



Beloved Community

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

Reformation Lutheran Church

April 6, 2025 | 11:00 am

Fifth Sunday in Lent

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:

“Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty.”
– Mother Theresa

Question to Consider:

How does the world try to control the way others use their gifts?

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)

Confession and Forgiveness*

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

Amen.

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

[Silence is kept for reflection]

Gracious God,

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.

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.

Amen.

Gathering Song*

Blessed Be Your Name

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

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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

$\text{♩} = 74$

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. Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Amen.

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*

Vocals

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

Gospel*

John 12:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon on the Steps

Sermon

Pastor Alina Gayeuski

Hymn of the Day*

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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Apostles' Creed*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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*

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.

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

Transfiguration

Ligertwood, King and Smith

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

Setting the Table*

Brooke Ligertwood

Make me Your ves-sel, make me an of-fer-ing

3 Make me what-ev-er You want me__ to be.

5 came here with noth-ing but all you have giv-en me.

7 Je - sus, bring new wine out of me.__

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

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 8/8 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff the second line, the third staff the third line, and the fourth staff the fourth line. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with some phrasing slurs. The lyrics are: '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', and 'Lo - rd. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.' followed by a long horizontal line.

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
 - White grape juice is on the bread tray held by the pastor
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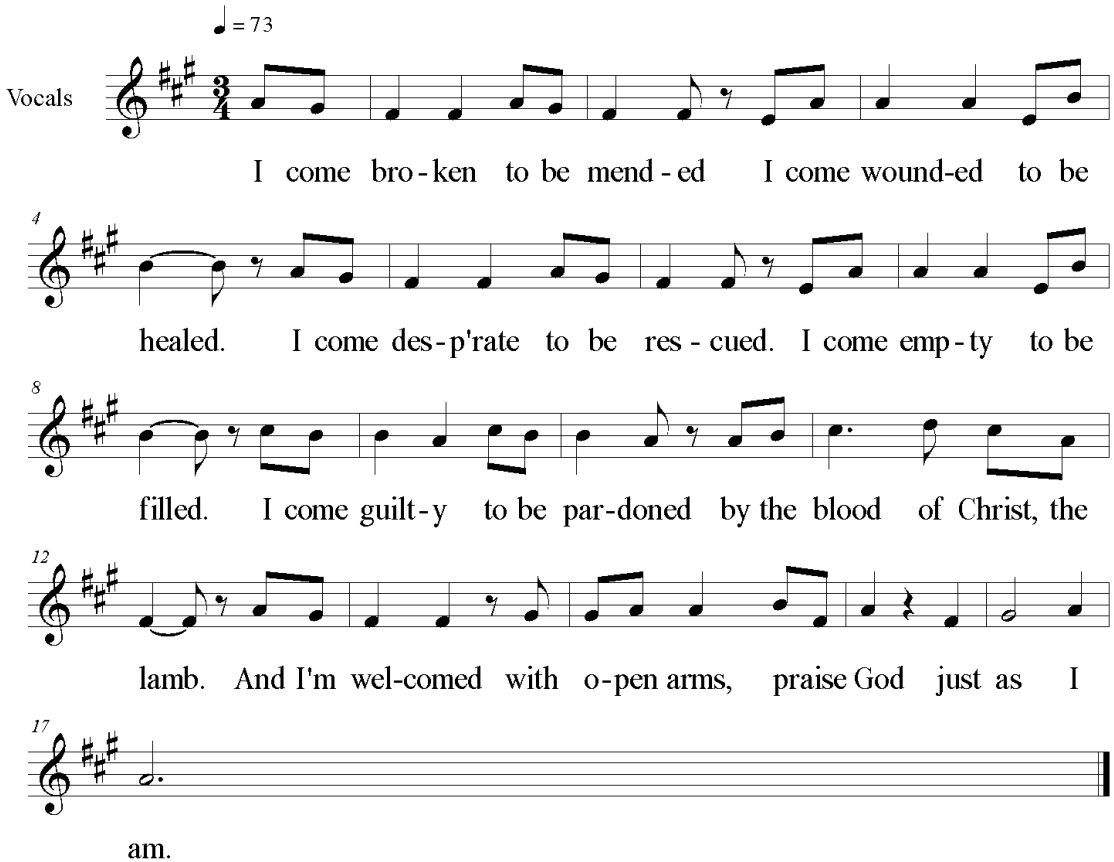
Those who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing.

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



Vocals

$\text{♩} = 73$

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.

**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. 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 of Communion

Let us pray. Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in 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*

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

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.

Instrumental Musicians

Matthew Murphy, Guitar

Michael Hagarman, Bass

Today's Worship Team

relcmedia.org/worshipteam



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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