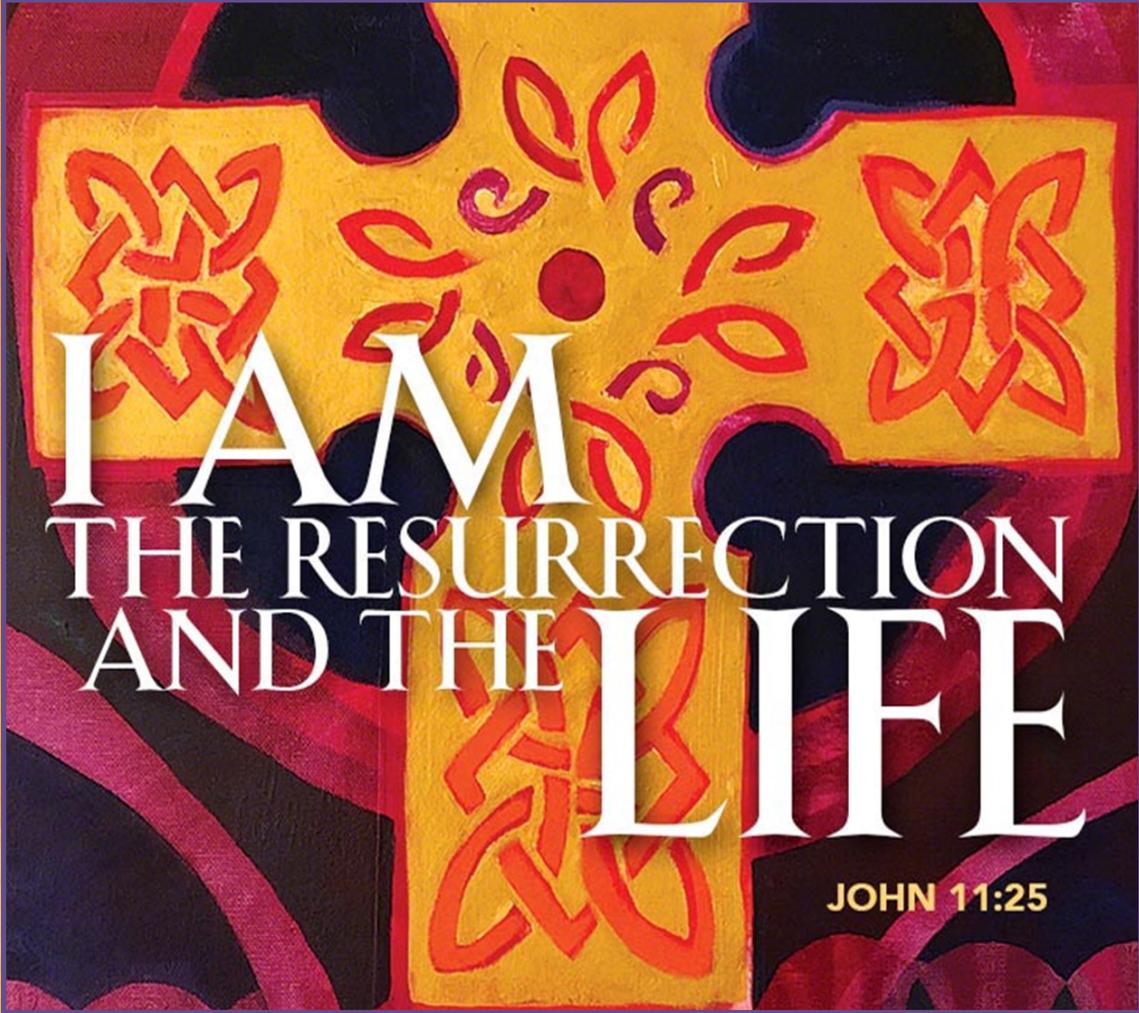




Lutheran Church *of the*  
REFORMATION



I AM  
THE RESURRECTION  
AND THE LIFE

JOHN 11:25

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*  
*Our Common Prayer at Home*  
March 29, 2020

