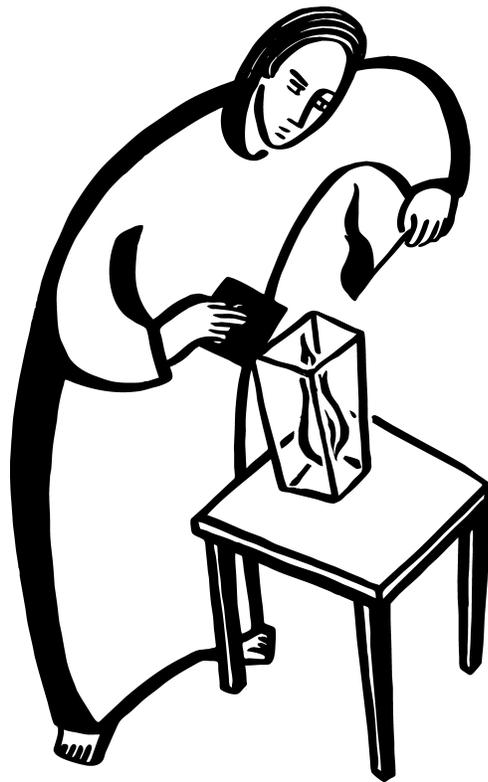




Lutheran Church of *the*
REFORMATION

9th Sunday after Pentecost
Service of Holy Communion
August 7, 2022 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.



212 East Capitol Street NE, Washington, DC 20003
www.ReformationDC.org
Phone: 202-543-4200 † Email: office@ReformationDC.org

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Reformation! For 153 years, Reformation has enjoyed a unique location near the nation's Capitol. We celebrate God's presence in everyone, including the great variety of members and friends who call Reformation their church home. Everyone matters to God. You matter to us. Reformation has long been involved in social justice and helping organizations throughout the D.C. area, including Southeast Ministry. We have equipped 94 apartments for refugees over the past few years. Reformation welcomes and supports lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer+ Christians and their families in all aspects of the church's ministry. Since 1987, we have belonged to ReconcilingWorks, a national Lutheran LGBTQ+ ministry. We honor the Nacotchtank and Piscataway peoples upon whose land we live and worship.

Offering and gifts are offered and gathered for those in need and for the mission of the church here and around the world. Checks may be written to "Church of the Reformation." Please place in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you for wearing a mask and keeping distant from those of another household. In this way, we show our care for one another. *Please join us for food and beverages on the Plaza after the 10 a.m. service.*

Children are most welcome in worship. Childcare is on a break through August 28th; however, the Blue Room, to the left as you entered, is equipped with sound for caregivers. **Restrooms with changing tables** are on the lower level of the St. John's building. Beginning in September, **Sunday School** is open to children **4-12 years old** in our historic **Children's Chapel** on the 2nd floor. **Children's Choir** is from 9:45-10am; **Bible Lessons** from 10-10:50am. All children receive an age appropriate Bible to take home!

An all-gender/handicapped accessible restroom is on the sanctuary level, on the right front of the sanctuary near the elevator.

If you are in need of **pastoral care**, please reach out to Jarrod Jabre at 202-730-9870, and he'll be able to direct you to an on-call pastor.

If you are new to Reformation and would like more information about our church ministry, a baptism, a wedding, or another interest, please fill out an information card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

Reformation is in partnership with 9,000 congregations, 27 Lutheran Colleges and Universities, 7 Seminaries, 400 worldwide missionaries, hundreds of Lutheran camps and campus ministries, one of the largest non-profit social service networks in the U.S., and Lutheran World Relief, all ministries of the 4 million member **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (www.elca.org)**.

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

Prelude *Aria in F Major from Twelfth Concerto Grosso* Handel

Welcome

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, whose steadfast love endures forever.*

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* ELW 771

Please rise in body or spirit. Refer to the red hymnal in the pew in front of you. Note that hymns are located in the back 2/3rds of the hymnal (the hymn number is not the page number).

Greeting

The grace of our risen Savior 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

Let us pray.

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

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

☪ ☪ ☪ **WORD** ☪ ☪ ☪

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

Children's Message

Jesus embraced children, placing them in the center of the Christian community as models for discipleship.

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 33:12-22

- ¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
- ¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**
- ¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵**God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**
- ¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- ¹⁷**The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- ¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- ¹⁹**to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
- ²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.
- ²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**
- ²²**Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had

promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia

Please rise in body or spirit.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the

door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Gene Kern

Hymn of the Day

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638

Please rise in body or spirit.

The Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence. The assisting minister will conclude each prayer petition:

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

Amen.

