



Lutheran Church of the REFORMATION

22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Service of Holy Communion
November 9, 2025 11 a.m.



212 East Capitol Street NE, Washington, DC 20003

www.ReformationDC.org

Phone: 202-543-4200 Email: office@ReformationDC.org

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

*Embraced by God's love, Lutheran Church of the Reformation gathers,
welcomes, and nurtures a spiritual community to love and serve the world
in Christ's name.*

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Reformation! For 154 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 Samaritan Ministry. We have helped Good Neighbors of Capitol Hill to equip 166 apartments for refugees over the past few years.

Reformation runs an "emergency" food pantry, in that we provide a bag of food (and in the colder months, hand-knitted hats and scarves) to DC residents that contains items sufficient to sustain a family of four for two days as they make more permanent connections toward food security. It is open on Mondays and Tuesdays (closed on government holidays) from 9AM-5PM; please bring a government issued ID.

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.

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.

Children are most welcome in worship. The Blue Room, to the left as you entered, is equipped with sound for caregivers. A professionally staffed nursery and restrooms with changing tables are on the lower level of the St. John's building. Sunday School will resume September 21st and 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 10-10:45am. 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.

Reformation is in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (www.elca.org), one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States. It has 3.3 million members in more than 8,900 congregations across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region as well as 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.

✠ ✠ ✠ **GATHERING** ✠ ✠ ✠

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

Prelude

Von Gott will Ich Nicht Lassen

Bach

Welcome

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

Gathering Hymn

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

ELW 628

Prayer of Confession

Here we confess our individual and mutual sin before a gracious and forgiving God. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

**O Most Patient God, we recognize how much we need you for life itself.
But how often have we behaved as if we did not know or even care about you?
How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice?
How often have we tried to dominate others even as you stand with them?
How often have we participated in the desolation of your creation by our
treatment of the heavens, the earth and its waters?**

**Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way. All Loving God, we want to
be among those whom you seek. Shower your mercy upon us. Find us, and lead us
safely home to faithfulness.**

Words of Assurance

We hear God’s forgiveness pronounced over us.

When we are lost, all is not lost. God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around, gathering us in to the people of God. Jesus said, “there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.” My friends, experience God’s forgiveness and joy—gifts that lead to new life! **Amen.**

Greeting

These words are a mutual greeting which brings us together into union with our heavenly God.

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

Prayer of the Day

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

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people to seek more eagerly the help you offer; that, at the last, they may enjoy the fruit of salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

🙏 🙏 🙏 WORD 🙏 🙏 🙏

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

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Jesus welcomed and centered children in his ministry. All children 8 and under are invited to come forward for the children's message.

First Reading

Job 19:23-27a

Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he himself will see God.

²³ "O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!

²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;

²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,

^{27a} whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Spoken responsively.

1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord; give heed | to my cry;
listen to my prayer, which does not come from | lying lips.

**2 Let my vindication come forth | from your presence;
let your eyes be | fixed on justice.**

3 Weigh my heart, summon | me by night,
melt me down; you will find no impurit- | y in me.

**4 I give no offense with my mouth as | others do;
I have heeded the words | of your lips.**

5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways | of your law;
in your paths my feet | shall not stumble.

**6 I call upon you, O God, for you will | answer me;
incline your ear to me and | hear my words.**

7 Show me your marvelous | lovingkindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise |
up against them.

**8 Keep me as the apple | of your eye;
hide me under the shadow | of your wings,**

9 from the wicked | who assault me,
from my deadly enemies | who surround me.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

God is the God of the living

The Holy Gospel according to the 20th chapter of Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus]²⁸ and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.

²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

³⁴ Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Silence for Reflection

We listen and meditate on the Word of God. We hold silence for the Spirit to speak.

Following the sermon, please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God together by singing the Hymn of the Day.

