



*Beloved* Community

Beloved, let us love one another, because  
love is from God. - 1 John 4:7

**Reformation Lutheran Church**

April 27, 2025 | 11:00 am

Second Sunday of Easter

# 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](http://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](http://relcmedia.org/virtualchurch). To make your prayer request known, please call or email the church office at 610-891-0600, [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.**

# Gathering

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\*Please stand as you are able

**Congregational responses are indicated in bold**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Thanksgiving for Baptism\*

[All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.]

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

[The assembly remembers their baptism as water is poured into the font. Worshipers may touch the water as a reminder of their baptism when they approach the altar to receive Holy Communion or when they leave the service.]

We give you thanks, holy and gracious God, for you created the waters of the earth: wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.

**We thank you, O God.**

You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you. Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us. You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

**We praise you, O God.**

Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism. Wash away all the sin within us, and renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Song\*

This Little Light of Mine

Hymn 677

Verse 1    **This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Verse 2    **Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Verse 3    **Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Text: African American spiritual

## 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 life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# Word

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## First Reading

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from Acts.

<sup>27</sup> When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” <sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. <sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation\*



## Gospel\*

John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” <sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# Sermon on the Steps

## Sermon

Vicar Bruce Pollock

## Hymn of the Day\*

God With Us

Verse 1      **Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love   To be nearer to us  
You've come to bring life to be Light   To shine brighter in us  
Oh Emmanuel God with us**

Chorus      **Our Deliverer You are Savior  
In Your presence we find our strength  
Over ev'rything our Redemption  
God with us  
You are God with us**

Verse 2      **Oh You've come to be Hope to this world  
For Your honor and name  
And You've come to take sin to bear shame  
And to conquer the grave  
Oh Emmanuel God with us**

Chorus

Bridge      **You are here  
You are holy  
We are standing in Your glory (Lord)  
(REPEAT X 3)**

Chorus  
repeat Chorus

Ending      **Oh God with us  
You are God with us**

CCLI Song # 6460237 Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan © 2012 Open Hands Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Little Way Creative (Admin. by Integrity Music) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 769144

## **Nicene Creed\***

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



## Prayers of Intercession\*

Let us rejoice in the risen life of Christ and pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

[After each prayer petition:]

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

[The prayers conclude:]

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our 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.]

## Meal

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### Offering

[Use pew envelopes or scan code to give online]



### Musical Offering

Living Waters

Cash and Getty

## Setting the Table\*



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

## Offering Prayer\*

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God,  
**ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of four lines of music. The first line contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly'. The second line contains 'Ho - ly Heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry, your'. The third line contains 'glo - ry. Bless-ed is He who comes comes in the na - me of the'. The fourth line contains 'Lo - rd. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.' followed by a double bar line. Measure numbers 7, 12, and 16 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

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

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

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

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

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\*

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

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:

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.

[The assembly sings the following during communion:]

## Lamb of God

Vocals

And now we see Your sac - ri-fice, the great - est gift, our

great - est prize. Be-hold the Lamb of God, be-hold the lamb of

God, who takes a-way the sins of the world.

## Communion Song

Eat This Bread

Hymn 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.**

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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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Sending**

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### **Blessing\***

The God of life, who raised Jesus from the dead, who sends forth the Spirit to renew the face of the earth, be merciful to you and + bless you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending Song\***

Child of Love

Verse 1      **I was walking the wayside  
Lost on a lonely road  
I was chasing the high life  
Try'n to satisfy my soul**

Verse 2      **All the lies I believed in  
Left me crying like the rain  
Then I saw lightning from heaven  
And I've never been the same**

Chorus       **I'm gonna climb a mountain  
I'm gonna shout about it  
I am a child of love  
I found a world of freedom  
I found a friend in Jesus  
I am a child of love**

Repeat Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus

Chorus

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## Dismissal\*

Called by Christ,

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

Go in peace. Share the good news!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Instrumental Musicians

Pam Poe, Piano

Matthew Murphy, Guitar

Michael Hagarman, Bass

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**Today's Worship Team**  
[relcmedia.org/worshipteam](http://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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**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9:00am – 3:30pm; Friday, CLOSED