



Lutheran Church *of the*  
REFORMATION



*Tenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Our Common Prayer at Home*  
August 9, 2020

*“Lord, save me!”*  
*Matthew 14:30*

# GATHERING

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

## Prelude

## Welcome

Welcome to worship! Today's biblical texts reveal God's presence within and beyond the storms of this life. In the first reading, after fire, earthquake, wind, God's voice comes to Elijah out of sheer silence. In the gospel story, during a chaotic storm on the sea, Jesus appears to his disciples on the water. In both stories, God gives new direction and encourages God's people in the midst of fear and chaos. During worship, we pray that God keep us safe, inspire our next steps, and deepen our confidence in Jesus Christ.



## Remembering Baptism ~ 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.**

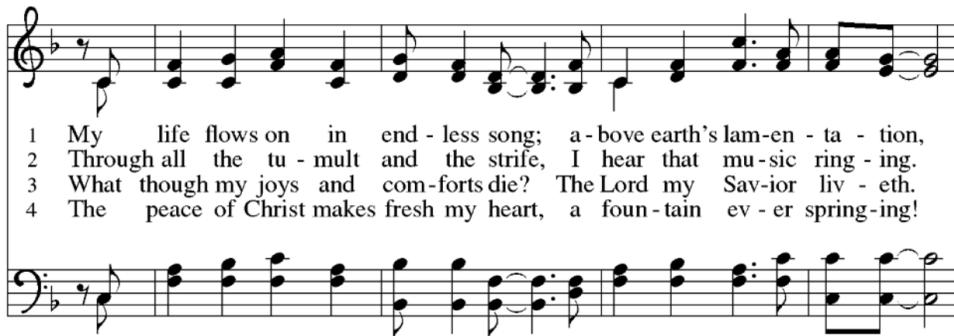
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.**

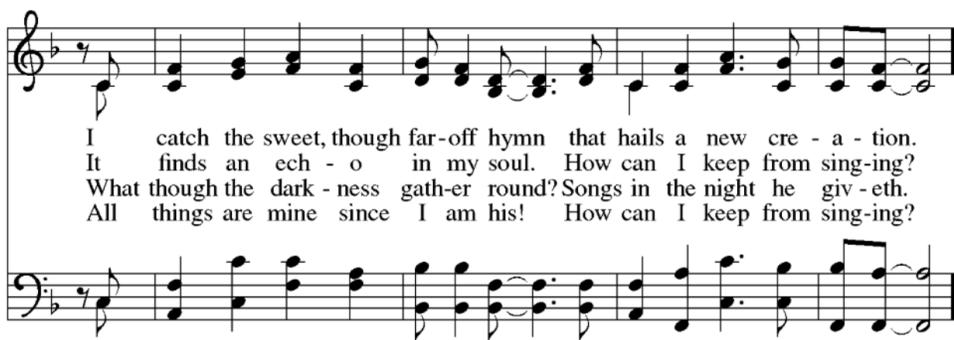
**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

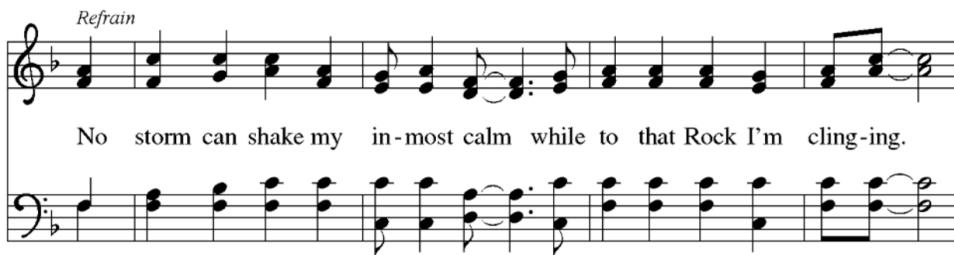


1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

## Greeting

*The presiding minister and congregation welcome each other with a greeting shared by Jesus' early apostles and then join their hearts in prayer.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

*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 a brief silence for personal prayer, the presiding minister continues:*

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.  
Rescue your people from despair, deliver your children from fear, and preserve us  
in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



# WORD

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

## First Reading

1 Kings 19:9-18

*The first reading is from 1<sup>st</sup> Kings. The prophet Elijah had faithfully preached the word of God to the evil king Ahab, his Phoenician wife Jezebel, and the many Baal-worshipping Israelites. Afraid of arrest by the queen, Elijah fled and hid at Mount Horeb, another name for Mount Sinai. That is the mountain where God appeared to Moses in earthquake, wind, and fire. But this time no fire and smoke show God's power. Rather, Elijah's encounter with "sheer silence" calls him back to his prophetic tasks among a people unfaithful to the Lord God.*

*Listen for the Word of God.*

<sup>9</sup>At Horeb, the mount of God,  
Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying,  
"What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts;  
for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars,  
and killed your prophets with the sword.

