



**Reformation Lutheran Church**

March 1, 2026 | 8:30 am

Second 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](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).

**Worship is livestreamed** and recorded. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit in the balcony or speak to a pastor.

**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

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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. All quotes and breath prayers are from *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems and Meditations for Staying Human* by Cole Arthur Riley.

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## Quote to Consider:

In becoming forcibly and essentially aware of my mortality, and of what I wished and wanted for my life, however short it might be, priorities and omissions became strongly etched in a merciless light, and what I most regretted were my silences. Of what had I ever been afraid?

- Audre Lorde

## Breath Prayer by Cole Arthur Riley:

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INHALE: We honor our mortality.

EXHALE: Hope is written in the ashes.

INHALE: What rest was stolen from us  
in life,

EXHALE: may we meet in death.

# Gathering

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\*Please stand as you are able

**Congregational responses are indicated in bold**

## Prelude

Sinfonia 3 in D Major

J.S. Bach

## 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\*

Oh, Love, How Deep

Hymn 322



1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all  
2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er  
3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
4 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
or of low - er place, but wore the robe of  
fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion  
dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.  
sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,  
for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
he bore the shameful cross and death;  
for us he gave his dying breath.

6 For us he rose from death again;  
for us he went on high to reign;  
for us he sent his Spirit here  
to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

7 All glory to our Lord and God  
for love so deep, so high, so broad:  
the Trinity whom we adore  
forever and forevermore.

## 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\*

Ⓐ In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. Ⓐ For the

Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff contains a melody in 7/4 time, starting with a quarter note, followed by a dotted quarter note, and then a series of eighth notes. The lower staff contains a bass line with rests and a few notes. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

peace from a-bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melody from the first system. The lower staff contains a bass line with rests. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

Lord. Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, the well - be-ing of the

Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melody. The lower staff contains a bass line with rests. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

The fourth system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melody. The lower staff contains a bass line with rests. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

Lord.                      **A** For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, com- fort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

**C** A - men

## Prayer of the Day\*

Let us pray. O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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.**

# Word

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## First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup> The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” <sup>4a</sup> So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. <sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. <sup>16</sup> For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation\*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is gra-cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon on the Steps**

### **Sermon**

# Hymn of the Day\*

## God Loved the World

Hymn 323



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

## **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

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## Offering

[Use pew envelopes or scan code to give online]



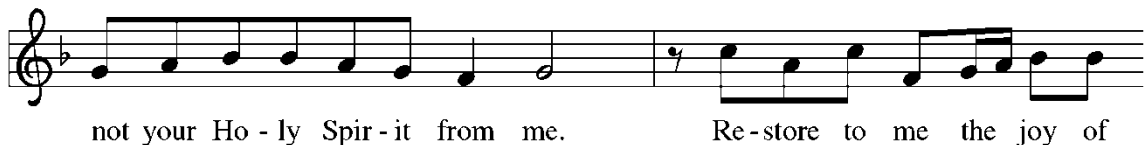
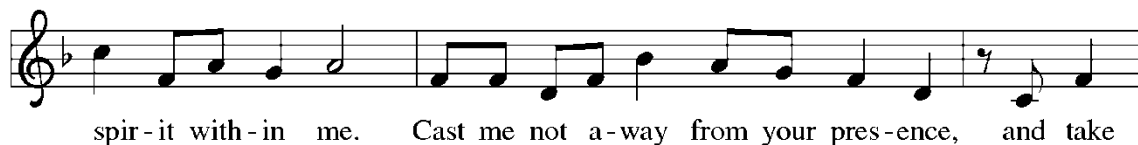
## Musical Offering