Sharing of Peace

The Peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of Christ's peace with one another by saying "Peace be with you."

Ministry Announcements

☪ ☪ ☪ MEAL ☪ ☪ ☪

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering of Gifts and Musical Offering

We offer gifts for those in need and for the mission of the church here and around the world. Checks may be written to "Church of the Reformation." Please place in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.

There is a Balm in Gilead

African American Spiritual

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain;
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
If you can preach like Peter, if you can preach like Paul,
Go home and tell your neighbor, "He died to save us all."

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul,
To heal the sin-sick soul.

Offering Prayer

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

All people join the angels' song.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread . . . With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With all your holy ones of every time and place, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Please be seated.

Invitation to Communion

We believe Jesus Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper to forgive sins and renew our lives. The risen Jesus is alive with us now and unites us in Holy Communion. As you come forward, pick up either an empty glass (for wine) or a pre-filled glass of grape juice, near the baptismal font.

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.

Communion Hymns

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart
(Madalaine Vander-Linden sings verses)
Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 484

ELW 764

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

✠ ✠ ✠ **SENDING** ✠ ✠ ✠

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

Blessing

The God of peace, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

How Great Thou Art

ELW 856

Sending Forth

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello

Members and guests are encouraged to be seated and enjoy the postlude.

Please take the bulletin home with you to review the Readings and note the announcements.

***Please join us for food and beverages outside on the Plaza after the
10 a.m. service.***

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PRAYER LIST

WE GIVE THANKS ...

For those who celebrate anniversaries this week:

Roger & Beverly Dahlin (8/11).

For those who celebrate birthdays this week:

*Ethan and James Lutt (8/7); Eimear McEniry-Roschke and Madge Selinsky (8/8);
Drew Shealy (8/11); Andrew Robb, Margarete Schmidt, and Martin Steege (8/12);
Maxwell Finkenstadt, Erick Lutt, Kai Moeller, Quinton Tobler Cunningham, Elizabeth
Tuckermanty, and Daniel Voss (8/13).*

WE PRAY FOR ...

*The Call Committee, in the search for the new lead pastor.
Pastor Russ and Jeanie, as they travel back to California.
For the people of Ukraine, Afghanistan, and Myanmar.
For the migrants who are bused to DC.
For the families, friends, and communities affected by gun violence.
George Hutchinson, going through physical therapy at home.
Roger Dahlin, as his health recovers.
Jennifer Novak, as she continues her healing.
Rebecca Pfahl, for health and healing.
For the Anacostia River.*

For our congregational and family members in military and foreign service:

*Deborah, Jonathan, and Sophia Mennuti, Matt Oskam, Drew Shealy, Diane Kohn, Melinda
Manning, Jon Jones, Lee Patterson, Kim Loewecke, and family members of those in
service here and around the world.*

From our hearts for:

*Tim Allmond, Angela Braxton, Emanuele and Emmajean Crupi, Bob Hedrick, Leah Jones,
Marvin Jones, Emmanuel Kabasaala, Margot Lyddane, Valerie Platz, Ron and Daphne
Rhine, Bill Scott, Madge Selinsky, Helen Vigness, Carolyn Walker, Thomas Winter, and
Gloria Wolf.*

Please email your prayer requests to office@ReformationDC.org.

*Have an announcement for the Weekly Word? Please submit to
miller@reformationdc.org by Tuesday at midnight.*

REFORMATION HAPPENINGS

Let's welcome the Rev. Dr. Eugene H. Kern to Reformation this Sunday! He's retired and has served congregations in SC, FL (and as assistant to the bishop), MD, and 6 congregations in Metro DC as an intentional interim. He has found congregations to be always fascinating and often unusual. In this time of great upheaval and transition in the church in the world, it helps to try and keep a sense of humility and humor. Family Systems Theory has intrigued him for years, and he finds it to be a great tool for leadership and ministry. He is currently reading about the interplay between Trinitarian theology and quantum theory (much of which is above his pay grade!). He is married to Jackie, who are parents of two, and are currently being trained by Hanly, their Bernese Mountain/Husky "puppy".

Green Team Meeting TODAY at 11:30am in the Library or on Zoom using the Weekly Word email link. We'll discuss the state of the internal audit and the building composting program!

Transition Team Update. As we enter into August, we have some changes coming to Reformation. First, we'd like to thank Pastor Russ and Jeanie for the time that they have spent with us, in service and community. Their time with us ended on July 31st. To read about pastoral care for August and September and get an update on the search for our senior pastor, use the link in the email. As a church, let's continue to pray together: "Loving God, you have called us together to be your church. As we journey along the search for our new pastor, we ask for your guidance and support. We pray for a clear vision of who we are as your people and the mission to which you call us. And we pray for a pastor who will lead us forward. Amen."