I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD,  
for the LORD is about to pass by."

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains  
and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD,

but the LORD was not in the wind;  
and after the wind an earthquake,  
but the LORD was not in the earthquake;

<sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire,  
but the LORD was not in the fire;  
and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

<sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle  
and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then there came a voice to him that said,  
“What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>14</sup>He answered,

“I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts;  
for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars,  
and killed your prophets with the sword.

I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him,

“Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus;  
when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

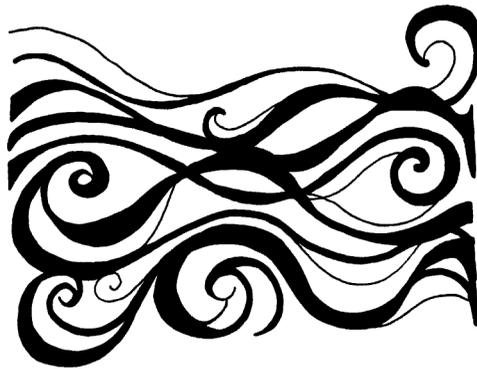
<sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel;  
and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah  
as prophet in your place.

<sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill;  
and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill.

<sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel,  
all the knees that have not bowed to Baal,  
and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**



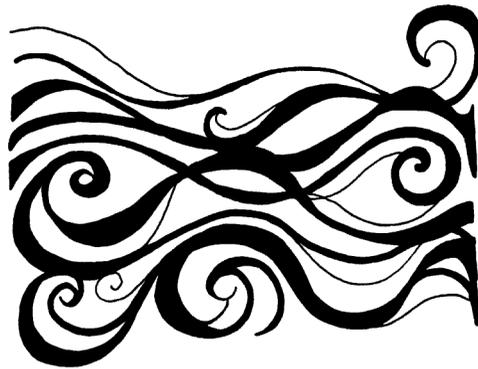
## Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

*To respond to the story of Elijah being met with the sound of sheer silence, we pray part of Psalm 85. In this prayer for help, we, like Elijah, are waiting to hear the voice of God, and we pray that righteousness and peace will come forth. The connection with Elijah is clear: he heard comfort and received direction to continue his challenging leadership.*

*We will read the psalm alternating verses.*

- <sup>8</sup> I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people,  
and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- <sup>9</sup> **Truly your salvation is very near to those who revere you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**
- <sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness will embrace;  
justice and peace will kiss.
- <sup>11</sup> **Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will rain from the sky.**
- <sup>12</sup> The LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.
- <sup>13</sup> **Justice will go before the LORD,  
and peace shall prepare God's pathway.**



## Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

*The second reading is from Paul's letter to the Jewish and Gentile followers of Jesus in Rome. A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts whether by ascending to heaven or descending to hell. Salvation is a gift whenever and wherever we hear and receive the proclamation of Jesus Christ.*

*Listen for the Word of God.*

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.”

<sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down)

<sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

<sup>8</sup>But what does it say?

“The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart”  
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

<sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

<sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

<sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

<sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

<sup>13</sup>For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

<sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

<sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?

As it is written,  
“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

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

## Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

*Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.<sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."<sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

