

# Reformation Lutheran Church

3670 Perkiomen Avenue

Reading, PA 19606

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

Office (610) 779-0534

Pastor Stoddard (610) 334-1285

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent  
A Service of Word and Sacrament

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
9:30 AM



# Welcome to Reformation!

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dr. Gregory Stoddard  
Director of Music: Dr. Heidi Rochlin

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Ushers	Charley and Jen Weaver
Reader	Jackie Morrissey
Assisting Minister	Melanie Bechtel
Acolyte	Jen Weaver
Altar Guild	Cindy & Dave Shirey and Lisa Phillippi
Live streaming	Tom Sahaida, Stu Johnston, Jared Preston, Andy Dobroskey

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*The assembly stands.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✝ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

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

*The assembly kneels or sits.*

Almighty God,  
**to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

**Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult**

*Found in the Red Hymnal*

**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, let us pray to the Lord.



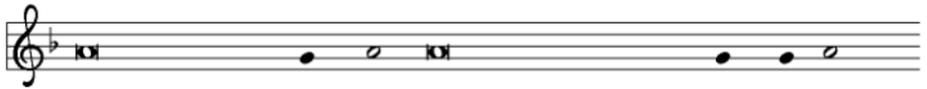
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



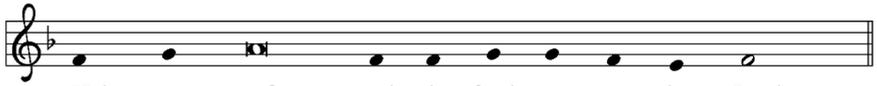
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of truth,

**Too often we bend truth to fit our needs. Show us how to recognize and follow your truth, shown to us by the love and life of your son, Jesus. Amen.**

### JOHN 18: 28-40

<sup>28</sup> Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate’s headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup> So Pilate went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” <sup>30</sup> They answered, “If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.” <sup>31</sup> Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.” The Jews replied, “We are not permitted to put anyone to death.” <sup>32</sup> (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

<sup>33</sup> Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my

followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.”<sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”<sup>38</sup> Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him.”<sup>39</sup> But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”<sup>40</sup> They shouted in reply, “Not this man but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a rebel.

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY:

ELW 801

**Change My Hear, O God**

*Found in the Red Hymnal*

### APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

## 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

Assisting Minister: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

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

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

Assisting Minister: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### OFFERING & ANTHEM

**Irish Blessing**, by *Philip Stopford*

*The assembly stands.*

## OFFERTORY: Let the Vineyards be Fruitful



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.

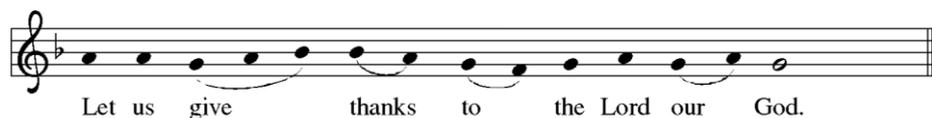
## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

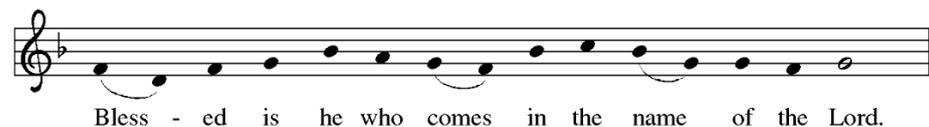
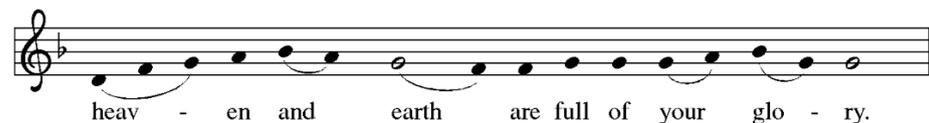
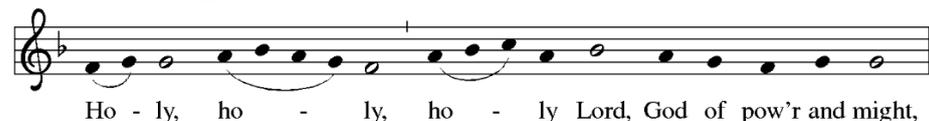
**God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## GREAT THANKSGIVING

