

# THE LITURGY OF WORD & SACRAMENT

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

**SUNDAY, August 31, 2025 10:00AM**

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REGULAR PRINT = PRESIDING MINISTER OR ASSISTING MINISTER

**BOLD PRINT** = CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES

✠ = AT VARIOUS POINTS THROUGHOUT THE SERVICE, THE SIGN OF THE CROSS MAY BE  
MADE BY ALL IN REMEMBRANCE OF THEIR BAPTISM

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*The red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP service book and hymnal is used for the  
liturgy.*

## **WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

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

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Visitors: We welcome you to Reformation Lutheran Church and are so glad you have chosen to join us as we worship God. We hope you find it meaningful for your faith life and that you will return.

Please complete a Visitor Card in the small pew rack and put it in the offering plate so we can thank you for coming. You may hand the card to the pastor or an usher. Also, please sign our guest register which is near the entrance.

Please join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for our weekly fellowship time with food and beverage.

*Words to be spoken or sung by the assembly are indicated in **bold type**.*

## **Prelude**

*(We Stand)*

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**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.**

GATHERING HYMN

Bind Us Together, Lord

Bob Gillman, 1946-

**Refrain**

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with  
cords that can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to -  
geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er, Lord; Bind us to - geth - er in love. *fine*

1. There is on - ly one God. There is on - ly one King.  
2. You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

There is on - ly one bod - y; that is why we can sing.  
You are God's cho - sen de - sire. You are the glo - rious new wine.

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

II Corinthians 13: 13

**And also with you.**

## LITANY OF WELCOME

God has shown us what is good, and what then is required of us?  
**To act justly; to love mercy;  
and to walk humbly with our God.**

Micah 6: 8

Jesus says, "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me,  
and anyone who welcomes me  
welcomes the One who sent me."

Matthew 10: 40

**The Spirit says, "Come."**

**Let each one who hears the Spirit say, "Come,"  
for all are welcome here.**

Revelation 22: 17

In this service, let us draw near to our Reconciling Redeemer,  
who knows our hearts and is able to mend our souls,  
to strengthen and sustain us,  
to reconcile our broken relationships and heal our wounds.

**Let us worship God now**

**With words that proclaim God's inclusive love,  
With works that bring forth God's powerful justice,  
And with worship that rejoices in God's wondrous presence,  
Now and always,  
Amen!**

## **The Beatitudes: A Litany**

(based on Matthew 5:3-12)

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Blessed are the lonely, for they will find friends**

**Blessed are the depressed, for they will be uplifted**

**Blessed are the broken, for they will be made whole**

**Blessed are the challenged, for they will win**

**Blessed are the impoverished, for they will receive**

Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

**Blessed are those who have suffered great loss,  
for they will be healed**

**Blessed are the empty,  
for they will be filled**

**Blessed are those who feel their spiritual poverty,  
for they will become rich**

Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

**Blessed are the humble and modest,  
for they will be rewarded**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

**Blessed are those believers who seek knowledge,  
for they will be enlightened**

Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

**Blessed are those with sympathetic hearts and sincere compassion  
for the spiritual needs of others,  
for they will be cared for**

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

**Blessed are those who are sincere with a true inward purity,  
for they will find the truth**

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called sons of God.

**Blessed are those who are active for peace,  
for they will find peace**

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Blessed are those who confess Christ before men  
and are ridiculed for their faith,  
for they shall triumph**

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you  
and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me (Jesus).

**Blessed are those who are slandered for the true faith,  
for they are children of God**

If not here on earth; then certainly in heaven.  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

## **The PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray...

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and psalm.*

### **FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7**

A reading from Proverbs.

<sup>6</sup> Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence  
or stand in the place of the great,

<sup>7a</sup> for it is better to be told, “Come up here,”  
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

Happy are those who fear the LORD,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.

<sup>2</sup> **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

<sup>5</sup> It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> **For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered forever.**

<sup>7</sup> They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> **Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

<sup>9</sup> They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.

