

Reformation Lutheran Church

3670 Perkiomen Avenue

Reading, PA 19606

www.reformationlutheran.org

Office (610) 779-0534; Pastor Metzloff (570) 706-1330

Second Sunday of Easter
A Service of Word and Sacrament

April 14th, 2024
9:30 AM



Welcome to Reformation!

Presiding Minister: Pastor Paul Metzloff
Guest Preacher Rev. Steven Claycomb
Director of Music: Dr. Heidi Rochlin

Ushers: Pam Schneeberger and Bruce Seiz
Reader: Brian Sperling`
Assisting Minister: Jen Weaver
Acolyte Jane Hinkle
Nursery: N/A
Altar Guild: Becky Schaeffer, Lynn DeAcosta, Melanie Bechtel,
and the Barnettts

Flowers: Rich and Karen Hawk, and Sue and Mark Dobroskey, in honor of
James Andrew's baptism

Live streaming: Tom Sahaida, Andy Dobroskey, Jared Preston,
Stu Johnston, Richter Bogust

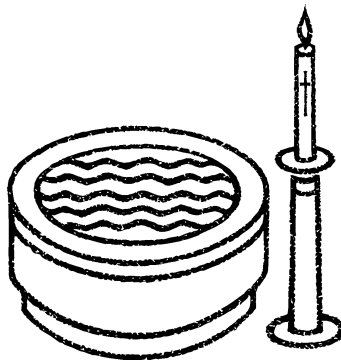
PRELUDE – Come, Be Baptized (J. Schrader)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands.

BAPTISM – ELW, P. 227

We celebrate today with Sarah and Andy Dobroskey on the baptism of their son, James Andrew Dobroskey! His sponsors are Amanda Hawk, Sarah Dobroskey, and Adam Dobroskey



Borning Cry



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy Lord, your followers gave to your children something more powerful and more valuable than riches; they gave healing and hope. Bring healing and hope into our world, and help us to be the agents of your grace. Amen!

The assembly is seated.

THE LESSON: ACTS 3:1-10

¹ One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴ Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹ All the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

SERMON - Rev. Steven Claycomb

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - ling days are done.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Asst. Minister: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Each petition of the prayers concludes with these words:

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Asst. Minister: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING & ANTHEM – Give Me Jesus (R. Lav)

The assembly stands.

OFFERTORY: LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

ELW 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,

you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here

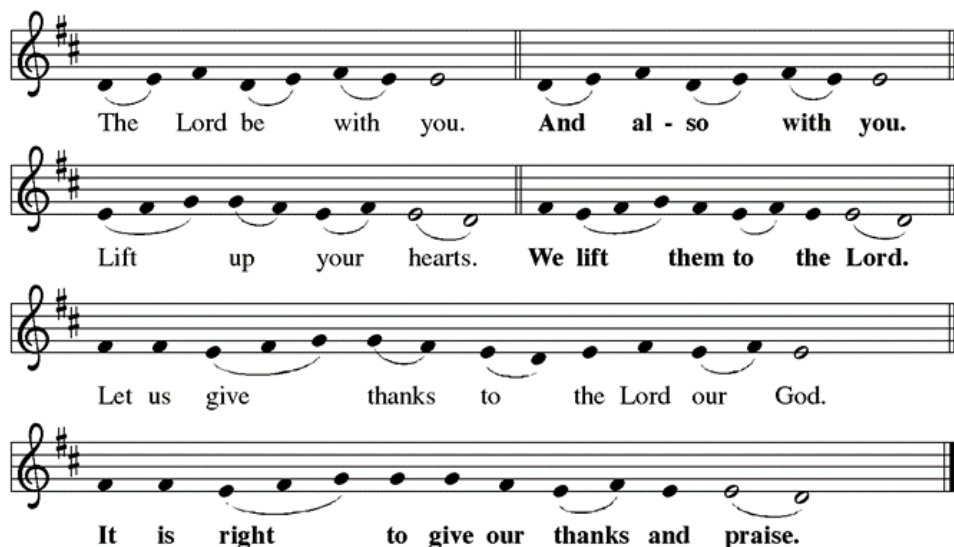
be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

