to be mend-ed I come wound-ed to be

Vox. 


healed. I come des-p'rate to be res-cued. I come emp-ty to be

Vox. 

filled. I come guilt-y to be par-doned by the blood of Christ, the

Vox. 

lamb. And I'm wel-come with o-pen arms, praise God just as I

Vox. 

am.

Communion Song

God's Highway

Verse 1 **My feet are strong my eyes are clear
I cannot see the way from here
But on we go You know the way
And in Your arms You keeps me safe**

Chorus **Fear not keep on watch and pray
Walk in the light of God's highway**

Verse 2 **The shadows flee the valley's deep
But evil cannot conquer me
Your rod and staff they protect me
You give me rest You give me peace**

Chorus

Verse 3 **I see the shore from troubled seas
This tiny ship that carries me
It is not yet but it will be
So heaven come it's You we need**

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 of Communion*

Let us pray. Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to those who are homebound. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing*

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

Amen.

Sending Song*

Burn Like A Star

- Verse 1 **We were born for greater things
We were born to chase Your dreams
Come my Lord awaken holy fire
We are turning from our sin
We are praying once again
Come my Lord awaken holy fire
We are aching for the real thing
Hearts are open wide**
- Chorus 1 **Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts
Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts
Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts
Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts**
- Verse 2 **Send revival start in us
Set Your holy spark in us
Send us out in resurrection power
History's about to change
We are rising once again
Send us out in resurrection power
We are aching for the real thing
Hearts are open wide**
- Chorus 1 **Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts
Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts
Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts
Burn like a star light a fire in our hearts**

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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.

Today's Worship Team
relcmedia.org/worshipteam



Instrumental Musicians

Erik Flaten, Piano

Matthew Murphy, Guitar

Michael Hagarman, Bass

Jack Burdwood, Drums

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