

June 11, 2023

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Church Music 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. 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

Prelude

Reformation Ringers

*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

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

No. 836

***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

Hosea 5:15-6:6

¹⁵I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor:

^{6:1}“Come, let us return to the LORD; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading**Romans 4:13-25**

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

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 9:9-13, 18-26****P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 9th chapter.**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the

Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”¹² But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.”¹³ Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak,²¹ for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.”²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well.²³ When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,²⁴ he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him.²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.²⁶ And the report of this spread throughout that district.

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

Sermon

Pastor Eric W. Evers

***Hymn of the Day**

“Blessed Assurance”

No. 638

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

Collection of the Offering

Musical Offering “Fly Away Medley” Choir
arr. by Mark Hayes

***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*)

Special Music

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Reformation Ringers

The Distribution of Communion, Standing, at the Altar Rail

Communion Hymns: “Blest Are They,” No. 728; “Canticle of the Turning,” No. 723; “You Are Mine,” No. 581; “Thy Holy Wings,” No. 613

***Post-Communion Blessing**

Congregation responds with Amen.

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Congregation responds with Amen.

Sending

***Benediction**

Congregation responds with Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

No. 851

***Dismissal**

Congregation responds with Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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SERVING TODAY

June 11

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

10:00

Ed Huey
Matt Pencek
Eric Valentine
Connor Pencek
Joy Rowe
Carol Whyte
Jack or Shannon Pencek

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

June 18

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

10:00

Diane Massey
Ken Newell
John Leach
Janice Piatkowski
Scott Rainville

THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today *Church Music Sunday*
 10:00 am — Worship Service

Wednesday 6:00 pm — Growing Young Gathering

Saturday 10:00 am — Decorate for Vacation Bible School

Next Sunday 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 is a sign up sheet in the narthex. We hope you can join us!

Vacation Bible School for families will be held June 19-22 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Registration is still 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!

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. Contact Sherry Titherington, pegasus67912@gmail.com, with any questions.

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 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. 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, 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: Tracey Lewis on June 12th, Dan McGinniss on the 13th, and Alice Daino, Karen Oldland and Kim Huey on the 15th.

Spread the word!

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*.

Reformation is on **Instagram!**

Please follow our church’s profile: @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

Questions?
302-422-9117 or
pr.paige@reformation-lutheran.net



Take me out to the Ballgame!

Join your friends from church at a Shorebirds
baseball game this summer!

PLAY BALL

DELMARVA SHOREBIRDS GAMEDAY MAGAZINE

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE SHOREBIRDS PLAY BALL MAGAZINE

WWW.THESHOREBIRDS.COM @THEDELMARVASHOREBIRDS @SHOREBIRDS @SHOREBIRDS

Delmarva Shorebirds vs.

Fredericksburg Nationals

Sunday, July 9 at 5:05 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 each. You can sign up & give cash or a check made out to “Reformation Lutheran Church” to Pastor Paige.

When you arrive, you’ll also pay \$5 per vehicle for parking, at the parking lot entrance.

❖ Sermon Notes ❖