<sup>10</sup> **The wicked see it and are angry;  
they gnash their teeth and melt away;  
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup> Let mutual affection continue. <sup>2</sup> Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup> Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup> Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup> So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the

outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup> Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup> “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, <sup>9</sup> and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup> For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”



<sup>12</sup> He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Leroy Cannon

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW#614 (Red book)**

## How to Reach the Masses

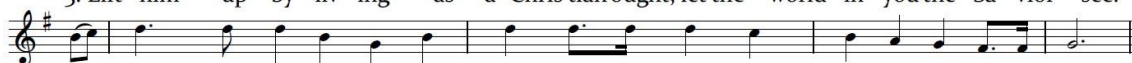
Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1856-1926

(Lift Him Up)

Benjamin Burke Beall, 1874-1945



1. How to reach the mass-es, those of ev' - ry birth, for an an - swer Je - sus gave a key:  
2. Oh, the world is hun - gry for the liv - ing bread, lift the Sa - vior up for them to see.  
3. Lift him up by liv - ing as a Chris - tian ought, let the world in you the Sa - vior see.



"And I, when I am lift - ed up from the earth, will draw all peo - ple to me."  
Trust him, and do not doubt the words that he said: "I'll draw all peo - ple to me."  
Then all will glad - ly fol - low him who once taught: "I'll draw all peo - ple to me."

### Refrain



Lift him up, lift him up, still he speaks from e - ter - ni - ty:



"And I, when I am lift - ed up from the earth, will draw all peo - ple to me."

## **Apostles' Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

*The service then continues with the prayers of intercession.*

## Prayers of the Church and Response

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system of music has the following lyrics: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an-swer me.' The second system of music has the following lyrics: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come, and lis-ten to me.' The chords indicated above the notes are: Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, G/B, C, Am, B for the first system, and Em, Em/D, Am/C, D, Em/G, Am7, B, Em for the second system.

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. God of grace,

***O Lord, hear my prayer...***

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence. For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. God of grace,

***O Lord, hear my prayer...***

Command your angels concerning all who are sick, especially those we remember silently in our hearts and with voice upon our lips (pause) Deacon Dorothy "Dot" Jeffcoat, Alicia Jarvis, *Maria Gallego* (mother of Pastor Steven); *Tiffanie Reeves*; *Marcus Mann* (father of Marc Mann); *Joe Black* (father of Lynn Black); *Bill Black* (brother of Lynn Black); *Sharon Baldwin*; *Tracy Hamiter*; *Connie Pool*; *Emmy Reeves*; *Bobbie Prosser*; *Sarah Trani*; *Jeff Harrell*; *James Deckle*; *Candy Pennington*, (friend of Peg Thompson), *Sharon May* (wife of Peggy Thompson). God of grace,

***O Lord, hear my prayer...***

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

**Amen.**

*The assembly remains standing for sharing the Peace.*

## PEACE

ELW pg. 106

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you!**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,  
"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*


## The OFFERING & OFFERTORY

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*


### Offertory Anthem "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" Choir – ELW#708

#### Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

*Refrain*



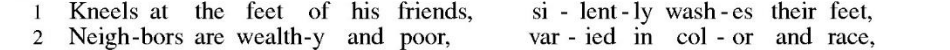
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



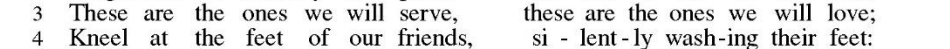
us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.




1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,



2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,




3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;

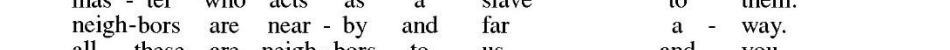


4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash-ing their feet:

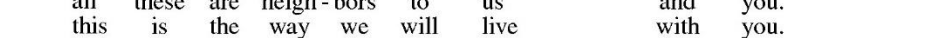
*Refrain*




mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.



neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.



all these are neigh - bors to us and you.



this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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## Doxology

### Praise God the Father, Christ the Son

Irish traditional

Louis Bourgeois, 1539

The musical score is written for a piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first line of the doxology, and the second system contains the second line. Each system has a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with some measures containing a fermata over a half note. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Praise God the Fa-ther, Christ the Son, And Ho-ly Spir-it, Three - in One;

God's love pro-claim from shore to shore, For - ev-er and for - ev-er-more. A-men.

