

# 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

**Pentecost**

**A Service of Word and Sacrament**

**May 24<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	Kathy Miller and Teri Stoddard
Reader	Elisha Barnett
Assisting Minister	Jeanne Gochnauer
Acolyte	TBD
Altar Guild	Heather McHale and Pam Schneeberger
Flowers	Pentecost geraniums
Live streaming	Tom Sahaida, Stu Johnston, Jared Preston, Andy Dobroskey

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*The assembly stands.*

### 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.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**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.**

**GATHERING HYMN:**

**ELW 412**

**Come Join the Dance of Trinity**



1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—  
 2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;  
 3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame  
 4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter-weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.  
 then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Je - ru - sa - lem.  
 set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.  
 we sing the prais - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.



The u - ni - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,  
 The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;  
 We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;  
 Let voic - es rise and in - ter - weave, by love and hope set free,



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.  
 when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.  
 go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!  
 to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

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.**

**THIS IS THE FEAST:**

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-tory 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

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

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be-

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

**God of Spirit, We give thanks that when you sent your Advocate, the apostles were empowered to speak about your deeds of power in all languages, for every people. Give us boldness to share the Spirit's power with our neighbors. Amen.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

### ACTS 2:1-21

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews<sup>[a]</sup> and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,

and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

### **JOHN 20:19-23**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

### **SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY:  
**Spirit of Gentleness**

ELW 396

*Refrain*



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;  
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,  
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”  
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.  
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

*Refrain*

## APOSTLES' CREED

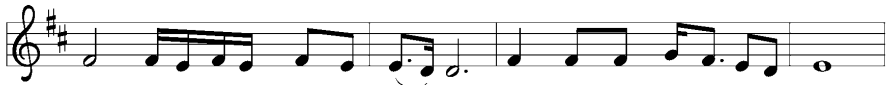
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**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: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

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

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Assisting Minister: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

# THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

## OFFERING & ANTHEM

**Battle Hymn of the Republic, by William Steffe**

*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



bles-sing. 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:

**Merciful God,**  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

## 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.**

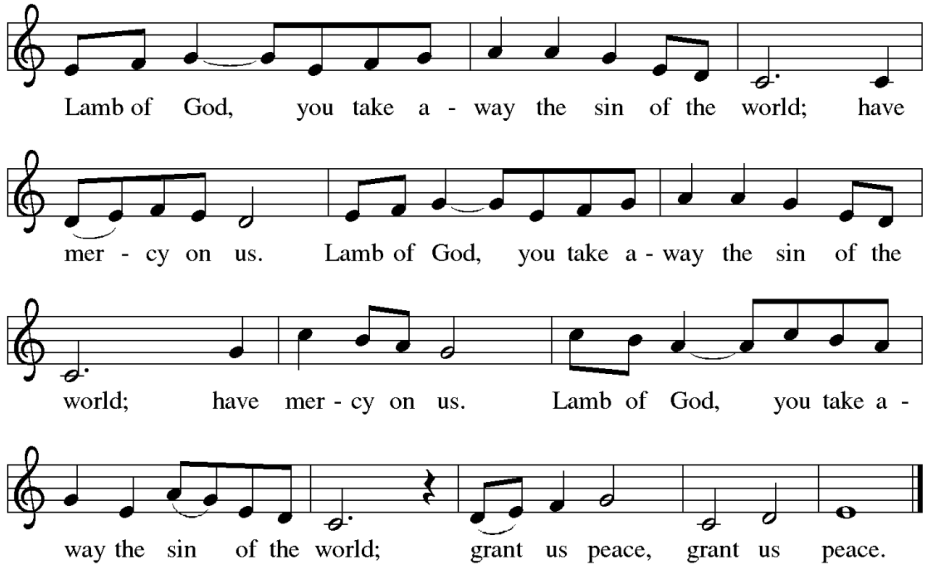
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION & COMMUNION

*Please note that, 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, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

### Everyday God

1. Earth's creator, *Everyday God*,  
Loving Maker, *O Jesus*,  
You who shaped us, *O Spirit*,  
Recreate us, *Come, be with us*.
2. In your presence, *Everyday God*,  
We are gathered, *O Jesus*,  
You have called us, *O Spirit*,  
To restore us, *Come, be with us*.
3. Life of all lives, *Everyday God*,  
Love of all loves, *O Jesus*,  
Hope of all hopes, *O Spirit*,  
Light of all lights, *Come, be with us*.
4. In our resting, *Everyday God*,  
In our rising, *O Jesus*,  
In our hoping, *O Spirit*,  
In our waiting, *Come, be with us*.
5. In our dreaming, *Everyday God*,  
In our daring, *O Jesus*,  
In our searching, *O Spirit*,  
In our sharing, *Come, be with us*.
6. God of laughter, *Everyday God*,  
God of sorrow, *O Jesus*,  
Home and shelter, *O Spirit*,  
Strong and patient, *Come, be with us*.
7. Way of freedom, *Everyday God*,  
Star of morning, *O Jesus*,  
Timeless healer, *O Spirit*,  
Flame eternal, *Come, be with us*.
8. Word of gladness, *Everyday God*,  
Word of mercy, *O Jesus*,  
Word of friendship, *O Spirit*,  
Word of challenge, *Come, be with us*.

