

# Reformation Lutheran Church

3670 Perkiomen Avenue

Reading, PA 19606

[www.reformationlutheran.org](http://www.reformationlutheran.org)

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

Easter

A Service of Word and Sacrament

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

8:30 and 10:30 AM



# Welcome to Reformation!

Presiding Minister: Pastor Paul Metzloff  
Director of Music: Dr. Heidi Rochlin

|                     | 8:30 am   | 10:30 am                            |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Ushers              | Pat and Kathy Austin  | Bob Rutherford and Jerry Centofanti |
| Reader:             | Judy Plica  | Paul Metzloff                       |
| Assisting Minister: | John Baver  | Jeanne Gochnaue & Dee Dee Werner    |
| Acolyte:            | TBD   | Olivia Matijasich                   |
| Altar Guild:        | Melanie Bechtel   | Barnett Family                      |
| Live streaming:     | Tom Sahaída, Andy Dobroskey, Jared Preston,<br>Stu Johnston, Richter Bogust |                                     |

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*The assembly stands.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.  
**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live as followers of Jesus, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make us your own, restore us to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Let these waters strengthen us, give us new life as servants of your kingdom, and help us to extend your love across human barriers.

Let these waters open our hearts, give a voice to those in captivity, and set your people on a good path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us life in you. May we live wet.  
**Amen!**

## Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

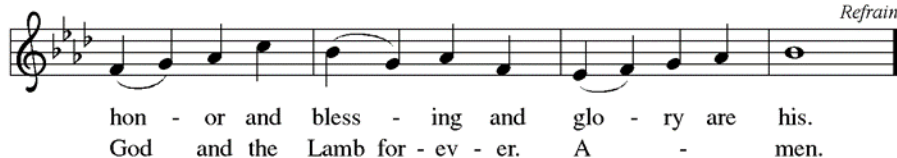
**And also with you.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



*Refrain*



*Refrain*



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Halleluia! Christ is risen! Glory be to you, Lord, whom death could not defeat. Praise to you, the savior of heaven and earth. Help us to move beyond our fears and denials, and to embrace the good news of your resurrection. Amen!**

*The assembly is seated.*

## THE LESSON: LUKE 24:1-12

<sup>1</sup> But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup> Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

## SERMON

## Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## NICENE CREED

**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.**

## Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Asst. Minister: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Each petition of the prayers concludes with these words:*

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

Asst. Minister: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING & ANTHEM – *Christ Rising Again* (Scott)

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERTORY: LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

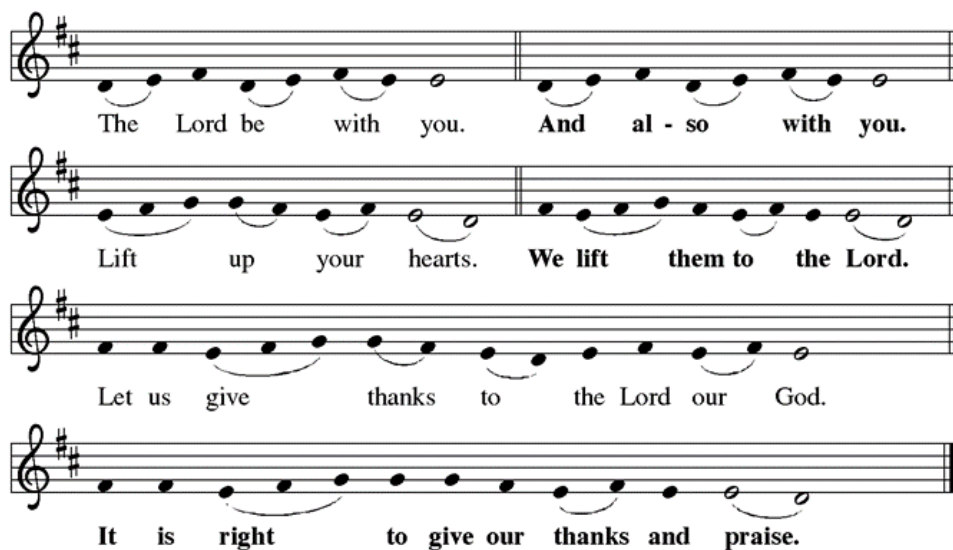
ELW 184

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 have gathered us around your table of grace  
along with these gifts we bring.  
Come among us again,  
breathe your life into us,  
and enliven us with this meal,  
that we may live as your risen body in the world.  
Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