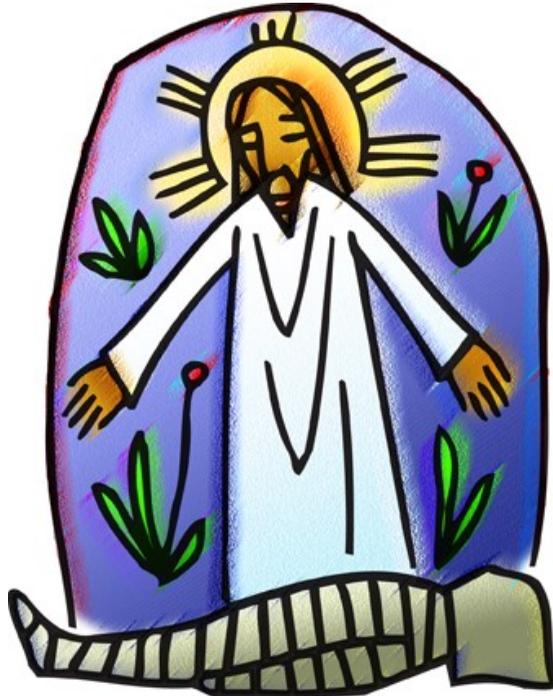
# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## Welcome

Dear members of God's family, we continue to be united by the Holy Spirit during this time when we can not be physically present in the sanctuary. Here is a resource to help us share common prayer as we worship at home. We continue Reformation's Lent theme taken from an ancient prayer of confession: ***Forgive us, renew us, and lead us.***

The Bible readings this Sunday are for everyone who feels half dead, for everyone who sees death everywhere, as well as for everyone who is afraid to even think about death. Come to worship, to receive the breath of the Spirit, to hear the voice of Christ, and to celebrate the life God gives.



## Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross †, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

*Even though we are distant from one another, the Spirit unites us as we pray this ancient prayer that introduces the biblical readings for today.*

Let us pray.

*After brief silence for personal prayer, the presider continues:*

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.*



## First Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD." This version is adapted from the Contemporary English Version.*

<sup>1</sup> I felt the LORD's hand on me, and the LORD's wind carried me to a valley full of bones. <sup>2</sup> The LORD showed me all around, and everywhere I looked I saw bones that were dried out. <sup>3</sup> He said, "Human one, can these bones live?"

I replied, " LORD God, only you can answer that."

<sup>4</sup> He then told me to say:

Dry bones, listen to what the LORD is saying to you, <sup>5</sup> "I, the LORD God, will put breath in you, and once again you will live. <sup>6</sup> I will wrap you with muscles and skin and breathe life into you. Then you will know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup> I did what the LORD said, but before I finished speaking, I heard a rattling noise. The bones were coming together! <sup>8</sup> I saw muscles and skin cover the bones, but they had no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD said:

Speak to the wind, human one, and say to the wind, "The LORD God commands the wind from the four directions, come, wind and breathe into these dead bodies, so they can live again."

<sup>10</sup> As soon as I said this, the breath entered the bodies, and they came back to life! They all stood up, and there were enough to make a large army.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD said:

Human one, the people of Israel are like dead bones. They complain that they are dried up and that they have no hope for the future. <sup>12</sup> So tell them, "I, the LORD God, promise to open your graves and set you free. I will bring you back to Israel, <sup>13</sup> and when that happens, you will realize that I am the LORD. <sup>14</sup> I will put my breath in you, and you will live. I will bring you home, and you will know that I have kept my promise. I, the LORD, have spoken."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

See [www.reformationdc.org/worship](http://www.reformationdc.org/worship) for Pastor Mike's Children's Message.

