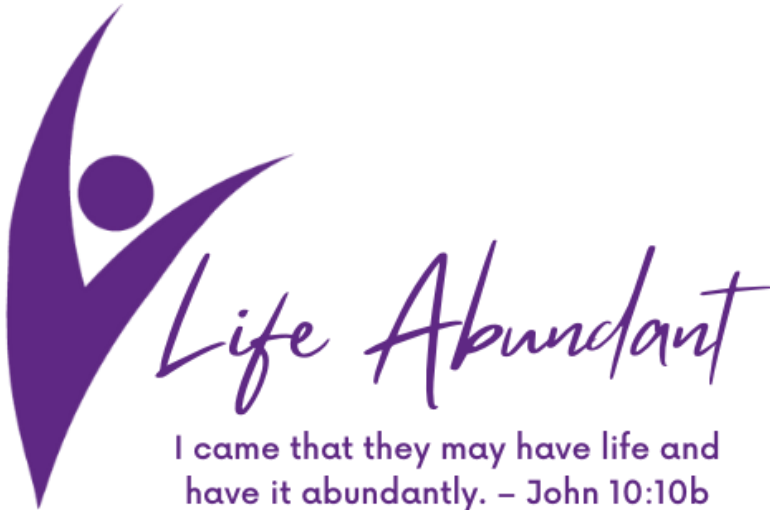


# WELCOME TO WORSHIP



**First Sunday in Lent  
February 18, 2024  
11:00 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.**

# WORSHIP REFLECTIONS & DRAWING SPACE

This space is for everyone to make notes, ask questions, doodle, and offer insights or ideas. Feel free to tear out this page to take with you.

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## QUOTE TO CONSIDER

While I am asking God how I should observe an upcoming Lenten season, I may remember where I spiritually was during Lent the previous year and reflect on what has changed and what has stayed the same. I hear and read the familiar stories about Jesus as he approached the cross and am reminded that while my circumstances change, the truths of the gospel remain the same. - *Charlotte Donlon*

## QUESTION TO CONSIDER

What reminds you that God's love is steadfast?

# First Sunday in Lent

## February 18, 2024 · 11:00 am

**C** = Congregation

**A** = Assisting Minister

**P** = Presiding Minister

# GATHERING

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

## *PRELUDE*

### *WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*

**P** This is the day that the Lord has made.

**C** **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.** (Psalm 118:24)

### *CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Gracious God,

**C** **we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

**P** By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, † God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life.

**C** **Amen.**

*GATHERING SONG*

*Graves into Gardens*

Verse 1      **I searched the world but it couldn't fill me  
Vain empty praise and treasures that fade  
Are never enough  
Then You came along and put me back together  
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love**

Chorus        **Oh there's nothing better than You  
There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing  
Nothing is better than You**

Verse 2       **I'm not afraid to show You my weakness  
My failures and flaws  
Lord You've seen them all  
And You still call me friend  
'Cause the God of the mountain  
Is the God of the valley  
There's not a place  
Your mercy and grace won't find me again**

Chorus

Bridge 1      **You turn mourning to dancing  
You give beauty for ashes  
You turn shame into glory  
You're the only one who can X2**

Bridge 2      **You turn graves into gardens  
You turn bones into armies  
You turn seas into highways  
You're the only one who can X2**

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.**

*KYRIE*

Waliger arranged by Flaten

Vocals 1  
God have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy God have mer - cy

Vocals 2  
God have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy God have mer - cy

4  
on - us, God have mer - cy Christ have mer - cy

on - us, God have mer - cy Christ have

7  
God have mer - cy on - us...

mer - cy God have mer - cy on - us...

*PRAYER OF THE DAY*

☐ Let us pray. Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

# WORD

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

## *FIRST READING*

Genesis 9:8-17

**A** A reading from Genesis.

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## *SECOND READING*

1 Peter 3:18-22

**A** A reading from first Peter.

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Vocals

O-pen my ears God Help me to hear your voice. O-pen my  
ears God Help me to hear.

