

August 6, 2023

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Milford, Delaware 19963



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9:00am-3:30pm, Monday–Friday

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

Pastors

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# The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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**      “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”      **No. 461**

### **\*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**

**Isaiah 55:1-5**

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

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

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

**Second Reading****Romans 9:1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—<sup>2</sup>I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup>They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; <sup>5</sup>to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

**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 14:13-21****P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 14th chapter.**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup>When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup>When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” <sup>17</sup>They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” <sup>18</sup>And he said, “Bring them here to me.” <sup>19</sup>Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup>And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup>And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

**\*Hymn of the Day** “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” **No. 712**

**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

### Musical Offering

Summer Choir

### \*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: “Thy Holy Wings,” No. 613; “Praise and Thanksgiving,” No. 689; “Take My Life, That I May Be,” No. 685; “God, Whose Almighty Word,” No. 673

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

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

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

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

## **Sending**

### **\*Benediction**

*Congregation responds with Amen.*

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

### **\*Dismissal**

*Congregation responds with Thanks be to God.*

## **Postlude**

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*Special thanks to Pastor Rod Kopp for being our supply pastor today and for providing the Daily Devotions for this week.*

## THIS WEEK AT REFORMATION

Today            9:00 am — Summer Choir  
                    10:00 am — Worship Service

Next Sunday    9:00 am — Summer Choir  
                    10:00 am — Worship Service

### SERVING TODAY

<b>August 6</b>	<b>10:00</b>
Usher	Todd Hannah
Lay Reader	Shannon Pencek
Worship Assistant	Pam Curnock
Acolyte	Connor Pencek
Healing Prayer	Joy Rowe
Altar Guild	Gary Johnson
Live Stream Operator	Jack Pencek

### SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

<b>August 13</b>	<b>10:00</b>
Usher	Bill Vendetti
Lay Reader	Karolyn Hayes
Worship Assistant	Mary K. Konesey
Acolyte	
Healing Prayer	Diane Massey
Altar Guild	Janice Piatkowski
Live Stream Operator	Scott Rainville

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Financial Update:** Thank you for your generous support of Reformation's ministry. A summary of Income and Expenses for January through June 2023 and a mid-year budget report are posted on the bulletin board across from the kitchen.

**Give By Text:** Did you know that you can make a financial gift to Reformation by text message? You just send a text with a dollar amount to (302) 204-1410 and follow the instructions you receive back. However you give, your support matters! Thank you!

**Summer 'Pick-up' Choir** will gather in the choir room at 9 AM to practice, then sing at the 10 AM service. All you need is a willing heart to make a joyful noise!! Give it a try this summer!

**News from the Christian Service Committee:** Thank you to everyone who contributed to the ELCA Good Gifts program. Through your generous support we were able to purchase a cow and two piglets. Back to school is approaching quickly. Once again the CSC is collecting school supplies like pencils, notebook paper, three-ring binders, crayons, and backpacks. There is a real need for the backpacks in particular. All supplies collected will be donated to the Milford School District. The next meeting of the Christian Service Committee will be held on Sunday, September 10, following the 11:00 AM worship service. Everyone interested in serving those in need in our communities is invited to join us.

**Campfire Night** for all ages is Saturday, August 12 at 7:30 p.m. S'mores ingredients and outdoor games will be provided and the playground is available, too. Please bring a chair and come out for a relaxing and enjoyable night with your church family!

Our **Annual Church Picnic** will be held on Sunday, August 20, following the 10 a.m. worship service. Church members are asked to bring a dessert to share. Hamburgers, hotdogs, fried chicken, and sides will be provided by the Fellowship Committee. We'll have the Blessing of the Backpacks for students going back to school at the picnic, and a bouncy house, too! Plan to come for delicious food and a fun time for all ages!

**Crisis in Ukraine:** Please pray fervently for peace in Ukraine! Lutheran Disaster Response is mobilized now, caring for refugees from Russia's invasion. You can support their work at <https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response>.

**Happy Birthday to:** Diane Massey and Joanna Lonergan on August 7th, Sandy McPherson on the 9th, Harper Smith on the 10th, and Mary K. Konesey on the 11th.

**Happy Anniversary to:** Josh & Juli McDuff 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