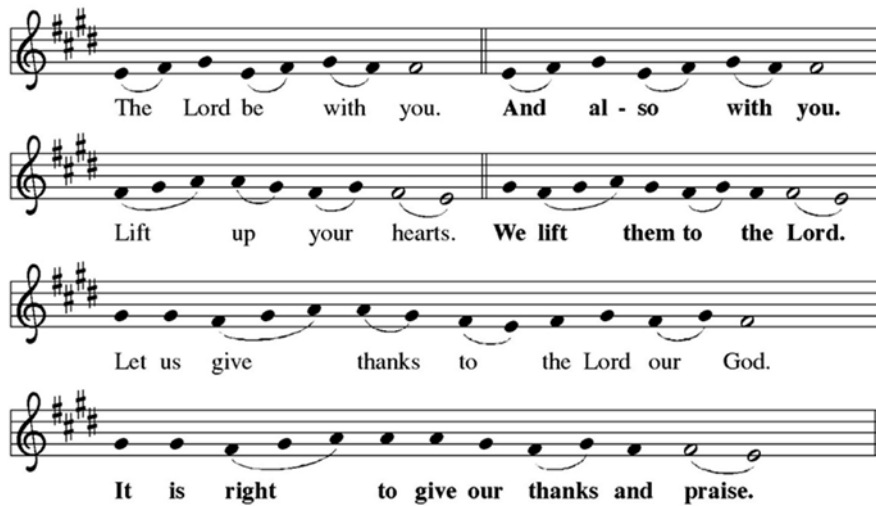
## OFFERING PRAYER

*Let us pray.*

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

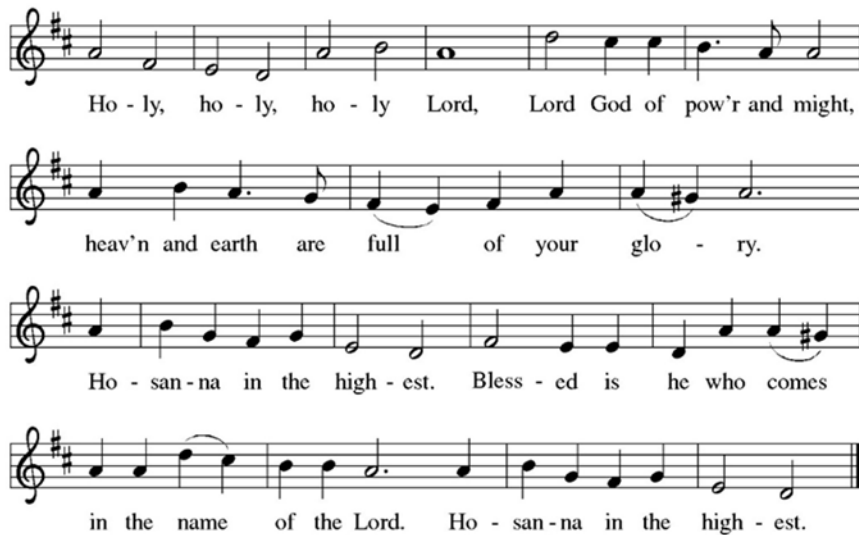
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



## PREFACE and SANCTUS

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful  
God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of  
everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

All creation sings your praise.

Sun, moon, and stars reflect your glory.

Mountains, lakes, and forests declare your wonders.

With Sarah and Abraham, we go out in faith, trusting your promise.

With Miriam and Moses we celebrate our deliverance from bondage.

With Naomi and Ruth we bind ourselves together in covenant love.

With Jonathan and David we delight in the gift of deep and abiding friendship.

With Mary and Elizabeth we welcome your presence in the birth of Jesus, the Holy One.

With Lazarus, Martha, and Mary, we give thanks for the blessings of family.

With disciples and followers we marvel at the reign of God come near.

With saints through the ages we ponder the mystery of Christ's dying and rising.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me,

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With hearts full of memories and hopes, we break this bread and share this cup, remembering the death and resurrection of Christ, and his promise to be with us always,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

O Divine Lover, you are the breath within us. You are our heart's desire.

You are our priceless treasure. You are the garden of paradise.

Come down, O Love divine. Come among us, O passionate Fire.

Come within us, O Spirit of unity. Come, Holy Spirit.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your bounty.