God of Grace

Words and music:  
Keith Getty and Jonathan Rea  
arr. Lloyd Larson

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

## Setting the Table\*



## 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - 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:

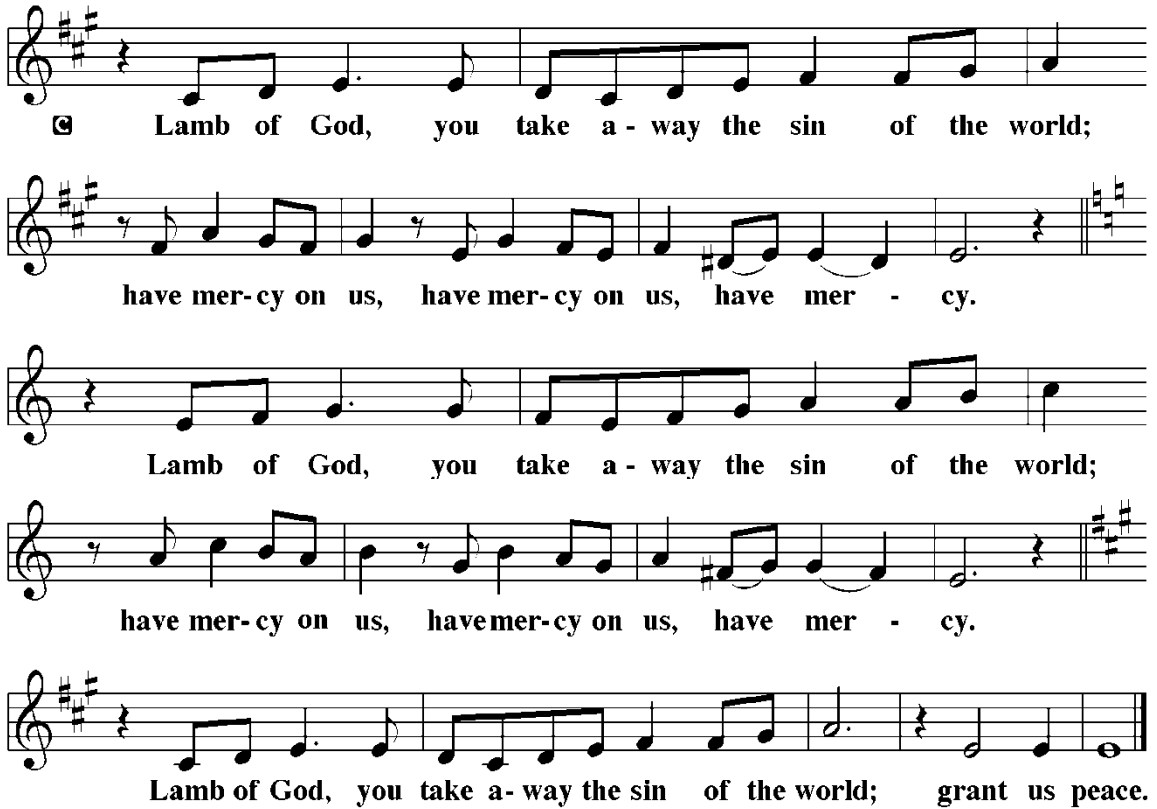
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  - White grape juice is on the bread tray held by the pastor
  - Red wine is held by the Communion assistant to the side of the pastor

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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## 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.

## **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

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## Blessing\*

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

**Amen.**

## Sending Song\*

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hymn 803



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

## **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**

Sinfonia 4 in D Minor

J.S. Bach

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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.





<b>The Rev. Dr. Alina S. Gayeuski</b> , Lead Pastor	PastorAlina@relcmedia.org ext. 109
<b>The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan</b> , Pastor	PastorEileen@relcmedia.org ext. 108
<b>Vicar Megan Eppleman</b> , Seminarian	VicarMegan@relcmedia.org
<b>Christine Corson</b> , Operations Manager	ccorson@relcmedia.org ext. 112
<b>Andrea Menta</b> , Administrative Assistant	amenta@relcmedia.org ext. 110
<b>Erik Flaten</b> , Director of Music Ministry	erik.flaten@relcmedia.org 509-528-8979
<b>John Grantland</b> , Council President	president@relcmedia.org

102 West Rose Tree Road, Media PA 19063 | 610-891-0600 | [relcmedia.org](http://relcmedia.org)

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