*GOSPEL*

Mark 1:9-15

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

*After the reading has concluded:*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*SERMON ON THE STEPS*

*SERMON*

Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan

*Silence for reflection*

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



Verse 1      **Blessed be Your name    In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow    Blessed be your name**

Verse 2      **Blessed be Your name    When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness    Blessed be Your name**

Pre-Chorus    **Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say**

Chorus        **Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name**

Verse 3      **Blessed be Your name    When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be    Blessed be Your name**

Verse 4      **Blessed be Your name    On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering    Blessed be Your name**

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge        **You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be Your name (repeat Bridge)**

Chorus

## 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** Returning to the Lord, our God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

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

*The prayers conclude:*

**A** 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.

## 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

*Rain/Reign*

Crocker and Houston

*Children are invited to join the pastors at the altar.*

## SETTING THE TABLE

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

Brooke Ligertwood



## OFFERING PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. Holy God,

**C** 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.

*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:

Crowder, Dodson, Maher, and Waldrop

Erik Flaten

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

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

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

16 Lo - rd. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

**P** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, . . . .  
. . . be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER*

☞ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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*

☞ Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☛ **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*

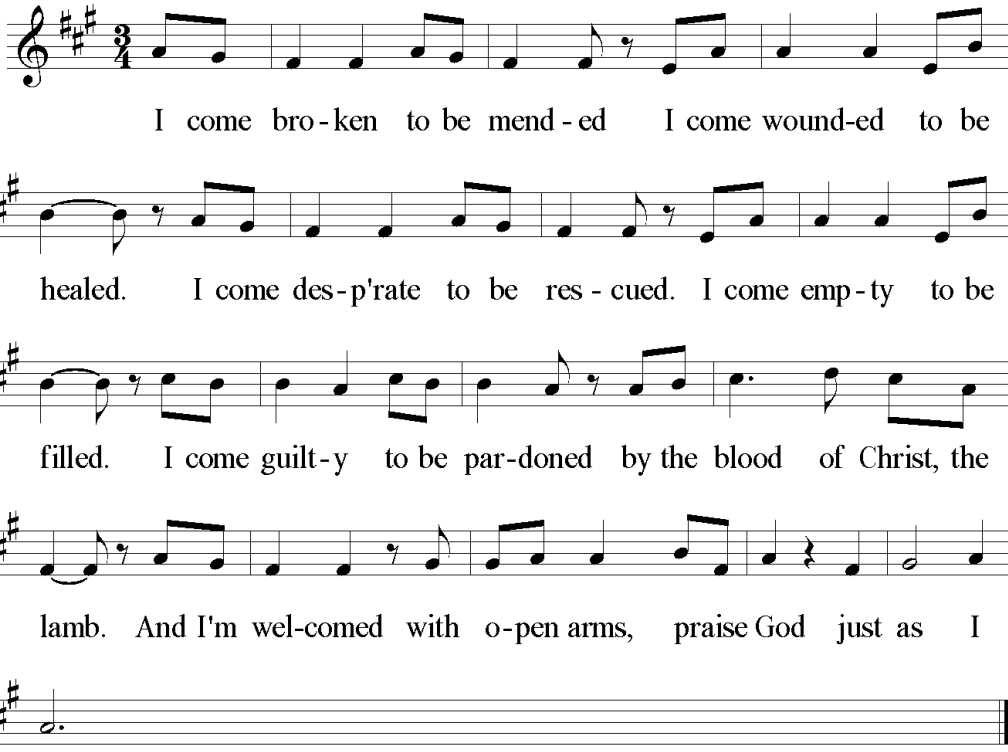
The assembly sings the following during communion.:

Lamb of God

Travis Cottrell

Vocals

$\text{♩} = 73$



I come bro-ken to be mend-ed I come wound-ed to be  
healed. I come des-p'rate to be res-cued. I come emp-ty to be  
filled. I come guilt-y to be par-doned by the blood of Christ, the  
lamb. And I'm wel-comed with o-pen arms, praise God just as I  
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

CCLI Song # 7041357

*After all have communed, the assembly stands.*

*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. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**☞ Amen.**

# SENDING

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

## *BLESSING*

☐ Almighty and merciful God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

☑ **Amen.**



*SENDING SONG*

*You Will Never Run*

Chorus 1      **You will never run away You're forever mine  
You will never run away You're by my side**

Interlude      **Oh oh oh**

Verse 1      **Love wide as galaxies love deeper than the sea  
Countless as all infinity  
Love like a shooting star tearing apart the dark  
Shining for all eternity  
Shining for all eternity**

Chorus 2      **You will never run away You're forever mine  
You will never run away You're by my side  
You will never run away You forever shine  
You will never run away You're by my side**

Verse 2      **Love stronger than the grave  
Love rolled the stone away  
Rising with endless majesty  
Love takes us by the hand  
Love is the wildest dance  
You are the joy and fight in me  
You are the joy and fight in me**

Chorus 2

Ending      **Oh oh oh  
Oh oh oh**

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*DISMISSAL*

**A** Called by Christ,

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

**A** Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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



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

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## **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.

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Friday, Closed