Hymn of the Day

Christ, the Life of All the Living

ELW 339

Apostles' Creed

The text of the Apostles' Creed was developed in southern Gaul around the 5th century from a lineage of professions of faith dating back to the 1st century A.D. It has been confessed by the Universal Church for centuries.

**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 universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

An assisting minister invites the congregation into prayer for the church, the world, and all those according to their needs.

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of justice, we give thanks for the service of our veterans and pray for those needing support for wounds of any kind. Strengthen those charged with the governance and protection of vulnerable populations. Bring an end to war throughout the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God who leads us to belief and truth, we give thanks that you are always and already here. Nurture and support those who are unsteady in mind, unsafe in spirit, or unwell in body (especially). Comfort those who suffer from trauma and exposure to traumatic events. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God who gathers us together, we give thanks for our pastors and deacons, teachers and musicians, administrators, and building caretakers. May they find joy in leadership as we grow in faith together. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, we pray for all who experience exclusion due to sexual orientation, gender identity, age, ability, race, ethnicity, or any other distinction people would make. Enable us to confront the intersection of oppression in our society, work for inclusion, and make all your lambs welcome in your church universal. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the saints, we give thanks for all who have died in faith (especially). Uplift us as we honor their memory and await your coming in glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of Peace

The minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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 & Minute for Mission

More information and announcements can be found starting on page 18.

✠ ✠ ✠ **MEAL** ✠ ✠ ✠

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Musical Offering

We reflect on the gifts we have, and the gifts we can offer to the Lord: our selves, our time, and our possessions. If you would like to make a monetary offering to the work and ministry of Reformation, please place it in the offering plate as it comes by, or, to do so by phone/online, turn to page 15. All gifts are beautiful to God!

*Verleih uns Frieden (Grant us Peace, text
by Martin Luther)*

Mendelssohn

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

This portion of the liturgy comes to us, modified yet recognizable, from the 3rd century.

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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

All people join the angels' song.

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.

Words of Institution

This is the portion of a Christian Communion service based on the words of Mark 14:22-24 and used as the grounds from Jesus Christ for the continued celebration of the Eucharist.

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.

Please be seated.

Invitation to Communion

We trust that God who raised Jesus from the dead to be alive with us now also joins us together in this moment of Holy Communion. Whether we are in the sanctuary or in our homes, the Holy Spirit comes and brings Christ's presence in, with, and under the bread and wine/juice when we share this meal together. You are joined to the body of Christ—the church—through this holy meal.

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Hymns

<i>Shall We Gather at the River</i>	ELW 423
<i>I Know that My Redeemer Lives</i>	ELW 619
<i>On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand</i>	ELW 437

Prayer after Communion

Please rise in body and/or spirit.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ ✠ ✠ **SENDING** ✠ ✠ ✠

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

Charge to the People and Blessing

Sending Hymn	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>	ELW 638
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Sending Forth

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude	<i>Concerto in A Minor, Allegro</i>	Bach
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THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

Please join us for coffee and refreshments outside on the Plaza immediately following service.

Scriptures were taken from the New Revised Standard translation. Liturgical texts, music and artwork are from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #27407. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Unless otherwise noted, hymns are reprinted under OneLicense.net A-708896.
Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance written by Henrietta Stith Andrews, in From Despair to Rejoicing: Service Prayers for the 17th Sunday after Pentecost. Posted on the Worship Ways website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>. Words of Assurance also written by Karin Ellis.

Your Offering Empowers Our Ministry

Thank you! Supported by your time, your talents, and your financial support, Lutheran Church of the Reformation continues its mission to gather, welcome and nurture a spiritual community to love and serve the world in Christ's name.

Regular donations can be set up at reformationdc.org/give or by reaching out to Julie Miller, our Director of Facilities and Operations, at 202-543-4200 or operations@ReformationDC.org.

