

June 18, 2023

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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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# **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](http://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

### \*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**

“I Love to Tell the Story”

**No. 661**

### **\*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**

**Exodus 19:2-8a**

<sup>2</sup>They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites:

<sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.” <sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. <sup>8</sup>The people all answered as one: “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

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

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

**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 9:35-10:20

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 9th and 10th chapters.

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

<sup>35</sup>Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

<sup>9</sup>Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup>“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you”

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

**Sermon**

Pastor Paige G. Evers

**\*Hymn of the Day**

“Here I Am, Lord”

**No. 574**

**Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. 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 minsters and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **Collection of the Offering**

**\*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 Are Called,” No. 720; “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me,” No. 860; “My Faith Looks up to Thee,” No. 759; “This Little Light of Mine,” No. 677

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

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

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

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

# Sending

## \*Benediction

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

## \*Sending Hymn

“We Are Marching in the Light”

**No. 866**

## \*Dismissal

*Congregation responds with Thanks be to God.*

## Postlude

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### SERVING TODAY

#### June 18

**10:00**

Usher

Diane Massey

Lay Reader

Ken Newell

Worship Assistant

John Leach

Acolyte

Healing Prayer

Altar Guild

Janice Piatkowski

Live Stream Operator

Scott Rainville

### SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

#### June 25

**10:00**

Usher

Carol Benner-Chaffinch

Lay Reader

Joyce Nauman

Worship Assistant

Lisa Caccamise

Acolyte

Lexi Caccamise

Healing Prayer

Kristin Schlegel

Altar Guild

Eric Valentine

Live Stream Operator

Sigrid Evers

## THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today	10:00 am	—	Worship Service
Monday	6:00 pm	—	“Stellar” Vacation Bible School
Tuesday	6:00 pm	—	“Stellar” Vacation Bible School
Wednesday	6:00 pm	—	“Stellar” Vacation Bible School
Thursday	6:00 pm	—	“Stellar” Vacation Bible School
Next Sunday	10:00 am	—	Worship Service with VBS songs
	11:00 am	—	Fellowship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**It’s Not Too Late!** Vacation Bible School for families begins Monday, June 19 through Thursday, June 22 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Registration is still open at [www.rlcilford.com/vbs](http://www.rlcilford.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!

**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

**Summer is here! Let's keep things relaxed.** Even though summer is a more relaxed time, we still have a lot of ministry happening! We will have multiple Bible study options for adults to grow in faith and get to know each other better. Our Vacation Bible School will provide an amazing chance for families to experience the love of Jesus together. There will be some great fellowship events, Church Music Sunday, and of course regular worship with our summer "pick up" choir. The Growing Young Team is continuing to learn and to work on plans to more effectively engage with young people and their families to help our church grow and thrive as we pass on faith to the next generation.

This summer, Reformation has a lot going on! And, that ministry needs resources. Churches often feel stress in the warm months because of the dreaded "summer slump" in offerings. Leaders have to be focused on cash flow more than on ministry. Anxiety around money crowds out energy for mission.

The Stewardship Committee wants to see our leaders energized for ministry. So we encourage our members to stay current with your offerings during the summer months. Regular giving means a more predictable cash flow. If you have fallen behind on your pledge, catching up during the summer months is a real blessing.

We encourage our members to use the options at [www.rlcmilford.com/give](http://www.rlcmilford.com/give), including automatic recurring giving. Remember, this isn't about "dollars and cents" or "paying the bills at church." It's about the resources Reformation needs to do the work Jesus has called us to.

So many people in our community need the grace of Jesus and the love of a Christian community. Your giving will enable Reformation to be focused on providing this ministry all year long. Thank you!

In Christ,

The Stewardship Committee

Karen Oldland, Tammy Mook, Rod Kopp, Pastor Eric

**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!

**The Christian Service Committee** is holding a kids food drive this month. 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. Items wanted include: 100% juice, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti & meatballs, beef stew, ravioli, granola bars, applesauce, and cereal. Contact Sherry Titherington, [pegasus67912@gmail.com](mailto:pegasus67912@gmail.com), with any questions.

**Summer 'Pick-up' Choir** will gather on July 2nd 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, 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.

**KIDS Inc.@RLC News:** This summer we have added fundraising efforts to the curriculum. Funds raise will defray the cost of the buses for our various field trips this summer. KIDS Inc. will hold bake sales, a yard sale or two, and possibly one or two car washes. You can help us by donating baked goods, by donating items for the yard sale (please note that we do not have a place to store your donations so we will announce when we are able to accept items), by posting flyers for these events where you work and shop, and by stopping by to support these events.

We are hoping that by involving the children in these fundraising efforts they will gain a better understanding of how much the field trips cost and we are hoping to also make the trips more affordable for families.

**Happy Birthday to:** Jenna McDuff, Sandi Shea, and Bill Vendetti on the 19th, Paul Hayes on the 21st, and Andrea McPike on the 23rd.

**Happy Anniversary to:** John & Lezlie Eustis today and Kirby & Heather Fitzgerald on the 23rd.



# 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)



**Take me out to the Ballgame!**

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



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 ❖

**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