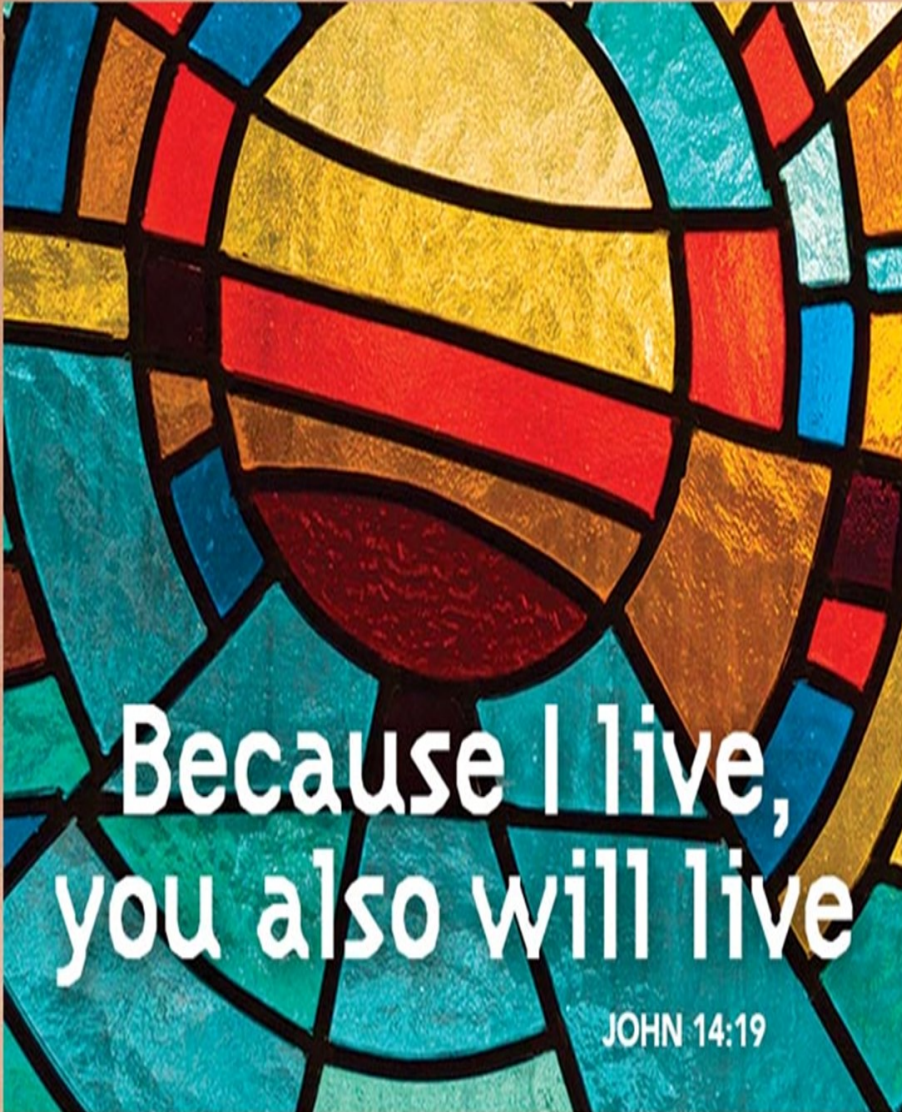




Lutheran Church *of the*
REFORMATION



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Our Common Prayer at Home
May 17, 2020

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Attende Domine

Demessieux

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

We continue the great 50-day celebration: Easter every day; resurrection everywhere. This Thursday is Ascension Day, 40 days since the resurrection celebration began and the day we remember Jesus ascending into heaven.

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As the 50th day of Easter, Pentecost Sunday, draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

We welcome Pastor Erin Swenson-Reinhold as our guest preacher. She is the assistant to the bishop of the Metro Washington, DC Synod, the regional body of nearly 75 congregations. We believe we are called together by the Holy Spirit to cultivate and spread a bold and boundless love for Jesus and for God's beloved creation. Welcome Pastor Erin!

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.

Make the sign of the cross on your forehead, using water from the bowl if you have one.

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:

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth.
In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the
world the Spirit of your truth and peace, 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.

Children's Message

See www.reformationdc.org/worship for today's Children's Message.

First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*After hearing Paul's sermon to the Gentiles, we respond with Psalm 66:8-20. A communal and an individual's song of thanksgiving, the psalm calls all the peoples to bless the God who saves. Two leaders will read the light type. Every can say the refrain (v. 8) in **bold**.*

- ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.
- ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.**
- ⁹ Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.
- ¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- ¹¹ You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- ¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.**
- ¹³ I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—
- ¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- ¹⁵ I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.
- ¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.
- ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.**
- ¹⁷ I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.
- ¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;
- ¹⁹ but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.
- ²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.
- ⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Erin Swenson-Reinhold

Assistant to the Bishop
Metro Washington DC Synod



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Affirmation of Faith

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

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us (*especially*). Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through 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.

