

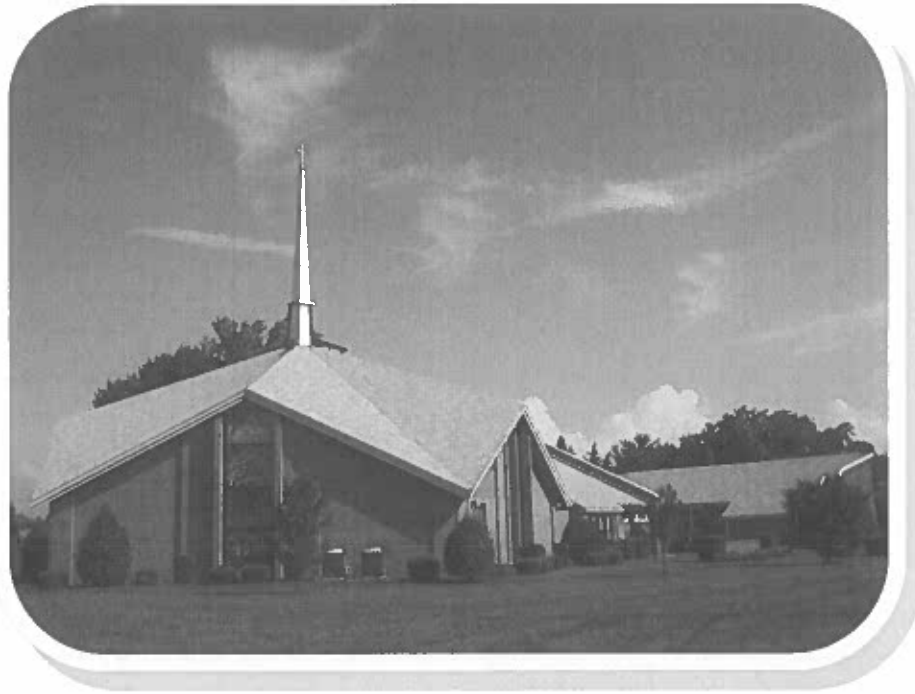
March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

613 Lakeview Avenue

Milford, Delaware, 19963



Phone: 302-422-9117

www.rlcmilford.com

Office hours (*Closed holidays*):

9:00am-2:00pm, Monday–Friday

Susan Bozak

Administrative Assistant

Gail Kelso

Director of Music / Organist

The Rev. Eric W. Evers & The Rev. Paige G. Evers

Pastors

Easter Sunday

8:30 & 11:00 am service

You can find videos of this Sunday's service and our past services (along with downloadable bulletins) at www.rlcMilford.com/connect.

We have hearing assistance devices available. Please ask an Usher if you would like to use one to help with hearing the service.

Please silence your cell phone before worship begins. Thank you.

Welcome to Reformation!

We are especially glad to welcome visitors to worship. We hope you experience God's love for you this morning! Visitors are invited to sign the pew pads so we can be in touch with you.

Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the usher's directions to come forward down the center aisle to receive the bread and wine. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer or grape juice, please inform the server. Those who do not yet receive Communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Lutherans believe that in Communion, we receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins, the renewal of our faith, and the strengthening of our Christian community. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good!

***"Being transformed by Jesus so that, through us,
he is transforming the world."***

Reformation's Mission is to:
Welcome people to faith. Make disciples. Live what we believe.

Announcements

Prelude "Jesus Shall Reign" & "Joyful Dance" Reformation Ringers

Easter Proclamation

P: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

P: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

P: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Gathering Hymn

"Thine is the Glory"

No. 376

Apostolic Greeting

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

C: **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise (*In unison*)

"This Is the Feast"



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. ⁸Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading**1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

A: The Word of the Lord.**C:** Thanks be to God.**Gospel Acclamation****Gospel****John 20:1-18****P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.**C:** Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been

removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Eric W. Evers

***Hymn of the Day**

"Christ is Risen! Alleluia!"

No. 382

Nicene Creed *(Recited together)*

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

***Prayers of Intercession**

A: Lord, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

***The Lord's Prayer** *(Prayed together)*

**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.**

***Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

Collection of the Offering

Musical Offering "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Choir

***Offertory** "Create in Me a Clean Heart" **No. 186**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

***Offertory Prayer**

A: Let us pray:

C: **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

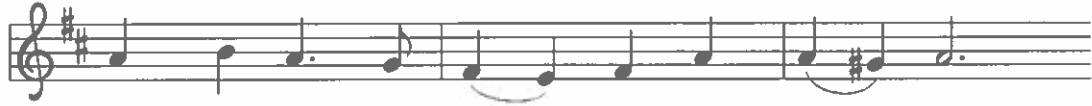
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***Proper Preface**

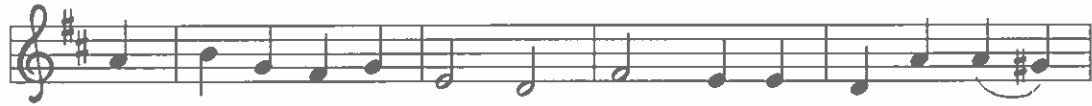
***Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***The Words of Institution**

"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.