## Psalm

## Psalm 130

*After encountering the vision of the valley of the dry bones, we say the penitential Psalm 130. We are the dry bones, waiting for the Lord. We trust that, although we have sinned, God will forgive. Through the words of this psalm, we articulate the deep meaning of Lent. Another appropriate use of this psalm is at particularly tragic funerals.*

### **<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths**

**I cry to you, O GOD;**

### **<sup>2</sup>O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

### **<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins,**

**O LORD, who could stand?**

### **<sup>4</sup>Yet with you is forgiveness,**

**in order that you may be revered.**

### **<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;**

**in your word is my hope.**

### **<sup>6</sup>My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

### **<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is abundant redemption.**

### **<sup>8</sup>For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life. This version is adapted from the Contemporary English Version.*

The Holy Gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1-2</sup> A man by the name of Lazarus was sick in the village of Bethany. He had two sisters, Mary and Martha. This was the same Mary who later poured perfume on the Lord's head and wiped his feet with her hair. <sup>3</sup> The sisters sent a message to the Lord and told him, "Lord, your beloved friend is sick."

<sup>4</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said, "His sickness won't end in death. It will bring glory to God and his Son."

<sup>5</sup> Jesus loved Martha and her sister and brother. <sup>6</sup> But he stayed where he was for two more days. <sup>7</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "Now we will go back to Judea."

<sup>8</sup> "Teacher," they said, "the people there want to stone you to death! Why do you want to go back?"

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours in each day? If you walk during the day, you won't stumble because you will have the light of the world.<sup>10</sup> But if you walk during the night, you will stumble, when you don't have the light with you." <sup>11</sup> Then he told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, and I am going there to wake him up."

<sup>12</sup> They replied, "Lord, if he is asleep, he will get better." <sup>13</sup> Jesus really meant that Lazarus was dead, but they thought he was talking only about sleep.

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead! <sup>15</sup> I am glad that I wasn't there, because now you will have a chance to put your faith in me. Let's go to him."

<sup>16</sup> Thomas, whose nickname was "Twin," said to the other disciples, "Come on. Let's go, so we can die with him."

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus got to Bethany, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was only about two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> and many people had come from the city to comfort Martha and Mary because their brother had died.

<sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus had arrived, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> Yet even now I know that God will do anything you ask."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus told her, "Your brother will live again!"

<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, "I know that he will be raised to life on the last day, when all the dead are raised."

<sup>25</sup> Jesus then said, "I am the resurrection and the life! Everyone who has faith in me will live, even if they die. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who lives because of faith in me will never really die. Do you believe this?"

<sup>27</sup> "Yes, Lord!" she replied. "I believe that you are Christ, the Son of God, coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup> After Martha said this, she went and privately said to her sister Mary, "The Teacher is here, and he wants to see you." <sup>29</sup> As soon as Mary heard this, she got up and went out to Jesus. <sup>30</sup> He was still outside the village where Martha had gone to meet him. <sup>31</sup> Many people had come to comfort Mary, and when they saw her quickly leave the house, they thought she was going out to the tomb to cry. So they followed her.

<sup>32</sup> Mary went to where Jesus was. Then as soon as she saw him, she knelt at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw that Mary and the people with her were crying, he was terribly upset <sup>34</sup> and asked, "Where have you put his body?"

They replied, "Lord, come and you will see."

<sup>35</sup> Jesus started crying. <sup>36</sup> The people said, "See how much he loved Lazarus."

<sup>37</sup> Some of them said, "He gave sight to the man born blind. Why couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"

<sup>38</sup> Jesus was still terribly upset. So he went to the tomb, which was a cave with a stone rolled against the entrance. <sup>39</sup> Then he told the people to roll the stone away. But Martha said, "Lord, the smell will be awful! Lazarus has been dead four days."

<sup>40</sup> Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you trust, you would see the glory of God?"

<sup>41</sup> After the stone had been rolled aside, Jesus looked up toward heaven and prayed, "Father, I thank you for answering my prayer. <sup>42</sup> I know that you always answer my prayers. But I said this, so that the people here would trust that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup> When Jesus had finished praying, he shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The man who had been dead came out. His hands and feet were wrapped with strips of burial cloth, and a cloth covered his face.

