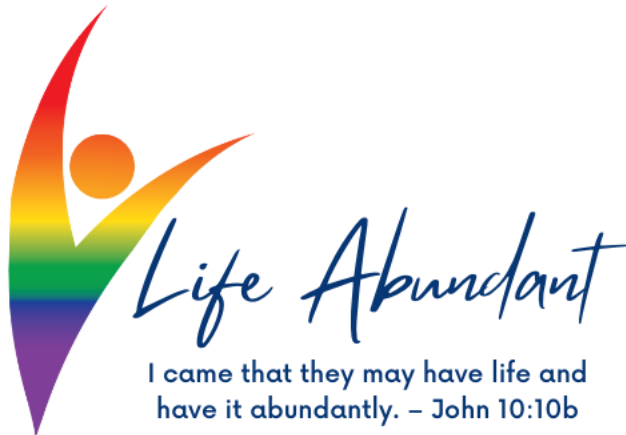


# WELCOME TO WORSHIP



**Fourth Sunday After Pentecost  
June 16, 2024  
8:30 am**

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

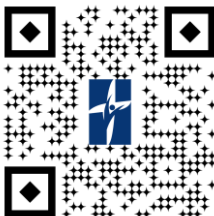
**A professionally staffed nursery** is available for children from birth to age 4. Patty Boccella is our nursery attendant. Worship is livestreamed to the nursery as well as to the lobby.

**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.**

# Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

## June 16, 2024 · 8:30 am

☒ = Congregation

☒ = Assisting Minister

☒ = Presiding Minister

# GATHERING

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

*PRELUDE*

*Give Me Jesus*

Richard Billingham

*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.**

☒ In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God Forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, therefore 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 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es to praise my  
 2 Let ev - 'ry pow'r in me im - plant - ed a - rise, keep  
 3 You for - est leaves so green and ten - der that dance for  
 4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, that throng the  
 5 Cre - a - tor, hum - bly I im - plore you to lis - ten



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -  
 si - lence now no more; put forth the strength that God has  
 joy in sum - mer air, you mead - ow grass - es, bright and  
 earth, the sea, the sky, come, share with me my heart's de -  
 to my earth - ly song un - til that day when I a -



joic - es, would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs to all, wher -  
 grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore! O soul and  
 slen - der, you flow'rs so fra - grant and so fair, you live to  
 vo - tion, help me to sing God's prais - es high! My ut - most  
 dore you, when I will join the an - gel throng and raise to



ev - er I might be, what great things God has done for me!  
 bod - y, join to raise with heart - felt joy your mak - er's praise!  
 show forth praise a - lone. Join me to make God's glo - ry known!  
 pow'rs can nev - er quite de - clare the won - ders of God's might!  
 you with joy - ful cry ten thou - sand hal - le - lu - jahs high!

*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, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

# WORD

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

*FIRST READING*

Ezekiel 17:22-24

☐ A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. <sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

**A** A reading from second Corinthians.

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—<sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. [<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ] <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*GOPEL ACCLAMATION*

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

☞ The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” <sup>30</sup>He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” <sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

*After the reading has concluded:*

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

Pastor Alina Gayeuski

*Silence for reflection.*

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



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.



*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** 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 portion of the prayers:*

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

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

*The prayers conclude:*

**A** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**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

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

arr. John Purifoy

## SETTING THE TABLE

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



1. Oh, what shall I ren-der in thanks to my Lord For

2. My hands take the cup of sal - va - tion you give; I'll



all the good gifts by which I am re - stored? No trea - sure I  
praise you, O God, for as long as I live. My thanks will rise



ren - der could ev - er re - pay God's mer - cy and faith - ful - ness  
up as I call on your name. With all of your pe - ople your



new ev - ry day.  
good - ness pro - claim.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. God of all creation,

**C** all you have made is good, and your loves 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*

**P** The Lord be with you.

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

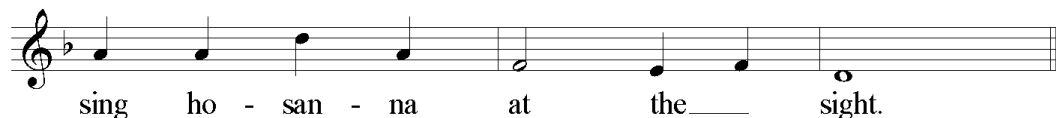
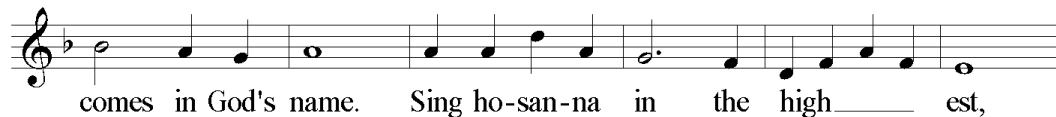
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**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:



**P** Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer...

Through him all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER*

☞ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.**

*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*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*COMMUNION SONG*

*This is Christ's Body*

ACS No. 967



This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with



mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,



bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

*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. 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.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING

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

*BLESSING*

**P** Almighty and merciful God + bless, preserve, and keep you, this day and forevermore.

**C** Amen.



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing, to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

*DISMISSAL*

**A** Called by Christ,

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

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE*

*Trumpet Tune in F Major*

David N. Johnson

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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.

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*Council President*

president@relcmedia.org

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