

June 4, 2023  
Holy Trinity Sunday  
10:00 AM

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
613 Lakeview Avenue  
Milford, Delaware, 19963



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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

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# Holy Trinity Sunday

10:00 am service

*You can find videos of this Sunday's service and our past services (along with downloadable bulletins) at [www.rlcMilford.com/connect](http://www.rlcMilford.com/connect). Audio-only recordings of the readings and sermon are available at <http://reformation-lutheran.net/sermons>. Share these with your friends and family on social media so we can touch more lives with God's Word!*

Please silence cell phones 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!

## Prayer Requests

To add someone to the prayers of the Church, please write their name on the list behind the altar.

**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.

# Gathering

*\* indicates the congregation is invited to stand, as able*

## Announcements

## Godspeed for John and Marge Leach

## Prelude

### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

**P:** We gather in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the forgiving and healing power of your Holy Spirit, so that we may reflect your glory as we grow in holiness and faith, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

**P:** God of mercy and life,

**C:** **we confess that we have turned from you and have fallen under the deadly power of sin. Our thoughts, words, and deeds have broken our fellowship with you and with our neighbors. Forgive us, we pray, and set us free from sin and death, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, both now and forever, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**P:** In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and in him, we are freed from sin and death. His Holy Spirit renews us and leads us into life. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

“Come, Join the Dance of Trinity”

**No. 412**

**\*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**

“He is Exalted”

Twila Paris

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name!  
He is the Lord; forever His truth shall reign.  
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Let us pray...

**C: Amen.**

**Children’s Sermon**

## Word

**First Reading**

**Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void 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. 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 humankind 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 humankind 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>And on the seventh 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>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**A:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

**2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

<sup>11</sup>Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, 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.

**A:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **\*Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia”**

Traditional Melody

Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia.

## **\*Gospel**

**Matthew 28:16-20**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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 some 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."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon**

Pastor Paige G. Evers

**\*Hymn of the Day** "Will You Come and Follow Me" **No. 798**

**\*Nicene Creed**

**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**

**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.**

## **Meal**

### **\*Peace**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

*The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Collection of the Offering**

#### **Musical Offering**

“Seek Ye First”

by Karen Lafferty

#### **\*Offertory**

“Shout to the Lord”

**No. 821**

My Jesus, my Savior,

Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days I want to praise  
the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,  
tower of refuge and strength;

let ev'ry breath, all that I am  
never cease to worship you.



Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing  
power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
at the sound of your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;  
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

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### **\*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"**

Jimmy Owens

Holy holy, holy holy, holy holy, Lord God Almighty.  
And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love.  
Holy holy, holy holy.

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, Come and fill our hearts anew, Holy Spirit.  
And we lift our voice before you as a token of our love.  
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.

## **\*The Words of Institution**

### **“Spirit Song”**

John Wimber

O, let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love,  
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.  
Oh, let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove,  
Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

*Refrain:* Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.  
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

O, come and sing this song with gladness  
as your hearts are filled with joy,  
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.

O, give him all your tears and sadness,  
give him all your years of pain,  
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name. (*Refrain*)

## **The Distribution of Communion, Standing, at the Altar Rail**

Communion Hymns: “We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord,” No. 690; “Healer of Our Every Ill,” No. 612; “What a Friend We Have in Jesus,” No. 742; “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love,” No. 708

### **\*Post-Communion Blessing**

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

### **\*Post-Communion Prayer**

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

## **Sending**

### **\*Benediction**

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

**\*Sending Hymn**    “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!”    **No. 413**

### **\*Dismissal**

*Congregation responds with Thanks be to God.*

## **Postlude**

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### **SERVING TODAY**

<b>June 4</b>	<b>10:00</b>
Usher	Karolyn Hayes
Lay Reader	John Leach
Worship Assistant	Todd Hannah
Acolyte	
Healing Prayer	
Altar Guild	Gary Johnson
Live Stream Operator	Soren Evers

### **SERVING NEXT SUNDAY**

<b>June 11</b>	<b>10:00</b>
Usher	Ed Huey
Lay Reader	Matt Pencek
Worship Assistant	Eric Valentine
Acolyte	Connor Pencek
Healing Prayer	Joy Rowe
Altar Guild	Carol Whyte
Live Stream Operator	Jack or Shannon Pencek

## THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today	10:00 am — Worship Service 11:00 am — VBS Meeting
Tuesday	2:45 pm — KIDS Inc. Chapel
Thursday	10:00 am — Finance Committee 6:00 pm — Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm — Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	9:30 am — Al-Anon District Meeting
Next Sunday	<i>Church Music Sunday</i> 10:00 am — Worship Service

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Growing Young Survey** The Growing Young Team at Reformation has been working the past five months to learn how to more effectively engage with young people and their families. Our goal is to help our church grow and thrive as we pass on faith to the next generation. Part of the team's work is gathering input from our church members. We would love to hear about your experiences and insights, and use them to help discern where God is leading us in this important work.

Please take a few moments to fill out a Growing Young survey for our church. It will take around 5-10 minutes to complete. The survey link is: <https://www.oursurvey.church/rlc> Thank you for your support as we seek to share the love of Jesus with young people and all people at Reformation and in our community!

--The Growing Young Team: Cheryl Altares, Jake McDuff, Kelsey Oldland, Shannon Pencek, Kristin Schlegel & Pastor Paige

**Home Bible Study Group This Summer!** Beginning July 10, we will hold a new study and a new event ! You're invited to be part of a group that will read the book "I Guess I Haven't Learned That Yet" by Shauna Neiquist. The book is available on Amazon as a hard copy and on Kindle. The study will take place at the home of Sandi Shea. Space is limited! There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. We hope you can join us!

**Farewell to John and Marge Leach** Please join the choir and members of the congregation this Friday, June 9, at Grotto's in Milford at 5:00 pm. We're having a little get together to wish John and Marge Godspeed as they move to New Jersey to be closer to family. No need to be a choir member...just come and enjoy the company! They will be missed!!

**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](http://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!

**The Christian Service Committee** is holding a kids food drive during the month of June. The Food Bank of Delaware has a Backpack Program that provides food year-round to children in need for weekends and holidays when school is not in session and federal school meal programs are not available. Backpacks are stocked with kid-friendly nutritious, *easy-to-prepare* food for preparation and consumption at home. They are distributed on Fridays or the last day before a holiday or vacation in a discreet manner at schools. Items wanted include: 100% juice, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti & meatballs, beef stew, ravioli, granola bars, applesauce, and cereal.

**SUMMER 'PICK-UP' CHOIR** This summer, we will continue with our Sunday morning 'pick-up' choir. On July 2nd, we'll meet in the choir room at 9AM to practice, then sing at the 10AM service. There's no weekly rehearsal, no obligation to sing every Sunday, no robes, no sitting in the choir loft (unless you want to!), no need to have a great voice or even to read music! You just need a willing heart to make a joyful noise!! Give it a try this summer!

**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](mailto:pr.paige@reformation-lutheran.net) or 302-422-9117.

**Children's Bulletins** for age groups 3-6 and 7-12 are available in the Narthex.

**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](http://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!

**Prayer Chain:** Reformation has an email prayer chain group that will lift up specific requests in prayer throughout the week. This is separate from the Sunday Prayer List. If you have a request you would like lifted in prayer, please contact the office and let Pat know if you would like it on the Sunday List, the Email Prayer Chain or both. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain group, please speak with one of the pastors.

**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](mailto: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:** Dresden Miller and Eleanor Gregory today, Beth Gannon on June 5th, Gabi Johnson on the 7th, Lexi Caccamise on the 9th, and Linda Caccamise on the 10th.

**Happy Anniversary to:** Bob & Lydia Petersen and Larry & Sandi Shea today.

### **Spread the word!**

Please "Like" Reformation's **Facebook** page for news, announcements, and photos of church events!

[www.facebook.com/RLCMilford](http://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*.

Reformation is on **Instagram!**

Please follow our church's profile: [@rlcmilford](https://www.instagram.com/rlcmilford)



# You're invited to Family Vacation Bible School!

**June 19-22**  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

Children of all ages are welcome.  
Families attend together!  
Register at [rlcmilford.com/vbs](http://rlcmilford.com/vbs)

Questions?  
302-422-9117 or  
[pr.paige@reformation-  
lutheran.net](mailto:pr.paige@reformation-lutheran.net)

❖ Sermon Notes ❖