Jesus then told the people, "Untie him and let him go free."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

As you are able, proclaim the word of God in song.

## Hymn

## What Wondrous Love Is This

ELW 666

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.  
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.  
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## Creed

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith in God by saying the Apostles' Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Omnipresent God, though we are physically apart, bind your faithful people into one spiritual body. Enliven us with your Spirit and bless us as we seek renewal in this time of isolation and fear. Let us not despair, but continue your work of salvation in us and through us, for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Our Maker, you love the world you have made, and you grieve when creation suffers. Restore polluted lands and waterways. Heal areas of the world ravaged by disease, as well as storms, floods, wildfires, droughts, or other natural disasters. Bring all things to new life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, show redemption to all who watch and wait with eager expectation: those longing for wars to cease, those waiting for immigration paperwork to finalize, those seeking election, those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Bless especially the healthcare workers and others who are fighting the coronavirus and other threats to human health. Come quickly with your hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you weep with those who grieve. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain, especially those on our prayer list and those we name now. *(silence)* Fill us with compassion and empathy for those who struggle, and keep us faithful in prayer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Generous God, we give thanks for opportunities for this congregation to collaborate with our community in caring for the needs of our neighbors. Bless and guide all who minister through and partner with our food pantry, so that those who rely on us, and all who hunger, may have their needs met. Bless those seeking to keep addiction at bay as they continue meet in our spaces, and keep them safe. Strengthen our ties with other local congregations, agencies, and services. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, you are our resurrection. We remember all those who have died and trust that, in you, they will live again. Breathe new life into our dry bones, that we, too, might live with you forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Exchange of Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Share the peace with others in your household. You may also take this time to text "Peace be with you" to another person -- maybe a friend you miss seeing in person at worship or even a neighbor in another city or state.*

**Mission Announcements - [bit.ly/WW329](http://bit.ly/WW329)**

## THANKSGIVING

*We give thanks for the saving Word of Christ and all the gifts of God.*

## Offering of Gifts and Musical Offering

*Although we are not gathering in the sanctuary, Reformation's ministries continue every day. Staff members are providing individual and communal pastoral care, coordinating lay leaders and volunteers, caring for our facilities, connecting us with one another, and developing resources for worship and spiritual growth. This time has disrupted the usual way we gather offerings and severely restricted the gifts of some households. We invite you to give as you are able.*

*Please give online at [ReformationDC.org/give](http://ReformationDC.org/give) or send your checks to the church office. If you want to begin or change your Simply Giving weekly or monthly donation, email [Office@ReformationDC.org](mailto:Office@ReformationDC.org).*

*Give Me Jesus*

*Solo by Jon-Michael*

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Sending Prayer

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4

*We conclude the thanksgiving with the prayer Jesus taught us. You can say this or another translation you know by heart.*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## Blessing

Romans 15:5

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant us to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless us now and forever.

**Amen.**



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -  
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from  
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -  
 4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
 fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.  
 tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
 we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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## Sending Forth

## 1 Thessalonians 5

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

# Prayer List

## **WE GIVE THANKS ...**

### **For those who celebrate anniversaries this week:**

*Michael and Kate Heise (3/29); Grace and Wayne Krumwiede (3/30); Diane and Aaron Beaver (3/31).*

### **For those who celebrate birthdays this week:**

*Beverly Dahlin (3.29); Randall Erwin, Evan Schrage (3/31); Evelyn McKay (4/3); Hayden Luhrs, Kelly Murphy (4/4).*

## **WE PRAY FOR. . .**

*Members and friends affected by COVID-19.*

*The family of Pastor Ben, whose grandmother passed away this month.*

*Mike Cochrane, brother of Karen Carlson, as he was diagnosed with a brain tumor.*