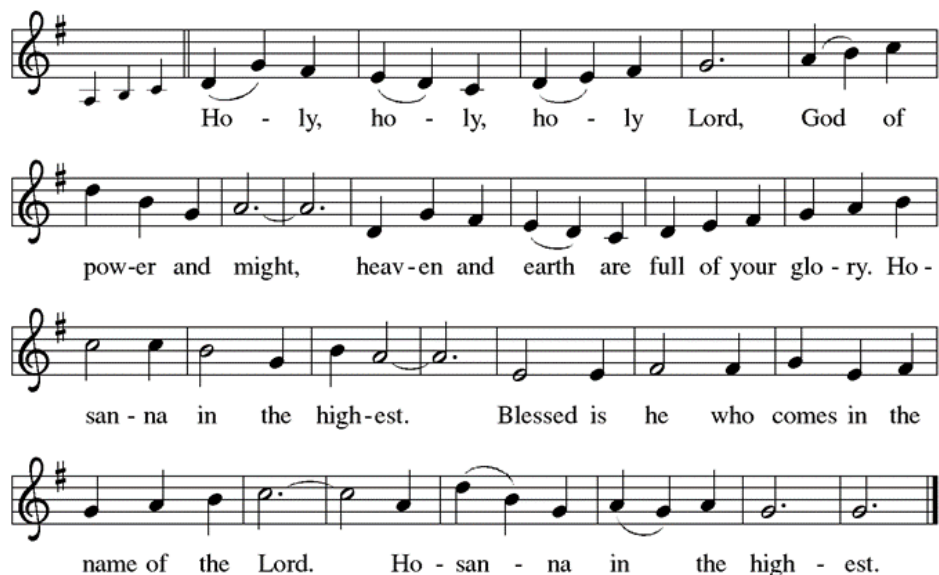
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 . . .



## 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.**

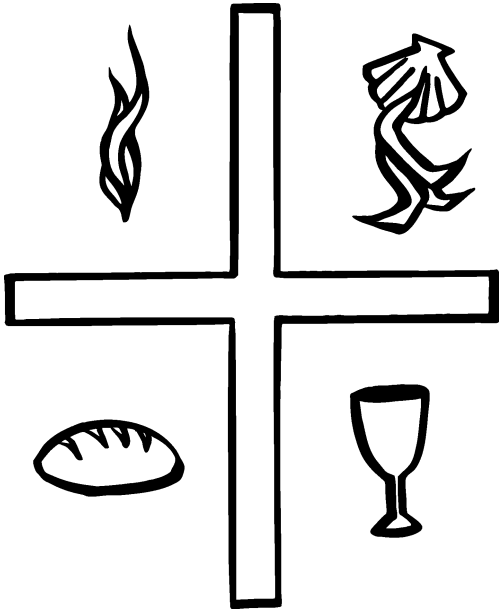
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**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.*

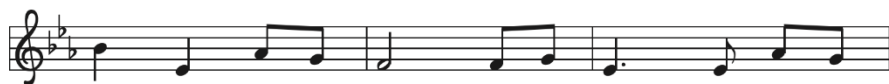
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



## Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



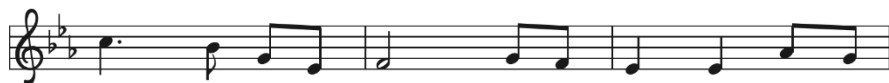
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