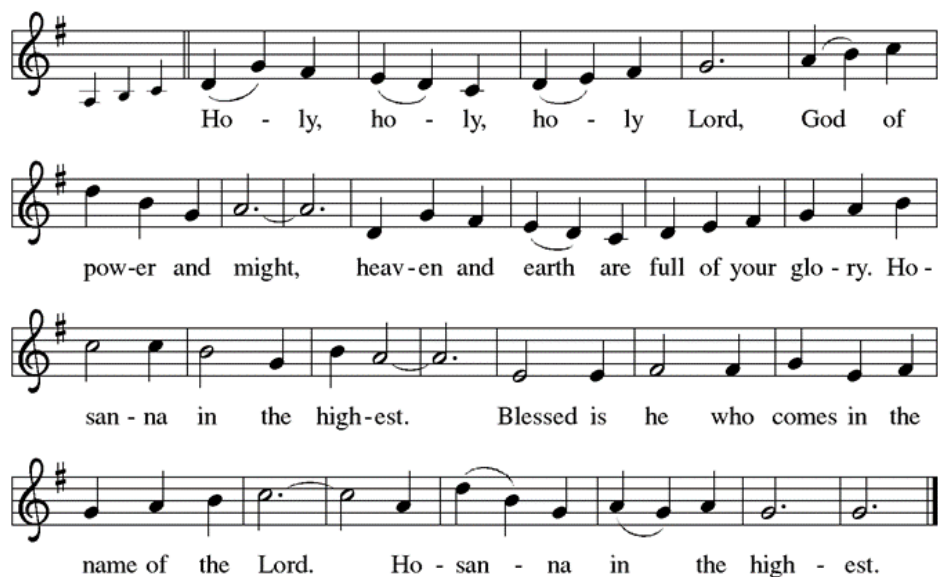
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 . . .



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

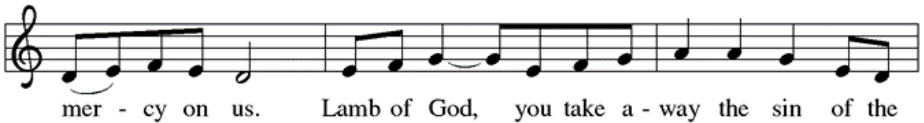
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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.**

INVITATION & COMMUNION

Please note that, so as to be accessible to all, our communion bread is gluten-free, nut-free and lactose-free; both wine (served at the rail) and grape juice (in the trays) are available. All are welcome to commune.



Remembrance (The Communion Song)

Oh, how could it be that my God would welcome me into this mystery?
Say, "take this bread, take this wine"
Now the simple made divine for any to receive

By Your mercy we come to Your table
By Your grace You are making us faithful

Lord, we remember You, and remembrance leads us to worship
And as we worship You our worship leads to communion
We respond to Your invitation, we remember You

See His body, His blood; know that He has overcome
Every trial we will face none too lost to be saved
None too broken or ashamed all are welcome in this place

By Your mercy we come to Your table
By Your grace You are making us faithful

Lord, we remember You, and remembrance leads us to worship
And as we worship You our worship leads to communion
We respond to Your invitation, we remember You

Dying, You destroyed our death
Rising, You restored our life
Lord Jesus, come in glory
Lord Jesus, come in glory . . . (repeats)

Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with



sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

*Refrain***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Shepherding God,

**you have prepared a table before us
 and nourished us with your love.**

**Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
 and share the good news of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.**

Amen!

BENEDICTION

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always.

Amen!

SENDING HYMN:

ELW 618

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



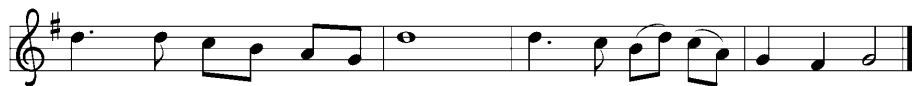
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

PRAYER LIST

Changes to the Prayer List this week:

Added – Ginny Rathman

Removed – Abigail Buck and Payton Lanza

Reformation Family: Carol Baer, Ruth Blatt, Millie Castillo, Julie Cherry, Nancy Edinger, Bob Galbraith, Roger Hillibush, Cheryl Manella, LaJune McDonough, Karen Montag, Ginny Rathman, Scott Rathman, Warren Reinhart, Jr., Linda Sell, Elinor Snyder, Cynthia Smoker-Johnston, Erica Sweigert, Dee Dee Werner, Connie Whalen, Michael Yerger, and Herb Zettlemyer.