The Distribution of Communion, Standing, at the Altar Rail

Communion Hymns: No. 392, "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;" No. 379, "Now the Green Blade Rises;" No. 377, "Alleluia! Jesus is

Risen!" No. 367, "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds;"
No. 449, " We Know that Christ is Raised"

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

***Benediction**

***Sending Hymn** "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" **No. 365**

***Dismissal**

Postlude

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THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today	8:30 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship
	11:00 am	Worship Service
Monday		<i>Church Office Closed</i>
Thursday	1:00 pm	WELCA (in Annex)
Next Sunday	8:30 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee Fellowship
	11:00 am	Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Members Class Starting April 14: Are you interested in learning more about Reformation? On April 14 through April 28, we will have a New Members Class during the Sunday morning Bible study hour (9:45am). Please speak with Pastor Eric or Pastor Paige if you have any questions, and contact the church office to let us know if you plan to attend (302-422-9117).

New Ministry! Dinner Fellowship Groups will be starting at Reformation in April. These will be a great way to get to know each

other and strengthen friendships in our congregation! Check out the table in the Narthex to see the groups and sign up, and you can offer to host or serve as a coordinator as well. Friends from outside Reformation are welcome to come and get to know the warmth and hospitality of a church community. Please speak with Pastor Paige or Pastor Eric with any questions.

Women's Group Meeting: The Women of the ELCA (WELCA) will meet on Thursday, April 4th at 1:00 PM at the Church Annex. All women of the church are welcome! Please join us for Bible study, business, and fellowship. It's a great way to spend time with other Reformation women.

Save the date for **Vacation Bible School** for families to attend together: June 17-20 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. each night. We'll be going to "Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid" for our VBS theme this year! Please join us with your children and grandchildren, friends and neighbors! To volunteer at VBS (middle schoolers, high schoolers, and adults), please contact Pastor Paige.

Newspaper Donations Requested: Kids Inc., our day care ministry, will be making floral decorations for their room with newspapers. If you have any newspapers, we would appreciate the donation. There is a collection bin in the narthex. Thank you!

Give By Text: You can support Reformation by sending a text with a dollar amount to (302) 204-1410 and following the instructions you receive back. However you give, your support matters! Thank you!

Sign Up for Church News! If you aren't receiving Reformation news through Constant Contact, please send an email to Pastor Eric at pr.eric@reformation-lutheran.net. It's a great way to keep up with what's going on at Reformation.

Happy Birthday to: Gary Johnson on April 2nd. **Happy Anniversary to:** Jay & Mary K. Konesey today.

SERVING TODAY

March 31	8:30	11:00
Usher	Al & Karen Stark	Ed Huey
Lay Reader	Matt Pencek	Kristin Schlegel
Worship Assistant	Ken Newell	Trish Boyer
Acolyte	Lexi Caccamise	Soren Evers
Healing Prayer	Sandi Shea	Maynard Gregory
Altar Guild	Carol Whyte & Janice Weiner	Janice Weiner
Live Stream Operator	Sigrid Evers	
Fellowship Host	Lisa Caccamise	

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

April 7	8:30	11:00
Usher	Ron Semmont	Karen Oldland
Lay Reader	Chris Antonik	Joyce Nauman
Worship Assistant	David Curnock	Kristin Schlegel
Acolyte	Dresden Miller	
Healing Prayer	Diane Massey	Dianna Smith
Altar Guild	Pam Curnock	Debbie Bryant-Davis
Live Stream Operator	Scott Rainville	
Fellowship Host	Melissa Miller	

Thank you to our staff, Mary Lu Wilson, Gail Kelso, and Susan Bozak, as well as our bell choir, choir, and lay leaders for all of their work in making our Lent, Holy Week, and Easter worship possible!

To those who are gathered with us today, thank you for celebrating Easter with Reformation! Our deepest prayer is that you will receive the gift of new life given to you through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. May his love fill your heart, and may his presence lead you to follow him in joy, hope, and power. Let us rise and keep the feast!