Bless our table and the feast we share. Bless us with gladness of heart. Come, Holy Spirit.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

At this table, make us your body. Form us to be people of justice and peace.

Fill us with gratitude and generosity that we may bear the fruit of love in word and deed.

Come, Holy Spirit.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Praise to you, Author of creation.

Praise to you, O Beloved One.

Praise to you, O Giver of all good things.

Praise to you, blessed and holy Trinity, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

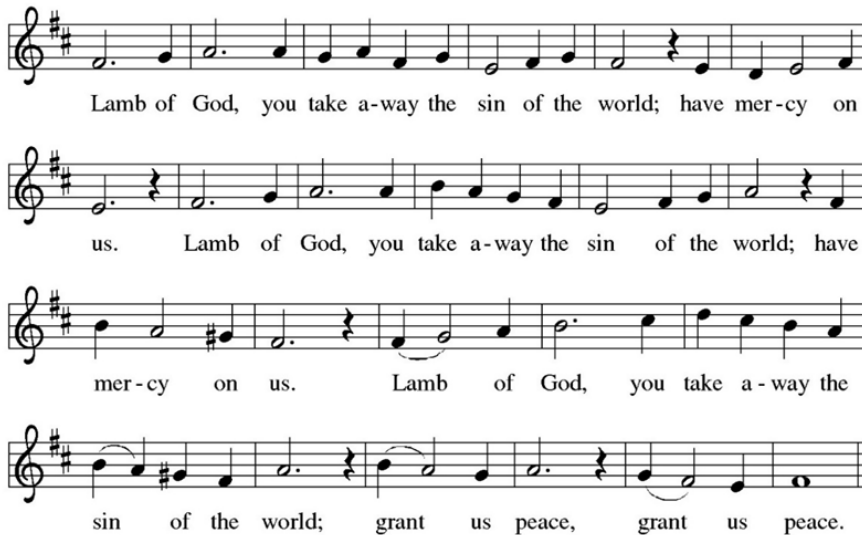


## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## THE COMMUNION OF THE BELOVED

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR WORSHIP IS THIS SHARED MEAL

*ALL ARE WELCOME* to join us as members of God's family in Christ, as we share in this powerful gift of God's love and grace for the whole human family. We gather around the altar, kneeling or standing, wherever there is a place. The presiding minister offers wheaten wafers but can provide a gluten free wafer by request.

The assisting minister offers individual cups of wine (red) or grape juice (white) for you to choose. The church also affirms our Lord's full presence in, with, and under each element alone. If you prefer to commune in your pew with a prepackaged communion set, please alert an usher.

### COMMUNION SONG

ELW#461 (Red book)

### All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



- 1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
- 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
- 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



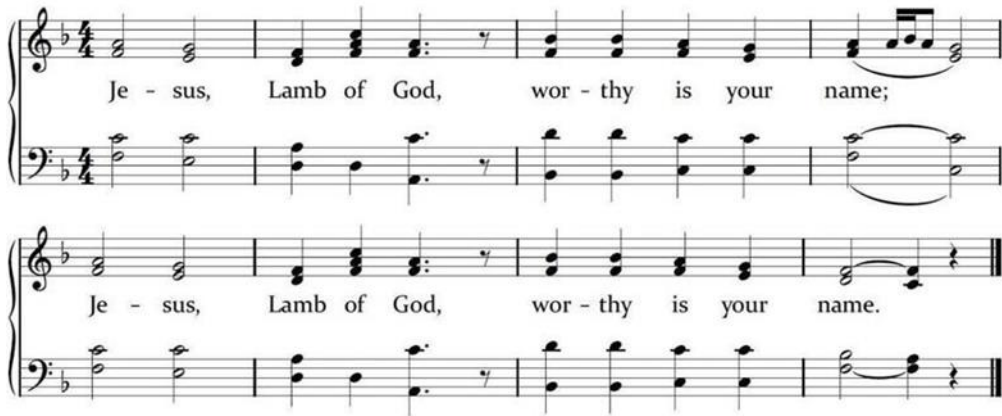
You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### Jesus, Lamb of God



*The assembly stands and the presiding minister says a table blessing.*

### THE TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen!**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Let us pray.*

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.. **Amen.**

### COMMISSION and BENEDICTION

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

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus;  
 Christ the feast that frees us; All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger;  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

### Announcements

We give thanks to God for **Pastor Leroy Cannon** preaching and presiding today at Reformation. Pastor Steven will be back in the pulpit next week.

