

Reformation Lutheran Church

November 22, 2026 | 8:30 am

Crowning the Church Year

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)

Advent

Watching and Waiting

Litany for the Crowning of the Church Year*

Holy God, Alpha and Omega,
You are the beginning and the end.
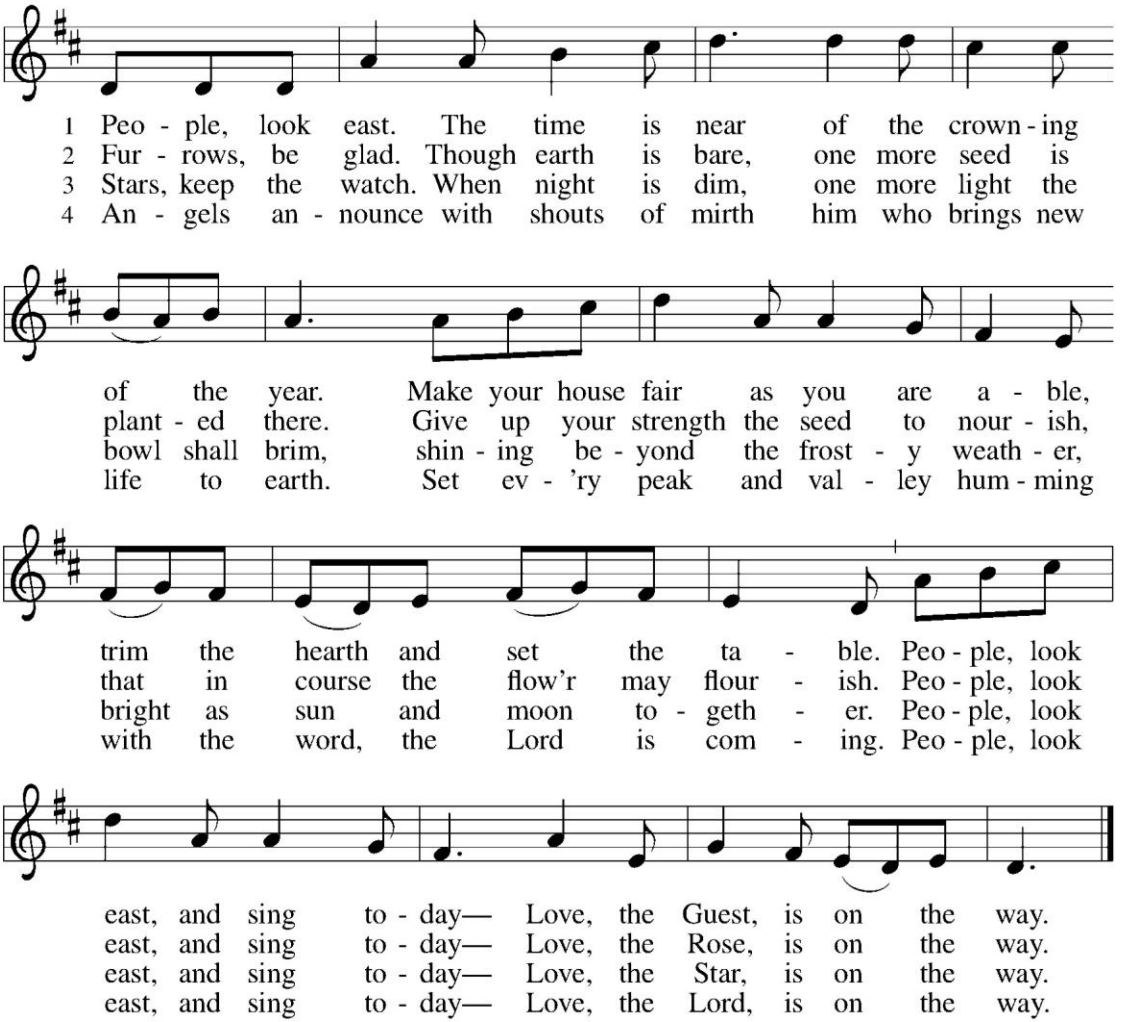
In periods of watching and waiting, seasons of celebration and joy, times of lament and sorrow,
You are the God who reigns over all our days.

