

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP



**Reconciling in Christ Sunday**  
**January 28, 2024**  
**8:30 am**

**Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**102 West Rose Tree Road**  
**Media, Pennsylvania 19063**  
[www.relcmmedia.org](http://www.relcmmedia.org)

# Welcome to Reformation!

**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 also wish to recognize and honor all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

**A special welcome to visitors** – we pray that the encounter with God in worship will nurture us in Christian faith and equip us for our life of loving service and justice in the world.

**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.



**Worship bags** (filled with coloring books and crayons) are available at the back of the sanctuary and can be taken to your seat.

**A play space** is also available at the back of the sanctuary with additional books and soft toys.

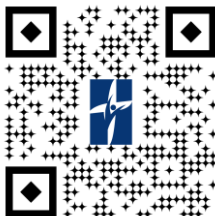
**A professionally staffed nursery** is available for children from birth to age 4. Patty Boccella is our nursery attendant. Worship is livestreamed to the nursery as well as to the lobby.

**All are welcome at the table** of our Lord Jesus Christ where God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. We believe Christ is present in the bread and wine. Instructions for distribution are printed in the service bulletin.

**Our Prayer List** can be found at [relcmedia.org/virtualchurch](http://relcmedia.org/virtualchurch). To make your prayer request known, please call the church office (610-891-0600, ext. 115) or send an e-mail to [rlc@relcmedia.org](mailto:rlc@relcmedia.org).

**Williams Personal PA Receivers** are available for use by the hearing impaired.

**Large print bulletins are available from an usher.**



**Scan to give online through our secure platform or through Venmo.**

# Reconciling in Christ Sunday

## January 28, 2024 · 8:30 am

☒ = Congregation

☒ = Assisting Minister

☒ = Presiding Minister

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*PRELUDE*

*We All Are One in Mission*

setting, Mark Sedio

*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 stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

☒ **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. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and things left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

☒ The boundless riches of Christ are the gift of God's grace to all people. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I 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.

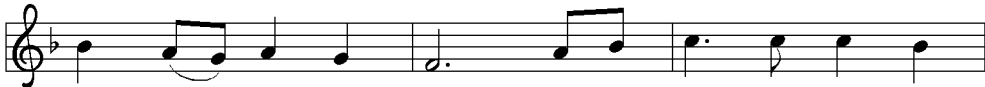
☒ **Amen.**



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

## *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. Open our eyes, O God, and help us to see that no one is outside your love. Let peace flow and justice roll down like an ever-flowing stream. Remind us that we are not alone thanks to affirming community and your abiding presence, through Jesus Christ, the free gift of grace.

☑ **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## *FIRST READING*

Amos 5:21-24

☐ A reading from Amos.

I despise and reject your feasts! I am not appeased by your solemn assemblies! When you offer me burnt offerings, I reject your oblations, and refuse to look at your sacrifices of fattened cattle! Spare me the racket of your chanting! Relieve me of the strumming of your harps! Instead, let justice flow like a river, and righteousness flow like an unfailing stream.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

**A** A reading from Romans.

What should be our response? Simply this: “If God is for us, who can be against us?” Since God did not spare the Only Begotten but gave Christ up for the sake of us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that God will freely give us everything. Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? Since God is the One who justifies, who has the power to condemn? Only Christ Jesus, who died—or rather, was raised—and sits at the right hand of God, and who now intercedes for us! What will separate us from the love of Christ? Trouble? Calamity? Persecution? Hunger? Nakedness? Danger? Violence? As scripture says, “For your sake, we’re being killed all day long; we’re looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered.” Yet in all this, we are more than conquerors because of God who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, neither heights nor depths—nor anything else in all creation—will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

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

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

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

An expert on the law stood up to put Jesus to the test and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit everlasting life?”<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?”<sup>27</sup> The expert on the law replied, ““You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”” Jesus said, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live.”<sup>29</sup> But the expert on the law, seeking self-justification, pressed Jesus further, “And who is my neighbor?”<sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: “A traveler was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when they were attacked by robbers. The traveler was beaten, stripped naked, and left half-dead.<sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the traveler, he passed by on the other side.<sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite came to the place and saw the traveler, and passed by on the other side.<sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, who was taking the same road, also came upon the traveler and, filled with compassion went to them and bandaged their wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then the Samaritan put the traveler on a donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of them.<sup>35</sup> The next day the Samaritan took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying ‘Look after this traveler, and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’<sup>36</sup> “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the traveler who fell into the hands of robbers?”<sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, “The one who showed compassion.” Jesus replied, “Go and do likewise.”

*After the reading has concluded:*

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

SERMON

Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan

*Silence for reflection*

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.