9. Gentle father, *Everyday God*,  
Faithful brother, *O Jesus*,  
Tender sister, *O Spirit*.  
Loving mother, *Come, be with us*.

10. Our beginning, *Everyday God*,  
Our unfolding, *O Jesus*,

Our enduring, *O Spirit*,  
Journey's ending, *Come, be with us*.

11. Alleluia, *Everyday God*,  
Now and always, *O Jesus*,  
Alleluia, *O Spirit*,  
Through all ages, *Come, be with u*

## In Christ Alone

C 18

*Found in the Contemporary Spiral Book*

*The assembly stands.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

## BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## This Is My Song



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.  
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE – SOUNDING OF TAPS**

# PRAYER LIST

Added - none

**Reformation Family:** Carol Baer, Steve Barnett, Ruth Blatt, Tom Brizek, Millie Castillo, Harriet Clauser, Nancy Edinger, Bob Galbraith, Rich Hawk, Roger Hillibush, Dana Humbert, Maddie Kemp, Cheryl Manella, Pat Schonour, Scott, Linda Sell., Elinor Snyder, Erica Sweigert, Connie Whalen, and Herb Zettlemyer

**Friends of Reformation:** Kathy Adomshick, Thomas Allmon, Ben, Sandy Bender, Andy Bishop, Claire Boarder, Karen Borsak, Michele Boucher, Mary Bowen, Susan Broome, Lucille Canta, Cathy, 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, Allison Kunkel, Batya Leidner, Scott Leone, Dana Little, Maryann and Elwood Long, Alyson, Sophie, and Avery Maas, Kathy McCoy,, Andrew Nosti, Amy Papilla, Wyatt Plica, Chris Plue, Steve Puwalski, Molly Regan, Avery Reinert, Keith and Peg Ruch, Garrett Schanfelder, Karolyn Schrufer, Kim Sharp, Linda Smith, Charles Sperling, Herm Spitzer, Jacob Stoner, John Swartz, Taylor Tenuta, Grace Vetter, , Michael Ware, and Erika Wesch

We pray for our Call Committee as they listen and discern during this season of transition.

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

May 31<sup>st</sup>

Ushers	Pat and Kathy Austin
Reader	Kathy Austin
Assisting Minister	Dee Dee Werner
Acolyte	Zander Bogust

**Remember to check out the sign-up sheets on the kiosk to volunteer as a worship assistant. We're always looking for new volunteers and can train anyone interested in trying a new role!**

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Clothing Bank** – We are looking for children’s spring and summer clothing, sizes infant through 16 – especially for boys. Help is always needed on the second Tuesday morning of each month for unpacking, sorting and straightening up, as well as on the third Friday each month for the Give. Thanks again! Your help and donations are always appreciated.

**Health Ministry News** – Our next project will be a blood drive in September of 2026. Please watch for further information that will be coming soon. Please consider giving the gift of life for someone in need. We need new people to help. You do not need a medical background to be part of this Health Ministry. There are only a few projects that we continue to do for the community. Please consider joining. Cindy Shirey (610) 468-7411

**Yoga Classes** – Yoga class will now be offered on Fridays at 10AM. This is in addition to the Wednesday class, which also meets at 10AM. If you have any questions, please see Jane Quaintance.

**Church Website and Calendar** – When is the last time you looked at our church’s website? There is a calendar of events – both church-sponsored and outside groups who use our space. There are many pages of information and photos! As we embark on calling a new pastor, please consider taking a look at our website and seeing if any information, especially anything that pertains to a group or committee you are involved in, is updated and accurate! We’d like to be certain any potential candidate can see current information about our congregation! Please reach out to Sarah Dobroskey with any updates you see are needed! (sarah.beth06@gmail.com)  
Our website address is: reformationlutheran.org

**Reformation Church Picnic** – Sunday, June 7th – Rustic Park, Birdsboro – Pavilion #4. Please plan on joining us for our outdoor Worship Service at 10:30 AM, followed by a delicious picnic lunch. Hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages will be provided. You are asked to bring a snack, salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Hope to see you in the park!

There will also be a Worship Service at 8:30 AM at the church for those not wanting to attend in the park.

**ELCA Youth Gathering 2027** -

Youth entering 8th-12<sup>th</sup> grade in Fall 2026 are eligible to attend the Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, June 28 - July 2, 2027. If your child is interested in the Youth Gathering, please contact Alicia Bergey at [abergey2@gmail.com](mailto:abergey2@gmail.com) or 610-316-7387.