As we remember the story of your never-ending love,
You prepare our hearts to worship You. Amen.

Gathering Song*

People Look East

Hymn 248



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 God of power and might, your Son reigns over your people in every season. Help us to see you at work in every time and place, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, **Amen**.

Sermon on the Steps

Around the Circle
by Laura Alary

Word

Christmas

Emmanuel, God With Us

Reading
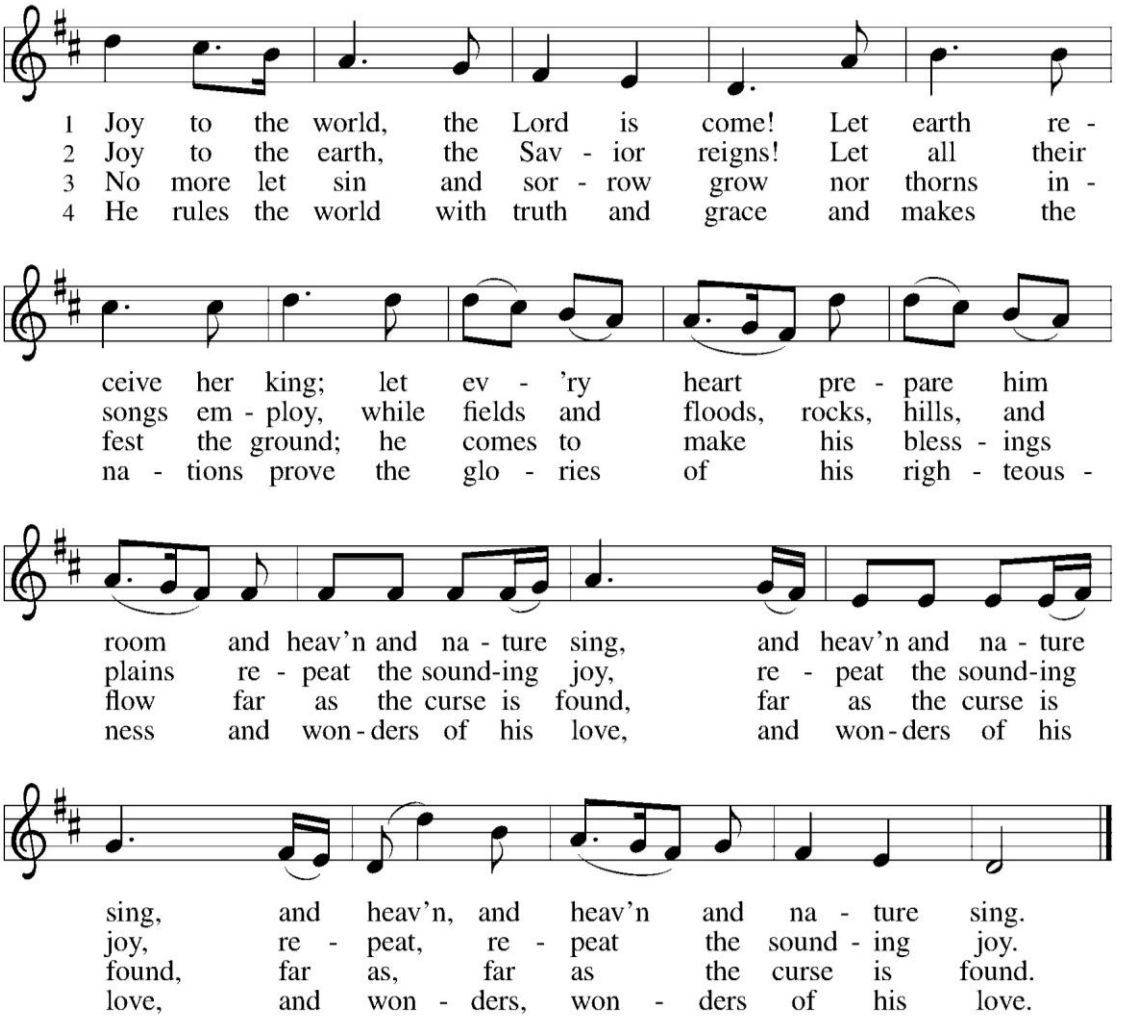
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

