

May 14, 2023

The Sixth 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*.



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 17:22-31

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ ²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and

keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paige G. Evers

Hymn of the Day

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

No. 786

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

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**

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: “Thy Holy Wings,” No. 613; “When Peace Like a River,” No. 785; “Give Me Jesus,” No. 770; “Will You Come and Follow Me” No. 798

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Recessional Hymn

“O God beyond All Praising”

No. 880

Dismissal

Postlude

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

SERVING TODAY

May 14

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

8:30

Ron Semmont
Sandi Shea
Eric Valentine

Janice Weiner
Scott Rainville
Mary Lu Wilson

11:00

Todd Hannah
Dianna Smith
Lisa Caccamise

Diane Massey
Janice Piatkowski

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

May 21

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

8:30

Karen & Kelsey Oldland
Matt Pencek
John Leach
Connor Pencek

Carol Whyte
Kristin Schlegel
Sandi Shea

11:00

Steve & Edith Weipert
Joyce Nauman
Pam Curnock

Joy Rowe
Eric Valentine

THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today	8:30 am — Worship Service
	9:45 am — Bible Study and Coffee Fellowship
	11:00 am — Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 pm — Church Council
Thursday	6:00 pm — Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm — Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday	8:30 am — Worship Service & Senior Quilt Presentation
	9:45 am — Coffee Fellowship
	11:00 am — Worship Service
	4:00 pm — Youth Gathering

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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: For the month of May, we are collecting items for two animal shelters. You may bring your donations of knuckle bones, toys, treats like Pupperoni, canned, dye-free pet food, kitty litter, puppy pads and cleaning supplies. Donations will be taken to the First State Shelter in Camden and to the Wicomico Shelter. You can check out First State at www.fsac-spca and Wicomico at www.wicomicohumane.org. You can also help by adopting not shopping, spaying and neutering, and volunteering. The Wicomico facility is overcrowded and is seeking foster families, or folks who are willing to do a day trip or a sleepover. Contact Sherry Titherington, pegasus67912@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

The Women of the ELCA (WELCA) will meet on Thursday, June 1 at 12 noon at the home of Cheryl Altares. This will be the last meeting before our summer break. We will start the meeting with a potluck luncheon followed by Bible study and business. Officers for the coming year will be elected at this meeting. The sign-up sheet for the luncheon is on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. All women are welcome. Please join us!

CPR/First Aid Training: KIDS Inc. will be offering CPR/First Aid training on Saturday, June 3, from 9 am to 3 pm. This program is at no cost to participants and is open to anyone interested. If you would like to brush up on your training or learn the basics, please send an email to office@reformation-lutheran.net to let us know.

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!

Take Me Out to the Ballgame! Join your Reformation friends at a Shorebirds baseball game in Salisbury on Sunday, July 9 at 5:05 p.m. Tickets are only \$10 per person for our group. You can pay cash or make a check out to Reformation Lutheran Church for the tickets. (When you arrive at the stadium, you'll pay \$5 per vehicle for parking). This is a great fellowship opportunity for all ages! Please contact Pastor Paige by June 25 to sign up: pr.paige@reformation-lutheran.net or 302-422-9117.

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.

Daily Devotional Guide: Every Sunday afternoon, we post a daily guide for Bible readings and reflections, psalms to read and pray, and prayer suggestions. You can find it on our website: www.rlcmilford.com/connect. We also offer a few printed copies in the narthex. We hope you will make use of this spiritual resource to grow in your faith!

Happy Birthday to: Tristan Taylor today, Drake DeHart on the 15th, Matthew Oldland on the 16th, Zachary Emory on the 19th, and Maynard Gregory on the 20th.

Happy Anniversary to: Curt & Becky Hudson and Rich & June Steenland on the 15th, Tristan & Kelley Taylor on the 17th, and Mike & Tia Mallard on the 20th.

The Mission of Reformation Lutheran Church is to:

Invite our neighbors as Jesus invites us.

Engage in a community of graceful discipleship.

Equip our members to grow in faith and ministry.

Embody the love of Jesus in our world.