



Reformation Lutheran Church

April 13, 2025 | 11:00 am

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

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.

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

Large print bulletins are available from an usher.

Worship Reflections and 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 or add to the art display journal next to the pulpit.

Quote to Consider:

“Everything in life has its own time. There is time to celebrate and there is time to mourn. This is the time for reflection and transformation. Let us look within and change into what we ought to be.”
– Aaron Saul

Question to Consider:

How do we understand moments of triumph and tragedy?

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)

Procession with Palms

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Processional Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ” ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of Palms

[All in the congregation raise their branches.]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. We praise you O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Procession

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen

[During the Processional Hymn the congregation joins in remembrance of our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. At the direction of the ushers, please follow the Choir in two lines to the front of the church via the center aisle and give your palm branches to the pastors; return to your seat via the side aisle. Palms will be returned to worshipers after Communion.]

Gathering Song*

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Hymn 344

- Refrain **All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**
- Verse 1 **You are the king of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and Blessed One. *Refrain***
- Verse 2 **The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
in chorus make reply. *Refrain***
- Verse 3 **The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. *Refrain***
- Verse 4 **To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. *Refrain***
- Verse 5 **Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. *Refrain***

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

[When all are in their places:]

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of the Day*

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray. Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from Isaiah.

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Philippians.

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Commentary on the Passion

Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan

Gospel

Luke 22:14—23:56

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

[Silence for reflection.]

Hymn of the Day*

Above All

Verse 1

**Above all powers, above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began**

Verse 2

**Above all kingdoms, above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure what You're worth**

Chorus

**Crucified, laid behind a stone
You lived to die, rejected and alone
Like a rose, trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all (Repeat Chorus)**

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Blessing for the Beginning of an Internship

Today we celebrate the beginning of Vicar Bruce's internship.

Our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. You come among us as one invited to render a particular service, a gift from God to inspire us to love and good works.

I ask you, Bruce, will you embrace this time of learning and formation, and will you seek God's guidance throughout this internship?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Amen.

People of God, will you accompany, encourage, and uphold Bruce in prayer, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Vicar Bruce, we welcome you as our intern in this place. Almighty God bless you and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be a faithful servant of Christ.

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.

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls*

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

Jesus Messiah

Tomlin, Carson, Cash and Reeves

[Children are invited to join the pastor at the altar.]

Setting the Table*

Brooke Ligertwood



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.

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

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._____

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

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!

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
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 - 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.

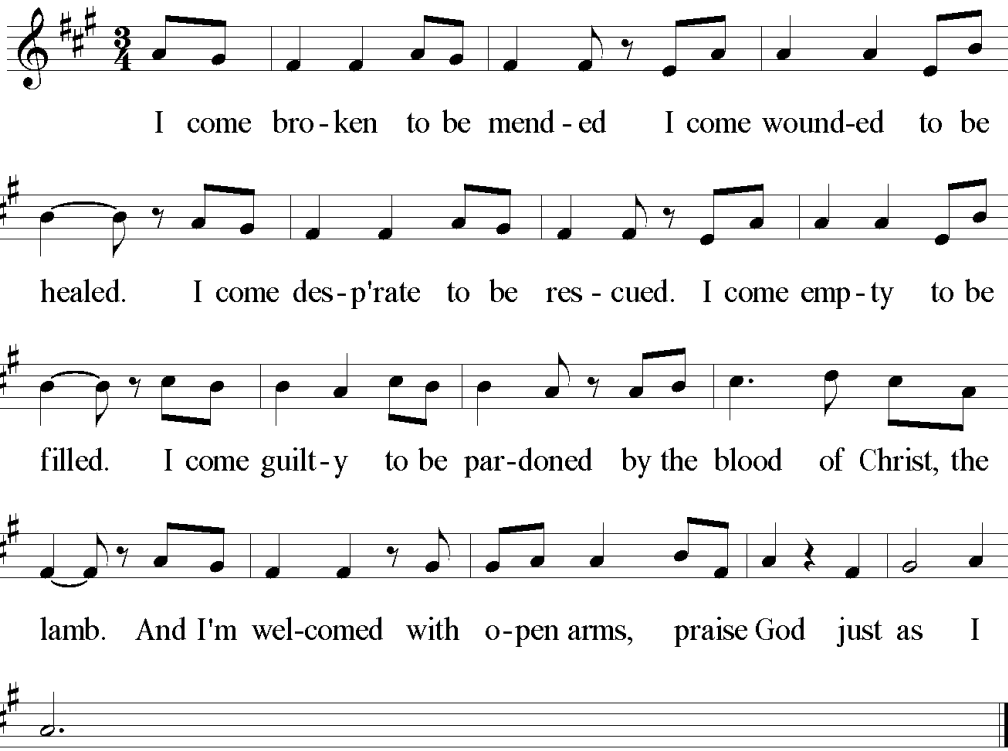
[The assembly sings the following during communion:]

Lamb of God

Travis Cottrell

$\text{♩} = 73$

Vocals



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

Communion Song

Here I Am

Chorus **Here I am standing right beside you
Here I am do not be afraid
Here I am waiting like a lover
I am here here I am**

Verse 1 **Do not fear when the tempter calls you
Do not fear even though you fall
Do not fear I have conquered evil
Do not fear never be afraid**

Chorus

Verse 2 **I am here in the face of ev'ry child
I am here in ev'ry warm embrace
I am here with tenderness and mercy
Here I am I am here**

Chorus

Verse 3 **I am here in the midst of ev'ry trial
I am here in the face of despair
I am here when pardoning your brother
Here I am I am here**

Chorus

Ending **I am here here I am**

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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. 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

Blessing*

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

Amen.

Sending Song*

Were You There

Hymn 353

Verse 1 **Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

Verse 2 **Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

Verse 3 **Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?**

Verse 4 **Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?**

Verse 5 **Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

Dismissal*

Called by Christ,

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

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Swan (Piano Duet)
Pam and Randy Poe

Camille Saint-Saens

Instrumental Musicians

Kristin Forster, Flute
Randy Poe, Piano
Matthew Murphy, Guitar
Michael Hagarman, Bass

Today's Worship Team

relcmedia.org/worshipteam



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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The Rev. Dr. Alina S. Gayeuski , Lead Pastor	PastorAlina@relcmedia.org ext. 109
The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan , Pastor	PastorEileen@relcmedia.org ext. 108
Vicar Bruce Pollock , Deacon Intern	VicarBruce@relcmedia.org ext. 120
Christine Corson , Operations Manager	ccorson@relcmedia.org ext. 112
Andrea Menta , Administrative Assistant	amenta@relcmedia.org ext. 110
Valerie Rozek , Director of Music	varozek@relcmedia.org 440-478-8163
Erik Flaten , Director of Contemporary Music	erik.flaten@relcmedia.org 509-528-8979
Debbie Conley , Council President	president@relcmedia.org

102 West Rose Tree Road, Media PA 19063 | 610-891-0600 | relcmedia.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00am – 3:30pm; Friday, CLOSED