



Lutheran Church *of the*  
REFORMATION



*Third Sunday of Easter*  
*Our Common Prayer at Home*  
April 26, 2020

*“Jesus came near and  
went with them”*  
*Luke 24:15*

# GATHERING

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

Prelude

Meditation

Durufle

## Greeting

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed!**

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.**

## Welcome

Today is the Third Sunday *of* Easter. We're in the middle of one great 50-day celebration: Easter every day. Resurrection everywhere. Today's gospel begins with two disciples hiking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them, opens the scriptures with them, and opens their eyes to his presence in their own home.

Today we also commemorate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. This secular, world-wide holiday was initiated by Gaylord Nelson, US Senator from Wisconsin 1963-1981. This holiday almost always falls within the Christian season of Easter. The resurrection appearances of Jesus in the scriptures often take place in the midst of creation: in a garden, on a journey, at a lakeshore, and as disciples thank God for the gifts of creation and share a meal. The resurrection of Jesus *in* creation is a sign the God intends to restore all creation. This Earth, and our bodies, like Jesus's body are the bearers of God's promise of steadfast love and new life.

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.

Praise to you for the Chesapeake Bay, the Anacostia, Potomac and Shenandoah  
Rivers. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow.

Praise to you for the water of baptism and Word of Christ that saves us.

The Ethiopian eunuch is baptized in welcome waters.

The merchant Lydia shares your word at the riverbank.

Peter, the zealot, and Cornelius, the centurion, are called to peace.

We are your children, born of water, blood, and Spirit.

Breathe your Spirit into all who worship and into all creation.

Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us,  
and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your eternal fountain, and  
bring to birth the body of Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 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:*

Dear God, companion on the way, you walk behind, beside, beyond; you catch us  
unaware. Break through the disillusionment and despair clouding our vision, that,  
with wide-eyed wonder, we may find our way and journey on as messengers of  
your good news.

**Amen.**

# WORD

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

## Children's Message

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

## First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd],

<sup>36</sup>"Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him."

<sup>40</sup>And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup>So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*As if we are the crowd to whom Peter is preaching, we need to hear the good news and to repent. The psalm for the day is two excerpts from Psalm 116, a song of thanksgiving for recovery from perhaps illness. Singing Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, we call on the Lord to save us, and we join with the newly baptized to praise God for salvation. Christians have applied “the cup” (v. 13) to the eucharist: today we also think about the cup on the table at Emmaus. Although the psalm is cast in the singular, the grateful person promises to join with all the faithful in communal worship.*

- <sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,**
- <sup>2</sup>for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**
- <sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.**
- <sup>4</sup>Then I called upon the name of the LORD:  
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**
- <sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the LORD  
for all the good things God has done for me?**
- <sup>13</sup>I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**
- <sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God’s people.**
- <sup>15</sup>Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**
- <sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my  
bonds.**
- <sup>17</sup>I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the LORD.**
- <sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God’s people,**
- <sup>19</sup>in the courts of the LORD’s house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

## Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**



*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup>He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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

Hymn

*Day of Arising*



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
 2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
 3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
 4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
 blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
 This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
 bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
 yet Christ walks with us ev - er a - wait - ing  
 when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
 Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
 our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
 there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
 that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic melody

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## Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith together.

**We believe that God creates all things,  
renews all things, and celebrates all things.**

**We believe Earth is a sanctuary,  
a sacred planet filled with God's presence.**

**We believe that God became flesh and blood,  
a creature of the Earth,  
a human being called Jesus Christ,  
who lived and breathed and spoke among us,  
suffered and died on a cross,  
for all human beings and for all creation.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus  
is the Christ at the core of creation,  
reconciling all things to God,  
renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.**

**We believe the Spirit renews life in creation,  
groans in empathy with a suffering creation,  
and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.  
We believe that with Christ we will rise  
and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for the revealing of God's reign in the world, now and always. I will conclude each petition with the phrase, "God, giver of life." You may respond, "Hear our prayer."

*Brief silence.*

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth around us. Pour your blessing upon the people and organizations working everywhere for the good of the planet.

God, giver of life,

**Hear our prayer.**

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all its inhabitants. Thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures. We pray for their well-being and ask you to lend us the wisdom and the will to conserve them.  
God, giver of life,

**Hear our prayer.**

Light and source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect and greed.

God, giver of life,

**Hear our prayer.**

You lead us beside restful waters. Receive our gratitude for the places of restoration and healing and challenge us to sustain the places that feed our lives and spirits.

God, giver of life,

**Hear our prayer.**

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help, including those we name before you now.

God, giver of life,

**Hear our prayer.**

Joy of human hearts, heal our human communities, especially those where your word is not heard, or where neglect, violence, greed, and warfare increase suffering and need of people and other creatures.

God, giver of life,

**Hear our prayer.**

Open our hearts to your power moving  
around us and between us and within us,  
until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy,  
in communities transformed by justice and compassion,  
and in the healing of your blessed Earth.

**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.*

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

## 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).*

*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*

*If Ye Love Me*

*Tallis*

# 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.*

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and 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

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.

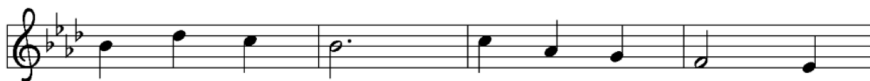
**Amen.**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent;  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry;  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



*Refrain*  
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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## Prayer List

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

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

*Paul Medina (4/27); Christopher Broach (4/28); Trevor Scofield (4/29).*

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

*Members and friends affected by COVID-19.*

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

*Pat Thorne, friend of Del Voss, as the end of his life nears.*

*Robert Pfahl, as he prepares for pancreatic cancer surgery on April 17.*

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

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

*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 Emmett 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.*

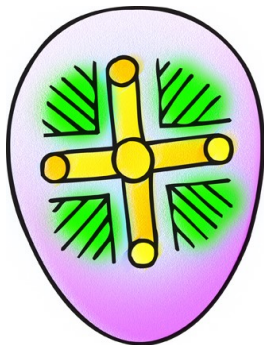
**Please email your prayer requests to Pastor Mike at [wilker@ReformationDC.org](mailto:wilker@ReformationDC.org)**

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

Presiding Minister  
Preaching Minister  
Assisting Minister  
Readers

Cantors

Pastor Ben Hogue  
Pastor Michael Wilker  
Brianna Widner  
Timothy McEniry-Roschke, Copliam Ssenkaali,  
Karen, Parry, and Skye Carlson  
Jon-Michael Eclar, Gabbi Levy,  
Madelyn Salazar, John Corman



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.

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION**  
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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.

Lead Pastor

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Vice President: Bonnie Franklin

Administrator

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Director of Music & Arts

Paul Leavitt  
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