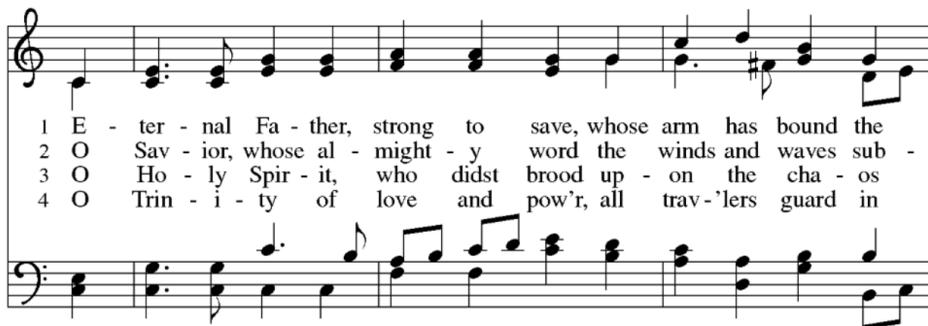
Pastor Michael Wilker

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

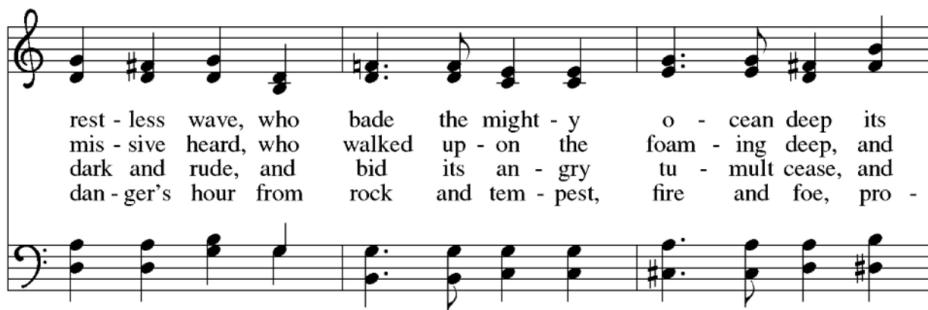
Hymn

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

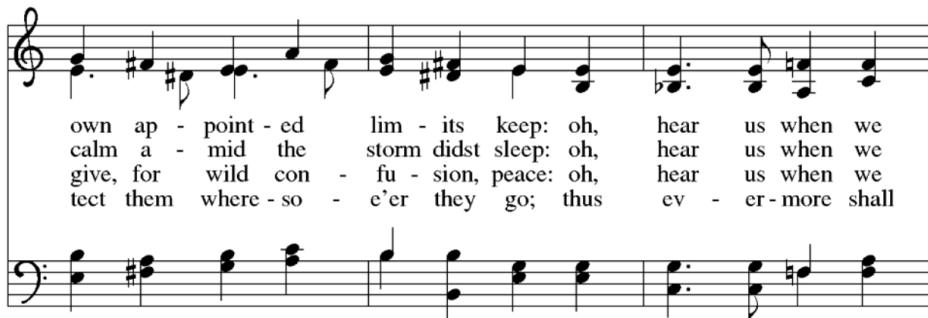
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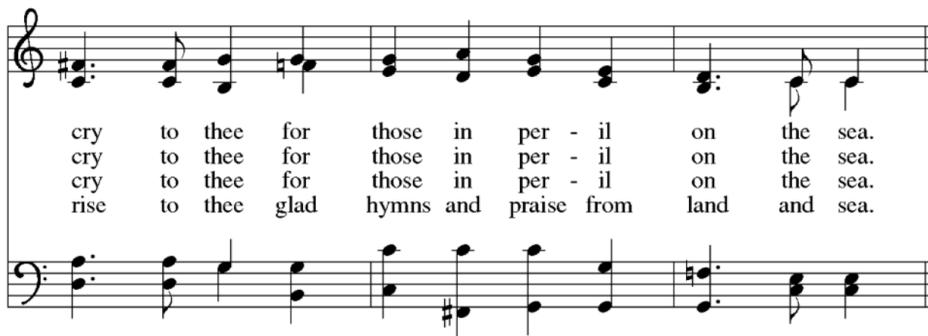
1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os  
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we  
calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we  
give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we  
tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

## 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

*We unite in prayer, asking God to send the Holy Spirit on the church, the world, and all who are in need. Today we combine an ancient form of prayer called a Bidding Prayer, with a contemporary online technique called a Chatterfall. A chatterfall is when a group of people online use the online chat boxes to respond to a question all at the same time. Their responses cascade down the chat box like a waterfall.*

*So if you are following along online, here's how we'll combine a Bidding Prayer and Chatterfall. The assisting minister will invite you to pray about a one subject at a time, for example, "For the religious communities and leaders we name before you now, we pray." Then the minister will pause silently. During the silence you can say the names of places that need God's Spirit. For those of you who want to use the Chatterfall, during the silence type the name of the place in the chat box—but wait to press enter until the minister says, "Hear us, O God." So during the silence, you could say or type "Pastor Marsh Drege" or "Lutheran Seafarers International House" Then when the minister says, "Hear us, O God" you can press your enter key and all the places we typed will cascade like a prayer waterfall. We'll do that for each petition. Now let us prepare our minds and bodies for prayer.*