### Birthday Lunch Celebration

Join us today, Sunday, August 31 after worship for a Spaghetti and Garlic Bread dinner in honor of the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday (*born on September 1*) of Daisy Ritchie, our longtime and faithful member. The dinner is sponsored by the Ritchie family.

### Rally Day September 7th

Join us for 100% attendance on Sunday and Rally Day on September 7th. We will have a potluck, games and the blessing of backpacks.

### New Blue Envelopes Available in the Pews

Thank you to all who faithfully use the blue pew envelopes to support the mission and ministry of Reformation Lutheran Church. Your gifts sustain the wide variety of programs, outreach efforts, and worship life of our congregation. The pew racks have been replenished, making it easier to make a recorded contribution. If you are behind on your 2025 pledge or haven't started giving, we encourage you to do what you can to catch up.

We are currently behind in our anticipated giving and appreciate any effort to help close the gap. A special thank you to those who continue to give faithfully and regularly — your generosity helps us serve God and neighbor through Reformation Church.

### Would You Be Willing to Make Prayer Shawls?

The Kindness Team is excited to share that we will be replacing coffee mugs in our new member welcome bags with handmade *prayer shawls*—a more personal and meaningful gift for each household. If you knit or crochet, we would love for you to join us in this ministry. We typically receive new members quarterly (on 5th Sundays), with an average of 5 or more households joining each time. There is no specific pattern or color required, though **red** is a meaningful color for Reformation. A typical shawl measures approximately **57–58 inches long** and **24–36 inches wide**, but the

design is left to the creative heart of the maker. If you're willing to contribute, please contact **Lynn Black** or **Dot Jeffcoat** to get involved.

### **Coffee Hour**

If you can help out with coffee hour, check with **Alicia Jarvis**. You can help by providing foods and/or by helping her set up and clean up. This is an important part of our hospitality and kindness ministry. Kindness is contagious.

**Announcements to share** - To include information from your committee or task group, submit brief messages (2-4 sentences) to the church office by **Monday at Noon** – [officeofreform@gmail.com](mailto:officeofreform@gmail.com).

### **REFORMATION LUTHERAN IS AN INCLUSIVE, LGBTQIA+ AFFIRMING church**



that believes Christ calls us to serve others with joy. Safe Space Dinners, a ministry for homeless LGBTQIA+ youth, including people of color. The ministry is simple. On the second and fourth Thursday of each month, these youth (14-23 years old) are offered a safe space and time to gather for a time to rest and recharge, a home-cooked meal, a haircut, and a backpack of items they will find helpful in their day-to-day life. There are always a number of games to play, including video games. Sometimes we have entertainment from the community. There is no preaching, no conversion therapy attempts; only support and comfort. This is a ministry of giving – nothing more.

## **OPPORTUNITIES of WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP**

In Person Sunday Worship Livestream - 10:00 am-11:00 am [www.reformationcae.org](http://www.reformationcae.org)  
Coffee Hour is held after the worship service in the Reformation Fellowship Hall.

### ***Welcome to Reformation Lutheran Church***

Whether you are visiting today or a longtime member, we are grateful to gather with you in worship. Our community is rooted in love, service, and the grace of Christ. If you're visiting, please fill out a visitor card located in the back of the pew and place it in the offering receptacle. We would love to keep in touch with you.

### **Stay Connected!**

Follow us online:

 Facebook: [ReformationLutheranColumbiaSC](https://www.facebook.com/ReformationLutheranColumbiaSC)  
 Instagram: [@reformationlutherancola](https://www.instagram.com/reformationlutherancola)  
 YouTube: [@Reformation1118](https://www.youtube.com/@Reformation1118)

### **Stay Informed!**

**Visit [reformationcae.org](http://reformationcae.org) and click the red box at the bottom of the page to sign up.**

*Google Group: Reformation Church Group News, Announcements*

*Constant Contact: Sympathy Notices, Weekly Announcements, Upcoming Events*

**Thank you for being connected and informed!**