## APOSTLES' CREED

**P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C** **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

*Opportunity will be provided for you to offer prayers for concerns on your heart, silently or aloud. Please conclude each prayer petition with the words, "Lord, in your mercy."*

**A** Called to be light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**A** Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace saying "Peace be with you" or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## *OFFERING*

*Tithes and offerings are gathered for the mission of the church*

## *MUSICAL OFFERING*

*For Everyone Born*

Words, Shirley Erena Murray;  
Music, Brian Mann;  
Arr. Tom Trenney

Chancel Choir

## SETTING THE TABLE

*The assembly stands to sing as the gifts are brought forward.*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the  
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Merciful God,  
**C** receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SERMON ON THE STEPS

*GREAT THANKSGIVING*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*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*

☞ The gifts of God for the people of God.

☛ **Thanks be to God!**

*The assembly is seated.*

All are welcome at the table of the Lord! We believe and teach that Christ is present in the mystery of the sacrament of Holy Communion and that by communing with him we receive forgiveness of our sin.

Communion will be distributed by intinction – after you receive the bread, you may dip it in the chalice on the bread tray, which has grape juice, or the chalice held by the communion assistant, which has wine. Children who have not received instruction for communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to walk to communion, please let an usher know so that a pastor can bring communion to your seat. Gluten free wafers are available upon request to the pastor distributing the bread.

*As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:*

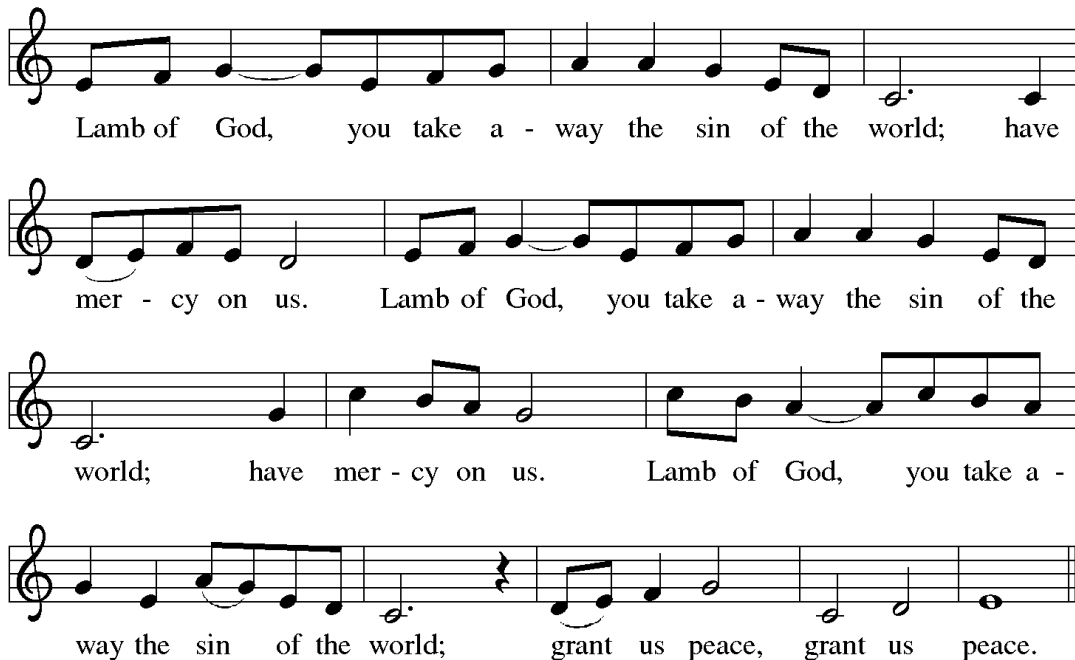
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: Amen*

*The assembly sings the following during communion:*

**LAMB OF GOD**



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION SONG**

*Eat This Bread*

Hymn No. 472

**Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst.**

*After all have communed, the assembly stands.*

**TABLE BLESSING**

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

**A** Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Be the light for our path that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

*BLESSING*

**P** May the radical love of God, Creator, + Redeemer, Sustainer bless you this day and forever.

**C** Amen.



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.



*DISMISSAL*

**A** Called by Christ,

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

**A** Go now in wholeness. Work for the justice of God.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE*

*In Thee is Gladness*

Theodore Beck

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**To see the list of today's worship volunteers,  
you can go to [relcmedia.org/worshipteam](http://relcmedia.org/worshipteam),  
scan here:**



**or visit the Worship Team  
information stand in the lobby.**

## **OUR MISSION**

**Called by Christ, we INVITE all people,  
SERVE our neighbors, and  
BUILD a living faith.**

## **WELCOME**

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 Evangelical Lutheran Church Leadership Team

To contact those with an extension please call **610-891-0600** and use the listed extension number or send e-mail to the listed address.

## All other phone calls: 610-891-0600

The Rev. Alina S. Gayeuski <i>Lead Pastor</i>	ext. 109 PastorAlina@relcmedia.org
The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan <i>Pastor</i>	ext. 108 PastorEileen@relcmedia.org
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John Grantland <i>Council President</i>	president@relcmedia.org

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9:00am – 3:30pm  
Friday, Closed