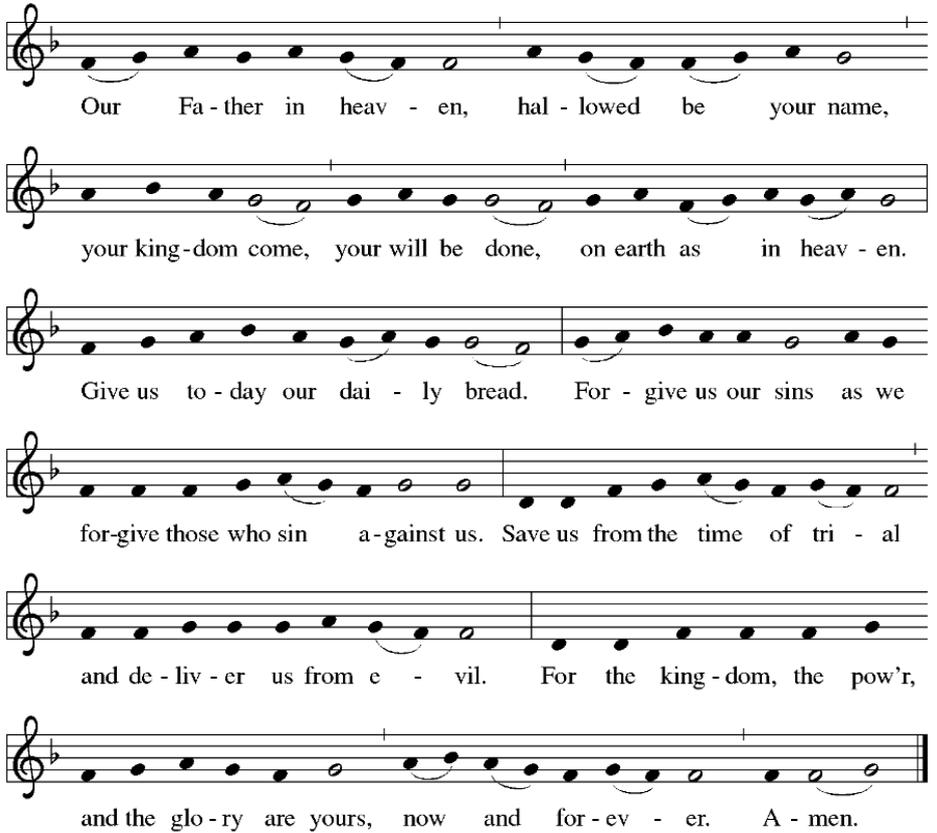


It is indeed right . . .



# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## INVITATION & COMMUNION

*Please note that, 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. When returning your used cups to the trays along the walls, please do not stack the cups. All are welcome to commune.*

## LAMB OF GOD



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. A - men.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

### One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

*Found in the Red Hymnal*

### Eat This Bread

ELW 472

*Found in the Red Hymnal*

## 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 Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

**ELW 805**

**Lead On, O King Eternal!**

*Found in the Red Hymnal*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# PRAYER LIST

Added – Scott

the Derr family, the Shollenberger family

**Reformation Family:** Carol Baer, Steve Barnett, Ruth Blatt, Millie Castillo, Harriet Clauser, Nancy Edinger, Bob Galbraith, Rich Hawk, Roger Hillibush, Dana Humbert, Cynthia Smoker-Johnston, Maddie Kemp, Cheryl Manella, Scott, Linda Sell,, Elinor Snyder, Erica Sweigert, Connie Whalen, and Herb Zettlemoyer

**Friends of Reformation:** Kathy Adomshick,, Sandy Bender, Andy Bishop, Claire Boarder, Karen Borsak, Michele Boucher, Mary Bowen, Susan Broome, Lucille Canta, Cathy, Carole Coddington, Barbara Connor, Carl and Laura, Patricia Derr,, Bernadette Dieumegard, Wilgus Elliott, Judi and Carl Esterly, Ethan, Susan Flicker, Francis, Robert Granko, Brian Gruber, Gino Hinnershitz, John Howard, Deacon Kalbach, Kayden, Marsha Krall, Allison Kunkel, Batya Leidner, Scott Leone, Dana Little, Maryann and Elwood Long, Kathy McCoy, Debbie Mikes, Jean Morgan, Andrew Nosti, Amy Papilla, Wyatt Plica, Molly Regan, Avery Reinert, Keith and Peg Ruch, Garrett Schanfelder, Karolyn Schrufer, Kim Sharp, Linda Smith, Charles Sperling, Herm Spitzer, Jacob Stoner, Grace Vetter, Linda W., Michael Ware, Erika Wesch, the Derr family, and the Shollenberger family

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

	<u>March 22<sup>nd</sup></u>
Ushers	Dale and Carole Miller
Reader	Judy Plica
Assisting Minister	Judy Plica
Acolyte	TBD

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lenten Soup & Services** – Each Wednesday in Lent, we will hold a weekly potluck soup and salad dinner starting at 5:45PM with a service of Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00PM. After the service, an adult Bible Study will be held in the parlor. Please see the sign-up sheets in the narthex to sign up to bring soup, salad, or bread.

**Health Ministry Health Kits Collection** – The Health Ministry would like to participate with the Lutheran World Relief Health Kits as a project for Lent again this year. We are asking you to help by bringing an article each week which is listed during Lent. These kits are then sent along with the quilts that are made each year to be disturbed throughout the world and the United States. We will be assembling them on Easter morning after church. By assembling LWR Personal Health Kits, we help share God's love and create a Season of Hope for our neighbors around the world. The Bins will be in the narthex for the collection each week. Thank you for helping us with the SEASON OF HOPE.

WEEK 1-----2 bars of 4 to 5 Oz soap any brand in original wrapping

WEEK 2-----Bath Towels (light weight maximum between 20"x 40" \* 52"x27")

WEEK 3-----1 Single toothbrush in original packaging

WEEK 4-----1 single comb

WEEK 5-----Nail clippers

**Easter Daffodils and Palm Plants** (to decorate our sanctuary) will be secured this year from Levengood's Flowers, Douglassville. Daffodils in a 6" pot cost \$10. Majesty palm plants (3-4' tall) cost \$25. Six palm plants are needed. Envelopes will be available in the bulletin as well as on the shelf in the narthex. Deadline to order palms is March 22nd, and daffodils, March 29th. Both daffodils and palm plants may be taken after the 9:30 AM Easter worship service.

**Jazz Worship** is next Sunday, March 22nd @ 9:30 AM. Reformation will once again be participating in the Boscov's Berks Jazz Fest. The eight-piece "Generations Jazz Ensemble," directed by Dr. Heidi Rochlin, will join our vocal and handbell choirs in an uplifting worship experience. Mark your calendars and invite your neighbors!