Mission Announcements can be found at 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 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.

*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*

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.

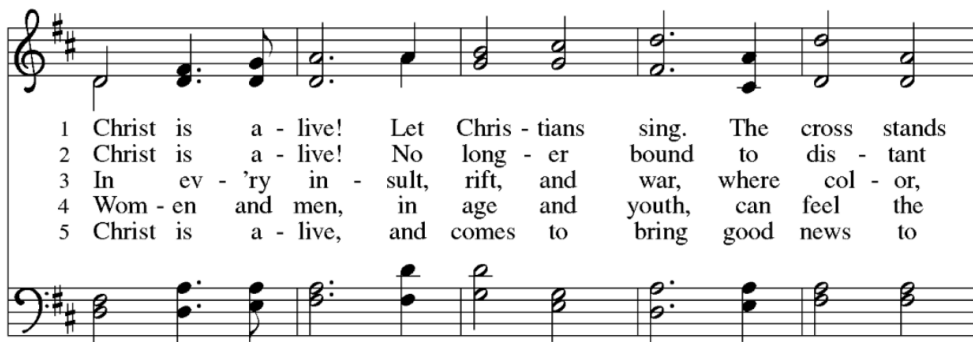
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

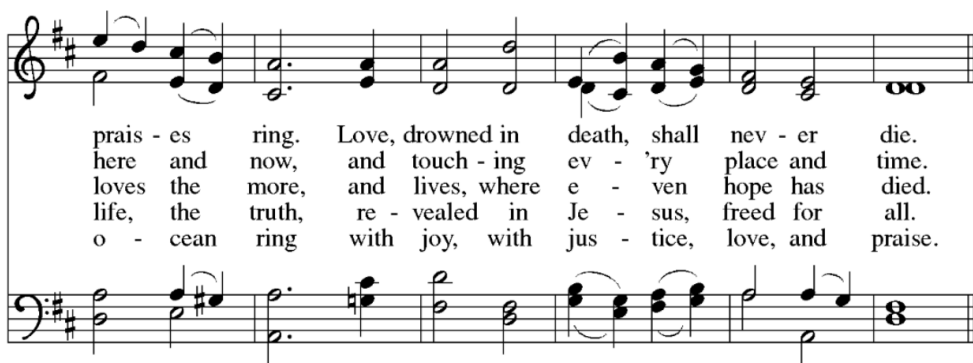
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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Prayer List

WE GIVE THANKS ...

For those who celebrate anniversaries this week:

Corey and Kirsten Petree (5/20).

For those who celebrate birthdays this week:

Mary Ann Jacobson, Kaiya Lindhurst (5/17); Roger Moffatt, Brad Ripley (5/18); John Baggaley (5/19); Avery Vigen, Olivia Vigen (5/20); Jennifer Bertsch, Karen Cowden, Olivia Ly (5/21); Ned Ertel, Elsa Lutt, Julie Scofield (5/22).

WE PRAY FOR. . .

Members and friends affected by COVID-19.

Kim Hart, for health and healing.

Jackie Markiewicz and family as they grieve the death of their husband and father.

The family of Robert Garrison, lay minister and a long-time colleague of Judith Mangubat, who succumbed to COVID-19.

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

The family and friends of Pat Thorne, friend of Del Voss, as they grieve his death.

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 for continued health and healing.

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.

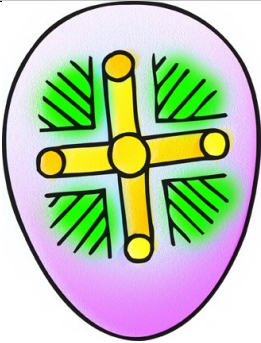
Please email your prayer requests to Pastor Mike at wilker@ReformationDC.org

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

Presiding Minister
Preaching Minister
Assisting Minister
Readers

Cantors

Pastor Michael Wilker
Pastor Erin Swenson-Reinhold
Caitlin Jacobs
Matt Fouse, Stephanie Fouse, Javi Miranda,
Emily Sollie, Erica Stern
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.

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
212 EAST CAPITOL STREET, WASHINGTON, DC 20003

www.reformationdc.org

Phone: 202-543-4200 ✝ Email: office@reformationdc.org

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

Pastor Michael Wilker
wilker@ReformationDC.org

President: Matt Fuehrmeyer

Associate Pastor

Pastor Ben Hogue
hogue@ReformationDC.org

Vice President: Bonnie Franklin

Administrator

Tegan Peterson
peterson@ReformationDC.org

Secretary: Karen Carlson

Director of Music & Arts

Paul Leavitt
pdleavitt0918@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Suzanne Hazard

Treasurer: Roger Moffatt

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