



Reformation Lutheran Church

August 16, 2026 | 10:00 am

Twelfth 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*

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.

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*

All Belong Here

Verse 1 **When you're not sure who you really are
When all you feel is the shape of your scars
And you have more wounds than you can count
Open your eyes look all around
You aren't alone this is your home**

Chorus **Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here**

Verse 2 **When you don't know how to forgive
When locked doors seem like the only way to live
And you've got more questions than you can count
Open your eyes look all around
You aren't alone this is your home**

Chorus

Bridge **At this table come as you are
Broken and bleeding's ok
At this table eat and be filled
Come and drink in this grace**

Interlude **Ooo ooo ooo ooo ooo**

Bridge

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. God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant—⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans.

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*

An-cient words, ev-er true, chang-ing me, chang-ing

6
you; We have come with o-pen hearts, O let the an-cient words im-part.

Gospel*

Matthew 15: [10-20] 21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³ He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”] ²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon on the Steps

Sermon

Hymn of the Day*

Gratitude

Verse 1

**All my words fall short
I got nothing new
How could I express
All my gratitude**

Verse 2

**I could sing these songs
As I often do
But every song must end
And You never do**

Chorus

**So I throw up my hands
And praise You again and again
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah
And I know it's not much
But I've nothing else fit for a king
Except for a heart singing hallelujah
Hallelujah**

Verse 3

**I've got one response
I've got just one move
With my arms stretched wide
I will worship You**

Chorus

Bridge

**Come on my soul
Oh don't you get shy on me
Lift up your song
'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs
Get up and praise the Lord (repeat bridge 2 more times)**

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:]

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.]

Meal

Offering

[Use pew envelopes or scan code to give online]



Musical Offering

This is a Move

Leonard, Lake, Moore and Brown

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. **God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love 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:

D Bm7 A^{dim} A G D
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts.
 G D A b m
 5 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-
 Gmaj7 D/A A sus D G D
 7 san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the
 A b m Gmaj7 D/A A b m 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.

Blessed are you, O God, Creator of this wild and wonderful world...
 All things bright and beautiful are entrusted to us by you,
 And with all creation we praise you, O God.
 Blessed and holy Trinity, Now and always.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer*

With the confidence of 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)
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 musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature change to B-flat. The lyrics are: 'And now we see Your sac - ri-fice, the great - est gift, our'. The second staff starts with a measure rest marked with a '4' above it. The lyrics are: 'great - est prize. Be-hold the Lamb of God, be-hold the lamb of'. The third staff starts with a measure rest marked with an '8' above it. The lyrics are: 'God, who takes a-way the sins of the world.' The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Communion Song

You Say

Verse 1 **I keep fighting voices in my mind
That say I'm not enough
Ev'ry single lie that tells me
I will never measure up**

Verse 2 **Am I more than just the sum of
Ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Remind me once again just who I am
Because I need to know oo oh**

Chorus **You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong oh You say I am Yours
And I believe oh I believe
What You say of me I believe**

Verse 3 **The only thing that matters now
Is ev'rything You think of me
In You I find my worth
In You I find my identity**

Bridge **Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet
You'll have ev'ry failure God
You'll have ev'ry victory**

Ending **Oh I believe yes I believe
What You say of me I believe**

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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. 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*

These Are the Days

Verse 1
People out there
People out there
Let go of your cares
Turn your cries into loud hallelujahs
This is what we came for

Pre-Chorus 1
Leave all your worries behind
We know the future's burning bright
This is the great jubilation
This is what He came for What He came for

Chorus
These are the days These are the days
These are the days We've been dreaming of
Don't look away 'Cause these are the days
These are the days Better get 'em while they come
We thought we'd never see the sun Through the dark skies
But all the signs are saying it's looking up
These are the days These are the days
These are the days We've been dreaming of

Verse 2
Open your eyes
Open your ears
I'm telling you why
You'll see heaven inhabit our praises
This is what we came for

Pre-Chorus 2
Singing the song of paradise”
Believing the good news is alive
This is the great jubilation
This is what we came for What He came for

Chorus

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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.

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