

# 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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
A Service of Word and Sacrament

May 31<sup>st</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 Pat and Kathy Austin  
Reader Kathy Austin  
Assisting Minister Dee Dee Werner  
Acolyte Zander Bogust  
Altar Guild Heather McHale and Pam Schneeberger  
Flowers Dennis and Tina Little-in memory of loved ones  
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, whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

**Amen.**

Come, All You People

*U - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;*  
 1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
 2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
 3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

*u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;*  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

*u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;*  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

*u - ya - i - mo - se Zvi - no.*  
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.

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 - 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

Let us pray,

**Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

### **FIRST READING – GENESIS 1:1 – 2:4A**

<sup>1</sup> When God began to create the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the

night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created humans in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” <sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2:1</sup> Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4a</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**SECOND READING – 2 CORINTHIANS 13:11-13**

[Paul writes:] <sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

<sup>13</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

*The assembly stands.*

**GOSPEL – MATTHEW 28:16-20**

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

*The assembly may be seated.*

**SERMON**

## 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.

## 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: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

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

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

Assisting Minister: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

### THE PEACE

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

*The assembly may be seated.*

### OFFERING & ANTHEM

**Follow Me**, arranged by John Carter

*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:

**Loving God,**

**we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.**

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,**

**through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.**

**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

*Found in the Contemporary Spiral Book*

*The assembly stands.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

**Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
✠ one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.  
**Amen.**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

# PRAYER LIST

Added: Greg Geesaman

**Reformation Family:** Carol Baer, Steve Barnett, Ruth Blatt, Tom Brizek, Millie Castillo, Harriet Clauser, Nancy Edinger, Bob Galbraith, Rich Hawk, Roger Hillbush, 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, Greg Geesaman, 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:**

	<u>June 7<sup>th</sup></u> 8:30AM	10:30AM
Ushers	TBD	TBD
Reader	TBD	TBD
Assisting Minister	Melanie Bechtel	Cynthia Smoker-Johnston
Acolyte	Zander Bogust	N/A

**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.

**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 or 610-316-7387.

**Worship Volunteers** - There will be a table in the narthex to gather worship service volunteers. Whether you are currently serving in a specific capacity or not, we'd like you to reaffirm your commitment by signing up. We are looking for Ushers (you can sign up by yourself and we'll match you with a partner), Reader, Assisting Minister (reading the prayers and serving communion wine), and Acolyte. Training would be provided for anyone who hasn't served before. There are also signup sheets at the table for Opportunity House, Clothing Bank and Health Ministry.

**Additional Pentecost Geranium Sponsors:**

Russell and Harriet Clauser-in memory of our grandson, Greg Ballinger  
and in honor of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren

The Smoker-Johnston Family-in memory of mother and grandmother,  
Claire Johnston  
- in memory of mother and grandmother,  
Dorothy Smoker,  
- in memory of brother and uncle,  
Mark Smoker

Mike and Sue Kern-in memory of loved ones

Judy Plica-in honor of all those who mourn the loss of loved ones

Mom and Dad, Ellen and David Sargent-in memory of David Liedel