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." For the religious communities and leaders we name before you now, we pray:

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.*

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. For the earth and waters, and the places and creatures we name before you now, we pray:

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.*

For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness embrace, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. For the national and local government leaders we name before you now, we pray:

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.*

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will be saved. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. For all those we name who need your care O God, we pray:

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.*

For our congregation, Lutheran Church of the Reformation. You have gathered us as your people and we thank you for this gift. We pray for those who are new to this community, for congregational leaders preparing for autumn ministries, and for members and friends struggling with hardship from the COVID pandemic. For our congregation, we pray:

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.*

Especially today we praise you for Madge Selinsky on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. We are full of joy that you have accompanied her all these years and for the ways she has supported us and the sharing of the gospel through this congregation. Hear also the other prayers in our hearts. For our grief and joy, for our tears and laughter, for our fears and dreams. For ourselves, we pray

*A brief silence.*

Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.*

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Exchange of Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of peace with your friends and family while we listen to a musical offering. 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.*

## THANKSGIVING

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

Mission Announcements can be found at [www.reformationdc.org/worship](http://www.reformationdc.org/worship)

## 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).*

*To use our new **Text-to-Give** option, send a text message to 844-414-8057 with the amount you would like to give to Reformation. You will receive a secure link to input your payment information. Once you have filled out your payment information, the contribution will be deposited directly into Reformation's bank account. After completing this setup, you can use text-to-give to donate again by simply texting additional donations to 844-414-8057*

*Precious Lord*

# SENDING

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

## Sending Prayer

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Lord Jesus, as you stilled the wind and rough sea and brought calm to your terrified disciples, so care for us today and calm our hearts this week. Rescue us from fear and encourage us to follow you and care for our neighbors. Walk with us each step of the way and hold us in your steadfast love.

**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

Numbers 6:23-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl-wind, as on Pen - te -  
 2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your  
 3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from  
 4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's

cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;  
 pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,  
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,  
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,

past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,  
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,  
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;  
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;

there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!  
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!  
 make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!  
 claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuyffels Jr., b. 1923  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932  
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# Prayer List

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

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

*Roger and Bev Dahlin, Paul and Susan Blackman (8/11); Vicki and Stephen Ansari (8/12).*

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

*Andrew Robb, Margarete Schmidt, Martin Steege (8/12); Maxwel Finkenstadt, Erick Lutt, Kai Moeller, Quinton Tobler Cunningham, Elizabeth Tuckermanty, Daniel Voss (8/13).*

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

*The family of Tom Gill as he grieves his death and celebrates his life, including his daughter Tricia, his spouse Karen, and his sister-in-law Liz Tucker Manty.*

*John Amberson, brother of Julie Jones, for health and healing.*

*Chester Hart, for healing from COVID-19 and healthy recovery after triple-bypass surgery.*

*Members and friends affected by COVID-19.*

*Mike Cochrane, brother of Karen Carlson, in thanksgiving for a successful brain surgery and continued prayers for increased mobility in outpatient rehab.*

*Len Hawley, friend of Dale Manty, as he receives treatment for leukemia.*

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

*Rebecca Pfahl, for health and healing.*

*Wayne Krumwiede, for health and healing.*

*Mel Antonen, as he continues to heal from serious health issues, including COVID-19.*

*David, the father of Phillip and Harriet Vender's daughter-in-law.*

*Robert Pfahl and his family for health and healing.*

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

*Drew Shealy, Diane Kohn, Melinda Manning, Paul Cowden, 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, Emanuele and Emmajean Crupi, 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, Carolyn Walker, Thomas Winter, and Gloria Wolf.*

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

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

Presiding Minister

Pastor Ben Hogue

Preaching Minister

Pastor Michael Wilker

Readers

Christine Goepfort, Phil Vender,

Harriet Vender, Maddie Aston

Cantors

Jon Korman, Jon-Michael Eclar, Gabbi Levy,

Alexa Newlin

The most up-to-date Worship Schedule, 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.

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Financial Secretary: Suzanne Hazard

Treasurer: Roger Moffatt

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