Food Pantry Featured as Fundraiser at Giant. Our Food Pantry has been selected to receive \$1 from every "Bloomin' 4 Good" bouquet sold during the month of September at the Giant Food store located at 1050 Brentwood Rd NE, Washington DC. Treat yourself and others to a visible representation of God's beautiful creation. Spread the word!

8:30 & 10am Summer Worship Schedule continues through August 28th.

Hymnals still needed! Thank you to the 8 members who have donated hymnals "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone. We still need about 20 to fill the empty spots in the pew racks. You can donate online at lcor.info/give ("Other" option and note your dedication in "notes") or place a check or cash in the offering plate, with your dedication attached.

+ + + **Spiritual Growth** + + +

Friday Night's Movie Night was a ton of fun. Thank you to everyone who helped provide a fun activity for the kids at Reformation!

+ + + **Fellowship & Service** + + +

Part-Time Work Opportunities. Might you or someone you know be interested in doing some part-time work for Hill Havurah for \$25 per hour? Opportunities include providing onsite operational support (including set-up and clean-up) at Reformation during their High Holidays in September and October, as well as other times throughout the year. Another opportunity is for their religious school on Sunday mornings at another Capitol Hill location. If you are interested or having any questions, email Alan Shusterman at alan.shusterman@hillhavurah.org, their Executive Director.

Help DC become more green! It's time to share your amazing ideas for helping D.C. better steward God's creation and achieve a Zero-Waste future! DC is developing its [Zero Waste Plan](#) and they need *your input*. You can take a quick survey to share your thoughts, sign-up to join your ward's scheduled virtual listening session (Wards 1-5 meet Aug. 1-5; Wards 6-8 meet Aug. 8-10), or learn about more listening sessions by using the links in the Weekly Word email.

Support the Migrants. For over three months, DMV organizers and volunteers showed up every single day to support our new neighbors that are being bused from Texas (4,000) and Arizona (1,000) with NO support from the DC government. [Donate money & in-kind gifts at http://bit.ly/dctx-toolkit](http://bit.ly/dctx-toolkit) to help welcome the migrants. Email Jarrod Jabre if you'd like to help to host groups on Fridays, or explore other options. Take five minutes today to call, email, and tweet at Mayor Bowser using #NoSanctuaryInThisCity to move her to use city funding to support arriving migrants.

Recently, mutual aid organizers took two days off to rest, quarantine due to COVID exposure, and protest government inaction. Unfortunately, without mutual aid, many of the migrants, including families with children, were left stranded at Union Station until we were able to return. The absence of mutual aid led the media to finally take notice and the DC Council to send a letter to the mayor asking her to use the \$500 million FY22 budget surplus to support migrants being bused here. In response to the letter and media attention, Bowser went on TV and said she doesn't think it is DC's responsibility to support these migrants, a sentiment that stands in stark contrast to DC's status as a sanctuary city. She also claimed that DC taxpayers have not picked up the tab

for this at all— but mutual aid has spent over \$280k since April, donated by DC residents, who pay taxes. It's the DC government who has yet to contribute. Demand that Mayor Bowser step up and support our new neighbors NOW!

Support the Ukrainian Refugees by making a donation to Lutheran World Relief (LWR.org) or through www.reformationdc.org. We are helping with shelter, food, supplies and more.

This Week at Reformation

Today,	8:30am & 10am	Worship (Rev. Dr. Eugene Kern presiding)
	11:30am	Green Team Meeting (Library and on Zoom)
Sun.	8:30am & 10am	Worship (Pastor Mark Cole presiding)

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

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Eugene H. Kern

Guest Organist: Nancy Swingle

Altar Care: Emma Harrington

Tellers: Morgan Hann, Matt Aviles

Soloist: Mim Vander-Linden

8:30 am

Greeter/Ushers: Emma Harrington,
Tim & Eimear McEniry-Roschke

Reader: Emily Andre

10:00 am

Reader: Caitlin Jacobs

Assisting Minister: Kathryn Tobias

Fellowship: Caitlin Jacobs

Greeter/Usher: Andy Weaver

Livestream Tech Team: Corey, Kirsten, and
Ella Petree

Director of Music & Arts

Community Host

Director of Operations

Church Administrator

Office Assistant

Paul Leavitt

Christine Goepfert

Jarrod Jabre

Julie Miller

Da'Shawn White

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