A reading from Isaiah.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Christmas Hymn Joy to the World Hymn 267



Epiphany

The Light Shines in the Darkness

Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from Matthew.
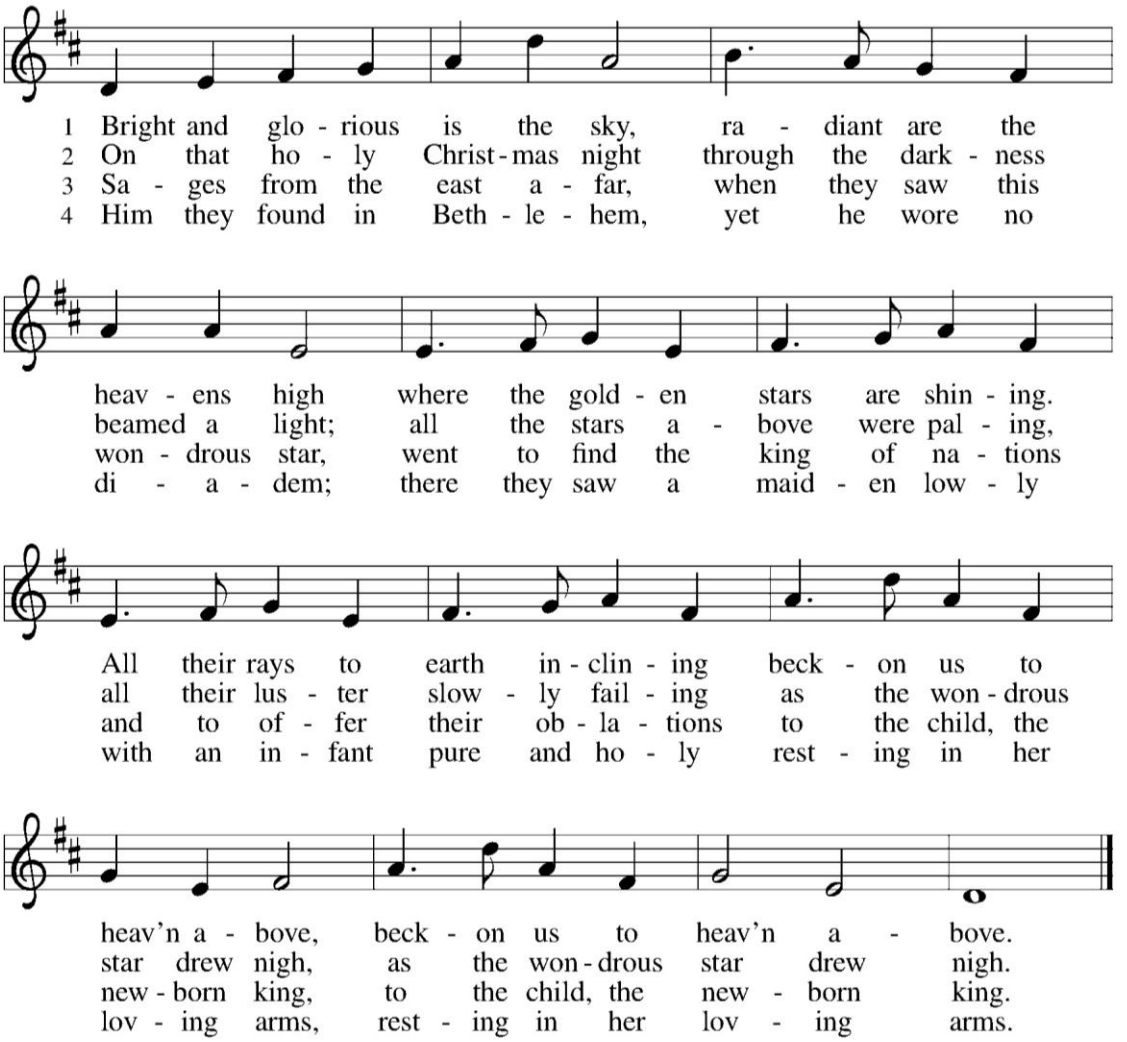
[1] In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from
the east came to Jerusalem, [2] asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of
the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.”
[3] When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, [4] and
calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them
where the Messiah was to be born. [5] They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it
has been written by the prophet: [6] ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by
no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to
shepherd my people Israel.’ ” [7] Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned
from them the exact time when the star had appeared. [8] Then he sent them to
Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found
him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” [9] When they had
heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had
seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. [10] When they
saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. [11] On entering the
house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him
homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold,
frankincense, and myrrh. [12] And having been warned in a dream not to return to
Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

