

April 23, 2023

The Third Sunday of Easter

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

613 Lakeview Avenue
Milford, Delaware, 19963

Phone: 302-422-9117

www.rlcMilford.com

Office hours (*Closed holidays*):

9:00am-3:30pm, Monday–Friday

Pat Sparks

Administrative Assistant

Gail Kelso

Director of Music / Organist

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

Pastors



Spread the word!

Please follow our church on Instagram: @rlcmilford

Please “Like” Reformation’s **Facebook** page for news, announcements, and photos of church events!

www.facebook.com/RLCmilford

Check in and **tweet** or post about what’s going on with the hashtag #RLCMilford, or post on Facebook and tag *Reformation Lutheran Church*.

Announcements

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

P: We gather... Most merciful God:

C: We confess that 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, now and forever. Amen.

P: ...in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” No. 367

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.



All
1 Wor-ty 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.



Refrain
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

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”

⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways

inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the

prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Eric W. Evers

Hymn of the Day

"As We Gather at Your Table"

No. 522

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 and Dedication of Fair Linens

P: 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.**

The Peace

Special Music "A Joyful Song to the Lord" Choir 8:30

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.

Distribution of Communion, Standing, at the Altar Rail

Communion Hymns: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!,” No. 369; “Let Us Break Bread Together,” No. 471; “Bread of Life from Heaven,” No. 474; “When Peace like a River,” No. 785

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Recessional Hymn “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” **No. 674**

Dismissal

Postlude

Liturgy elements from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46412

Thank you for placing your offering in the plate in the Narthex. For information about electronic giving, please visit www.rlcMilford.com/give.

THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today	8:30 am — Worship Service
	9:45 am — Bible Study and Coffee Fellowship
	11:00 am — Worship Service
Tuesday	6:30 pm — Growing Young Team
Thursday	6:00 pm — Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm — Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday	8:30 am — Worship Service
	9:45 am — Coffee Fellowship
	11:00 am — Worship Service

SERVING TODAY

April 23

Usher
Lay Reader
Worship Assistant
Acolyte
Healing Prayer
Altar Guild
Live Stream Operator
Fellowship Host

8:30

Ron Semmont
Matt Pencek
Kristin Schlegel
Connor Pencek
Janice Weiner
Sigrid Evers
Melissa Miller

11:00

Steve & Edith Weipert
Eric Valentine
Pam Curnock
Lexi Caccamise
Lisa Caccamise

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

April 30

Usher
Lay Reader
Worship Assistant
Acolyte
Healing Prayer
Altar Guild
Live Stream Operator
Fellowship Host

8:30

Janice Weiner
Carol Benner-Chaffinch
Dave Curnock
Eric Valentine
Soren Evers
Melissa Miller

11:00

Bill Vendetti
Kelsey Oldland
Kristin Schlegel
Deb Bryant-Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Could You Use A Hearing Boost? We are considering getting an assistive listening system (earpieces that connect wirelessly to our sound system) for the sanctuary. Would you use such a device if it were available? Please let us know, so that we can be sure this is a wise use of resources. You can say something to Pastor Eric or Pastor Paige. Thank you!

Choir Rehearsals are Thursday evenings: Our choirs practice Thursdays. Reformation Ringers (Bell Choir) rehearse at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary, followed by the Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:00 pm.

Join Us for Coffee Fellowship and Bible Study from 9:45 to 10:45 on Sunday mornings. Everyone is welcome!

The Women of the ELCA (WELCA) will be celebrating 66 years at Reformation Lutheran Church with a luncheon at Surf & Turf in Milford, DE on Thursday, May 4th at 12 noon. Come join us at our "Birthday Party!" **All** Reformation ladies are invited to attend. RSVP by April 30 by signing up on the sign-up sheet found on the bulletin board across from the kitchen or by contacting Marion Suski at 302-664-1902. We look forward to seeing you.

Campfire Night is coming in May! All ages are invited to come to church on Saturday, May 6 at 7:30 p.m. for a fun night outdoors around a fire. Bring your own chair and enjoy S'mores, fellowship, and fun. Contact Pastor Paige or a member of the Growing Young Team for more details. Please save the date!

Senior Quilt: You are invited to sign the Senior Quilt for Jack Pencek on display in the Narthex. We will present the quilt to Jack on Sunday, May 21, at the 8:30 am worship service. Thank you to Pastor Judy Moller-Gavlick and the entire Senior Quilt committee for their beautiful handiwork.

News from the Christian Service Committee: We are holding a clothing drive during April to assist Brandywine Counseling & Community Services. Donations will be accepted every Sunday in the Narthex. BCCS needs spring and summer clothing, and the following items for men and women: jeans, t-shirts, shirts, shoes, hoodies, wash cloths, shampoos, conditioner, lotion, and hair accessories.

BCCS is a behavioral health community resource in Delaware. They provide education, prevention, early intervention, treatment, and justice-involved services for persons and families touched by mental illness, substance use, HIV and multiple occurring diagnosis, and their related challenges.

Contact Sherry Titherington, pegasus67912@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Vacation Bible School for families will be held June 19-22 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Registration is now open at www.rlcmilford.com/vbs. Children of all ages are invited to come and have a blast at our space-theme VBS, and grow in faith with their parents and grandparents and their friends at church!

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, and he will add you to this distribution list. It's a great way to keep up with what's going on at Reformation.

Happy Birthday to: Debbie Bryant-Davis on April 29th.