Friends of Reformation: Larry and Kathy Adomshick, Pat Beane, Sandy Bender, Bob Benton, Andy Bishop, Claire Boarder, Michele Boucher, Carole Coddington, Barbara Connor, Carl, Luz Cortes, Jim Crowley, Patricia Derr, Wilgus Elliott, Carl Esterly, Susan Flicker, Francis, Beth and Stan Gosek, Tim Harner, Gino Hinnershitz, Don Inmon, Cindy Kohl, Batya Leidner, Kathy McCoy, James Morrison, Amy Papilla, Patty, Keith and Peg Ruch, Kim Sharp, Shirley, Linda Smith, Charles Sperling, Herm Spitzer, Jacob Stoner, Steve V., Erika Wesch, and Brenda Williams.

Next Week's Worship Leaders:

| | <u>8:30am</u> | <u>10:30am</u> |
|----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Ushers: | Pat and Kathy Austin | Dan Bergey and Rich Hawk |
| Reader: | Kathy Austin | Dan Bergey |
| A/M: | Teri Stoddard | Lisa Sokoloff |
| Acolyte: | Karen Montag | Paige Bergey |
| Nursery: | N/A | Teri Stoddard |

Healing Service – Will take place today after the 9:30 am service.

Upcoming Youth Event! On Friday, April 26 @ The Laser Mill, 6:30pm-8:30pm - Join us for laser tag at The Laser Mill in Wyomissing. Open to youth ages 5th -12th grades. Cost: \$10 per person for two games. RSVP by April 12th. Contact Alicia Bergey at abergey2@gmail.com or text at 610-316-7387.

Clothing Bank News: We are collecting new and gently used spring clothing for children sizes infant through high school sizes. Any donations can be placed in the box in the vestibule at the back entrance near the choir room. Thank you for your continued support!!

75th Anniversary Event - A reception for Pastor Steve and Bonnie will follow worship today in the parish hall.

Reading Symphony Jr. String Orchestra - The Reading Symphony Junior String Orchestra (RSJSO) will join us for worship at our 10:30 AM service on April 21st. The RSJSO is a developmental ensemble for advanced fourth through eighth grade string students of Berks County and surrounding areas, serving as a training ground for the Reading Symphony Youth Orchestra (RSYO) and rehearses here at Reformation most Saturday mornings. Under the baton of Brian Mishler, the 40+ member orchestra performs at least four times annually, demonstrating a wide variety of repertoire ranging in styles and difficulty.

Reading Pops Big Band - will present a Jazz Appreciation Month concert at Reformation on Sunday afternoon, April 28th at 4:30 PM. The Big Band performs music from the Swing Era all the way up to more contemporary jazz charts, including Glen Miller, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Sammy Nestico, and Neal Hefti, even arrangements from Broadway shows and pop radio tunes! Join us and invite a friend or neighbor. A free-will offering will be received.

Scholarships - The scholarship application and essay are due by May 5, 2024. Please submit to the church office or to Dan Bergey (dan09dan@aol.com). The application can be found on the church's website under the council and committees tab located at (<https://reformationlutheran.org/about-us/council-committees/>), or a hard copy in the office.

Trash Pickup – join us from 9-11 am on Saturday, April 20th for our semi-annual PennDOT trash pickup along our adopted section of Perkiomen Avenue! Gloves, vests, and trash bags will be provided.

SoulShop Faith-Based Suicide Prevention Training – the Mental Health Ministry is sponsoring a daylong training program for religious and community leaders on Saturday, May 4th. The cost is an extremely reasonable \$20, and lunch and course materials are included. If you know of someone who would like to attend, more details and a registration link are at www.afspeasternpasoulshopmay4.attendease.com.