Bright and Glorious is the Sky

Hymn 301



5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Lent

Penitence and Preparation

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:]

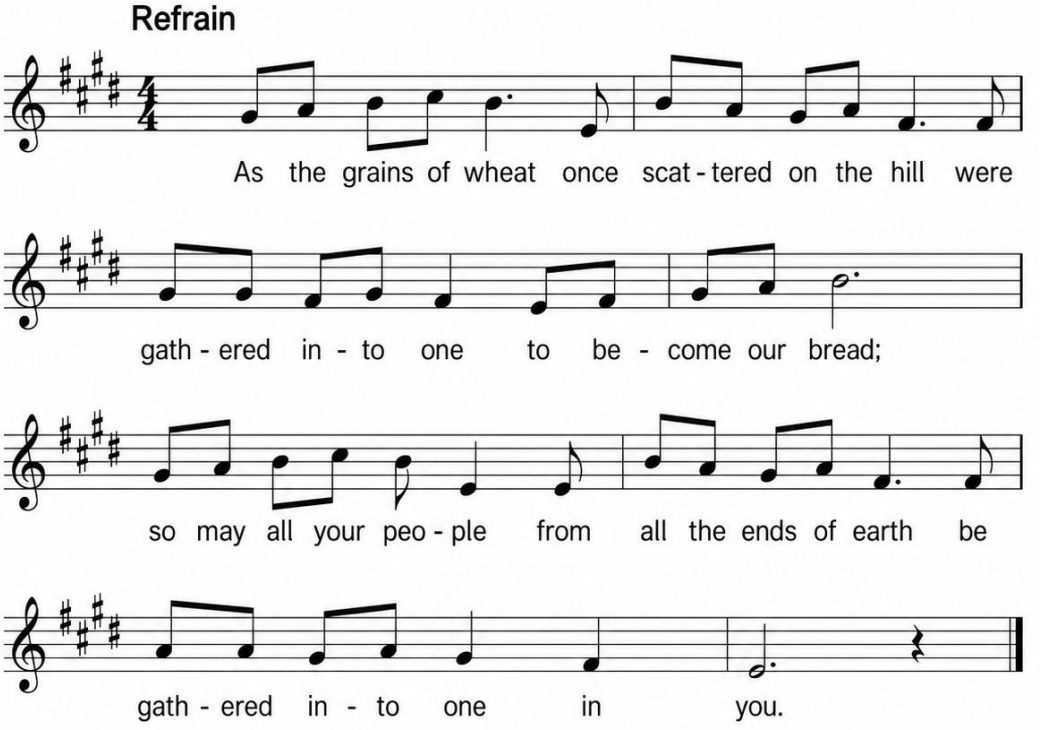
Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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.]

Musical Offering I Sing the Mighty Power of God
Chancel Choir

Setting the Table*



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.**

Easter

The Lord is Risen!