*Erica Hoff, daughter of Betty Walker, as she continues treatment.*

*The family and friends of Susan Blackman, especially her husband Paul, as they grieve her death.*

*Staunton family, as they mourn the death of Stephen (Kieran) Staunton, Caitlin Jacobs father-in-law.*

*Rebecca Pfahl, for health and healing.*

*Wayne Krumwiede, for health and healing.*

*Family of Betty Harper, sister of Roger Moffatt, who passed away in February.*

*Mel Antonen, Lisa Nipp, and Emma as they deal with COVID-19 infections.*

*For David, Gudrun, and Julie, friends of Phillip Vender.*

*For the light of faith in the hearts of those living with and battling cancer.*

*For parents and elders who are navigating new homes and communities.*

*Robert Pfahl and his family as he continues treatment for pancreatic cancer.*

*Kate Hawkins, a friend of Brianna Widner's family, who is battling cancer.*

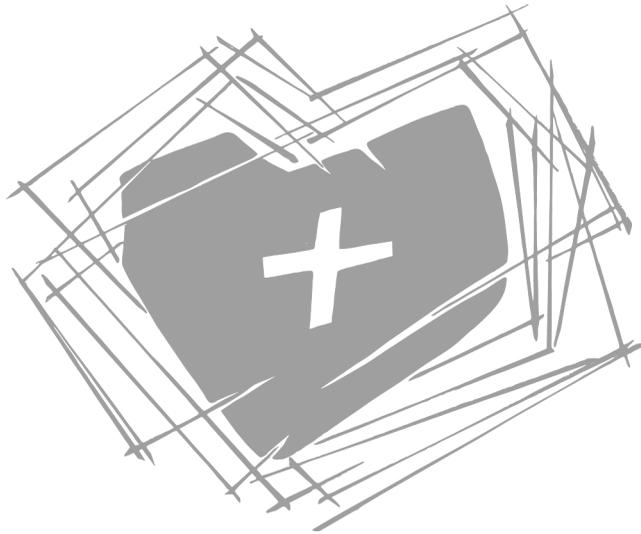
## **For our congregational and family members in military and foreign service**

*Drew Shealy, Diane Kohn, Melinda Manning, Paul Cowden, Luke Frerichs, Jon Jones, Lee Patterson and family members of those in service here and around the world.*

## **From our hearts for**

*Phil Abbott, Tim Allmond, Angela Braxton, Bob Hedrick, Bernice Hoveland, Mary James, Leah Jones, Marvin Jones, Emmanuel Kabasaala, Wayne Krumwiede, Margot Lyddane, Carol Ann Mumaw, Valerie Platz, Ron and Daphne Rhine, Bill Scott, Madge Selinsky, Al Stauderman, Helen Vigness, and Carolyn Walker.*

**Please email your prayer requests to Pastor Mike at [wilker@ReformationDC.org](mailto:wilker@ReformationDC.org)**



The most up-to-date Worship Schedule, including Holy Week & Easter, will be found on our website, [www.reformationdc.org](http://www.reformationdc.org).

We will continue to follow the guidelines of health professionals, scientists, government officials, and church leaders to make decisions regarding gathering for in-person worship. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

**From Ashes to Easter Meditations** are complete and available in the entryway throughout Lent. Written by our members and friends, edited by Gloria Kenyon, Liz Tuckermanty, and Kathy Tobias and compiled by Pastor Ben Hogue, this booklet has been a treasure for many years at Reformation. Please take a copy home with you!

Find a digital copy at

[www.reformationdc.org/lent](http://www.reformationdc.org/lent)

## Thanks be to God for today's Worship Leaders...

Presiding Minister  
Preaching Minister  
Assisting Minister  
Readers  
Cantors

Pastor Michael Wilker  
Pastor Ben Hogue  
Caitlin Jacobs  
Guthrie Family, Lord Grant Family  
Jon-Michael Eclar, Gabbi Levy



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**A Reconciling in Christ congregation**

Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Nursery, 8:15 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

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