# 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;  |
| 3 | Love  | as  | the  | one   | who, | in       | love             | for       |
| 4 | Dwell | in  | the  | one   | who  | now      | dwells           | in        |
| 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    |
| self    | for       | the   | life      | of     | the       | world. | Come  | to    | the  | one     |
| home    | in        | the   | life      | -      | giv - ing | Word.  | Know  | on -  | ly   | Christ, |
| bread   | and       | be -  | lieve     | Eas -  | ter       | morn;  | trust | his   | re - | turn    |
|         |           |       |           |        |           |        |       |       | and, | with    |

*Refrain*



|       |      |         |        |          |        |      |      |        |      |      |        |
|-------|------|---------|--------|----------|--------|------|------|--------|------|------|--------|
| 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.  |

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,

**in this feast you have made yourself known to us.**

**Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,**

**and proclaim your risen life**

**to a wounded and weary world.**

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.  
**Amen!**

## SENDING HYMN:

ELW 376

### Thine Is the Glory



- 1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
- 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

#### *Refrain*



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Many thanks to our musicians this morning:**

Al Rochlin, trumpet  
Greg Geleta, trumpet  
Gary Mischler, trombone  
Isaiah Ebersole, trombone  
Rob Benton, percussion

## **PRAYER LIST**

### **Changes to the Prayer List this week:**

Added – none

Removed – LaJune McDonough

**Reformation Family:** Carol Baer, Millie Castillo, Nancy Edinger, Bob Galbraith, Roger Hillibush, Dana Humbert, Cheryl Manella, Linda Sell, Elinor Snyder, Erica Sweigert, Dee Dee Werner, Connie Whalen, Herb Zettlemoyer, and the family of LaJune McDonough

**Friends of Reformation:** Kathy Adomshick, Sandy Bender, Bob Benton, Andy Bishop, Claire Boarder, Michele Boucher, Charmis, Carole Coddington, Barbara Connor, Carl and Laura, Patricia Derr, Immanuel Eberly, Wilgus Elliott, Judi and Carl Esterly, Ethan, Susan Flicker, Francis, Robert Granko, Lee Hartman, Gino Hinnershitz, John Howard, Evelyn Hunsicker, Deacon Kalbach, Kayden, Allison Kunkel, Batya Leidner, Dana Little, Kathy McCoy, Debbie Mikes, Jean Morgan, Andrew Nosti, Amy Papilla, Patty, Keith and Peg Ruch, Garrett Schanfelder, Karolyn Schrufer, Kim Sharp, Linda Smith, Charles Sperling, Herm Spitzer, Jacob Stoner, Steve V., Grace Vetter, and Erika Wesch

## **Next Week's Worship Leaders:**

|          | <b>8:30am</b>          | <b>10:30am</b> |
|----------|------------------------|----------------|
| Ushers:  | Charley and Jen Weaver | TBD            |
| Reader:  | Karen Montag           | Alan Blackburn |
| A/M:     | TBD                    | Alan Blackburn |
| Acolyte: | Jen Weaver             | TBD            |

**Easter Breakfast** - from 9:15 am to 10:15 am. Thanks to all those who did the cooking, cleanup, and other work for this event!

**Easter Egg Hunt** - Join us Easter morning for our annual Easter Egg hunt! We will meet under the portico at 9:30am. Open to all kids ages 0-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Thanks to all of the donors, egg-fillers, and organizers!

**Reading Symphony Jr. String Orchestra** - The Reading Symphony Junior String Orchestra (RSJSO) will join us for worship at our 10:30 AM service next week, on April 27th. The RSJSO is a developmental ensemble for advanced fourth through eighth grade string students of Berks County and surrounding areas, and rehearses 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.

**Building Use** – please note that our entire building, other than the offices, will be in use by the Agora charter school for testing the weeks of April 28-May 2, May 5-9, and May 12-16 from 7 am to 4 pm. Please respect their need for quiet and do not enter the building during these times. Thank you.

**God Walk** – join us for the first God Walk of the season on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1 pm at Moncacy Hill Recreation Area. We'll meet at the main entrance on Geiger Road.