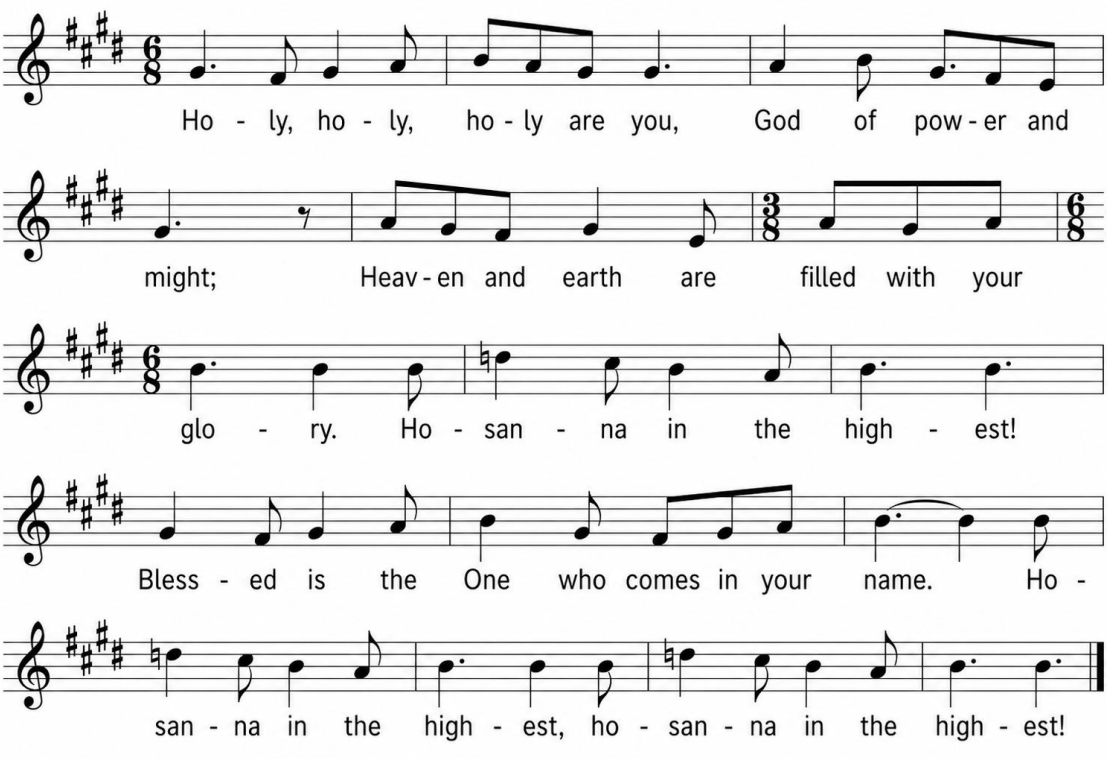
Great Thanksgiving*

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:



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*

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

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:

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Communion Hymn

Now the Green Blade Rises

Hymn 379

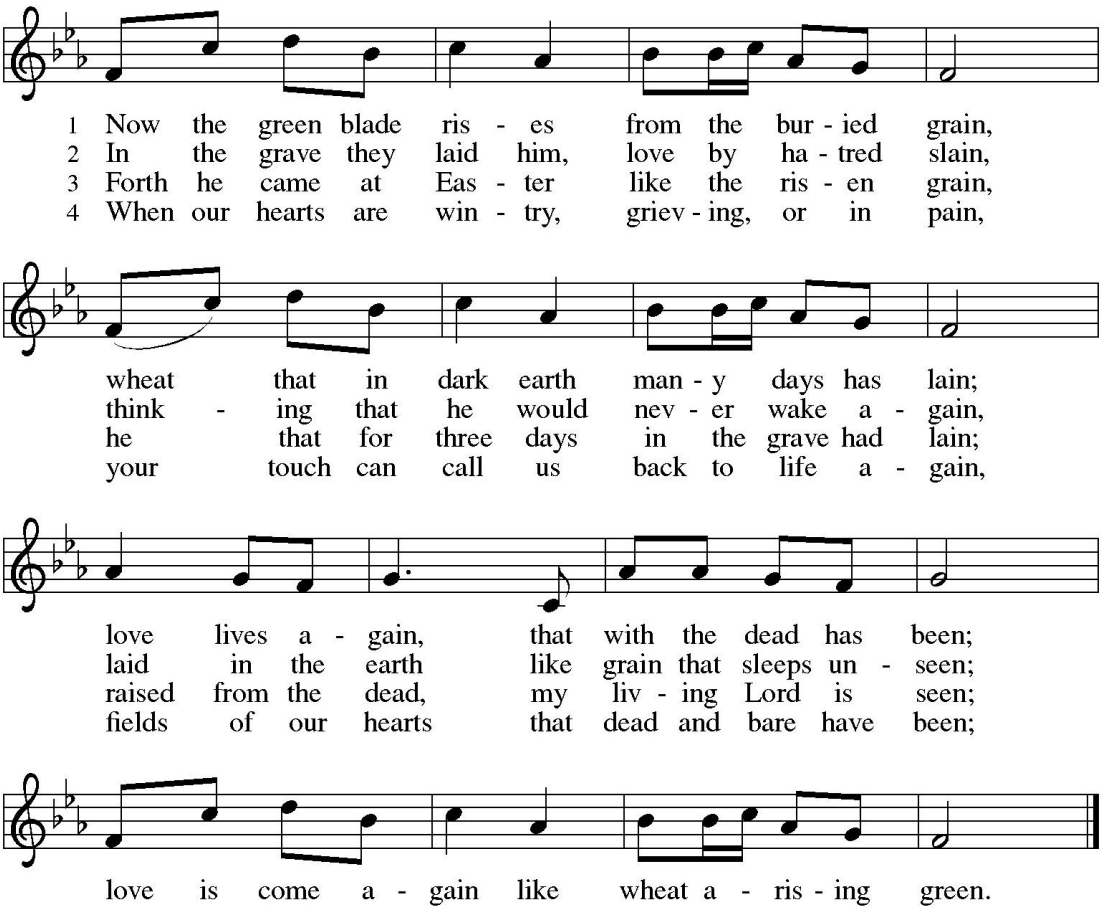


Table Blessing*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion*

Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, **Amen.**
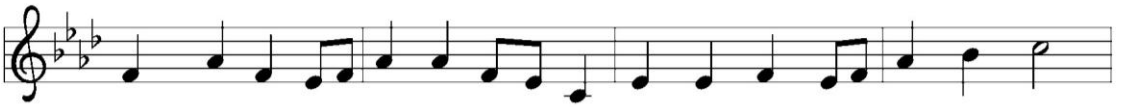
Sending

Pentecost
Sent Forth by the Holy Spirit
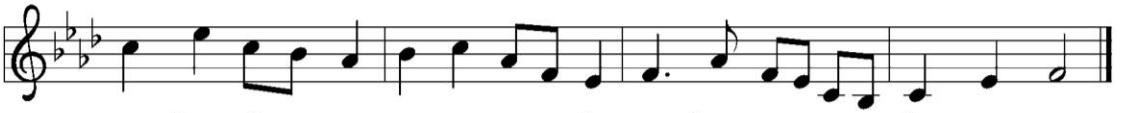
Blessing*

God of every season, whose love knows no end, + bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song* Loving Spirit Hymn 397



1 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov-ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
2 Like a moth-er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
4 Friend and lov - er, in your close-ness I am known and held and blessed:
5 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov-ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres-ence I may rest.
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Dismissal*

Called by Christ,
We <u>invite</u> all people, <u>serve</u> our neighbors, and <u>build</u> a living faith.

Go in peace, empowered by the Spirit!
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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.

Reformation
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Alina S. Gayeuski, Lead Pastor	PastorAlina@relcmedia.org ext. 109
The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan, Pastor	PastorEileen@relcmedia.org ext. 108
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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00am – 3:30pm; Friday, CLOSED