



Reformation Lutheran Church

May 3, 2026 | 11:00 am

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

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*

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

CCLI Song # 1097451 Matt Redman © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 769144

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, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading

Acts 7:55-60

A reading from Acts.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

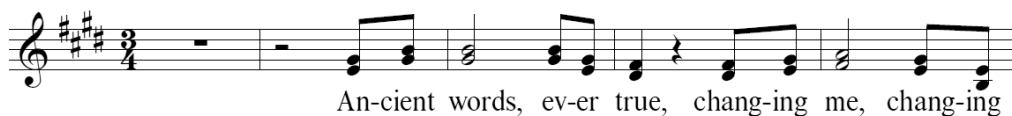
A reading from first Peter.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*



Gospel*

John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon on the Steps

Sermon

Hymn of the Day*

I Am Who You Say I Am

Verse 1 **Who am I that the highest One
Would welcome me
I was lost but you brought me in
Oh your love for me
Oh your love for me**

Chorus 1 **Who the Son sets free Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God Yes I am**

Verse 2 **Free at last
He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me**

Chorus 2 **In this holy house There's a place for me
I'm a child of God Yes I am**

Bridge **I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am (repeat bridge)**

Chorus 1 **Who the Son sets free Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God Yes I am**

Chorus 2 **In this holy house There's a place for me
I'm a child of God Yes I am**

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Baptism

**Cole Joseph Schreiber
Emmett Joseph Carneclark**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. . . .

[After the candidates are presented for baptism and parents make promises on behalf of the candidate for baptism, the assembly is addressed:]

People of God, do you promise to support these children and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do.

[After the parents and sponsors (on behalf of the candidate for baptism) renounce the forces that defy God, the assembly joins them in professing the faith:]

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

[The candidates are baptized with water, anointed with oil, and presented with a candle.]

[The assembly welcomes the newly baptized:]


Let us welcome the newly baptized and rejoice with those making public affirmation of baptism.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Acclamation You Belong to Christ (sung by the assembly twice)



You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayers of Intercession*

Let us rejoice in the risen life of Christ and pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

[After each prayer petition:]

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

[The prayers conclude:]

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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 or scan code to give online]



Musical Offering

Build My Life

Brett Younker, Karl Martin,
Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman
& Pat Barrett

Setting the Table*



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*

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God,
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*

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

D Bm7 A/m A G D
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts.
G D A bm
5 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-
Gmaj7 D/A Asus D G D
7 san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the
A bm Gmaj7 D/A A bm D D/F#
10 name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Ho-
Gmaj7 D/A A D
13 san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, you alone are holy ... with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness ... into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son ... with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night ... we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your spirit ... in your church, without end.

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!

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.

[The assembly sings the following during communion:]

Lamb of God

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.

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. The first staff is labeled 'Vocals' and contains the lyrics 'And now we see Your sac - ri - fice, the great - est gift, our'. The second staff starts with a measure rest marked '4' and contains the lyrics 'great - est prize. Be - hold the Lamb of God, be - hold the lamb of'. The third staff starts with a measure rest marked '8' and contains the lyrics 'God, who takes a - way the sins of the world.' The music is written in a single treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

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. 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. **Amen.**

Sending of Communion*

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. **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing*

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.

Amen.

Sending Song*

Glorious Day

Verse 1 **I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight
It was my tomb 'til I met You**

Verse 2 **I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You**

Chorus **('Cause when) You called my name (and)
I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day**

Verse 3 **Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new Jesus when I met You**

Chorus

Bridge **I needed rescue my sin was heavy
But chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven
When I was broken You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future my eyes are open**

Chorus

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Dismissal*

Called by Christ,

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

Go in peace. Share the good news!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Today's Worship Team
relcmedia.org/worshipteam



Instrumental Musicians

Erik Flaten, Piano

Matthew Murphy, Guitar

Michael Hagarman, Bass

Jack Burdwood, Drums

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