Give today, simply and quickly:

Credit/Debit/Digital Wallet



ACH/Recurring





This Week at Reformation:

Today, Nov. 9	8:30 am	Worship (in-person)
	9:45 am	Sunday School & Confirmation
	11 am	Worship (in-person and online) LGBTQ+ Potluck Brunch
Wednesday	6:30-8 pm	Staff Meeting Wednesday Night Bible Study
Thursday	6 pm	Community Soup & Support Supper
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal <i>(all are welcome! Talk to Paul for more info)</i>
Sunday, Nov. 16	8:30 am	Worship (in-person)
	9:45 am	Sunday School & Confirmation
	11 am	Worship (in-person and online) Annual Meeting (Following 11am worship)

Save the Date:



Prayer List:

WE GIVE THANKS ...

For those who celebrate birthdays this week:

Corey Petree (11/9), James Gulliksen (11/10), Ben Kenyon (11/11), Joe Smith (11/13), Penelope Thomas (11/13), Mira Dunn (11/14), Aryn Kelly (11/14), David O'Bryon (11/14), Barbara Ochmanek (11/14)

For those who celebrate anniversaries this week: *Erica Stern and Jeremy Funk (11/12)*

WE PRAY FOR ...

The people of Sudan, Congo, Haiti, Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Ethiopia.

The families, friends, and communities affected by gun violence.

Elder and homebound congregation members.

The families, friends, and communities affected by natural disaster.

Disability justice.

Those experiencing anxiety, loneliness, and distance from family and friends.

Those who have lost loved ones.

The families, friends, and communities of various immigration statuses.

The Anacostia River.

Valerie Ashley, as she navigates health challenges.

Liz Tuckermanty, as she navigates health challenges.

Clinton "Rusty" Lilyquist

For all going off to college, that they feel God's peace and presence amidst transition.

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

Drew Shealy, Jon Jones, Kim Loewecke, Matt Oskam, Melinda Manning, and family members of those in service here and around the world.

From our hearts for: *Angela Braxton, Carolyn Walker, Emanuele and Emmajean Crupi, Gloria Wolf, Helen Stauderman, Madge Selinsky, Ron Rhine, and Thomas Winter*



Please email your prayer requests to vandiver@reformationdc.org

REFORMATION HAPPENINGS

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

LGBTQ+ Potluck on November 9th: We will gather for our next potluck meal at Paul Leavitt's home in Cheverly for brunch on Sunday, November 9th. Additional details to follow!



Food Pantry Funding Update: As of August 26th, we have distributed 408 bags of food so far this year. These bags of food provided enough food to feed 832 from 298 households. This is good news, indeed! However, the Food Pantry funding (mostly exclusive to the congregation), has been reduced over time and is estimated to run out of funds by mid-2026 at the current

distribution rate. Please read the update by following the QR code for more details and consider making a one-time or recurring donation to provide food for our neighbors.

Nourishing Our Neighbors Update: Thank you to those who have committed to supporting the Nourishing our Neighbors ministry. We are grateful for you and encouraged by your generosity! The outpouring of support has been amazing!

We have begun reaching out to the 20 families (maybe more?) we will shop for and deliver Thanksgiving groceries to this year. We look forward to building these relationships and truly, nourishing our neighbors.

If you would still like to be involved, either by making a donation, sponsoring a family, or volunteering in other ways, please let either Stacey Helberg (schelberg381@gmail.com) or Jackie Maddox (jmaddox2380@verizon.net) know.

Recruiting all instrumentalists! If you or someone you know plays an instrument, guitar, drums, winds, brass, harmonica, etc., please let us know. We'd love to include your musical talents in our music ministry. Please contact Paul Leavitt: pdleavitt0918@gmail.com.

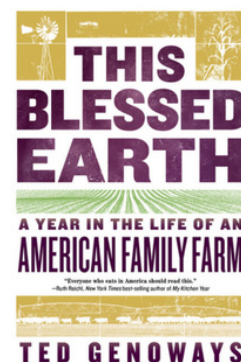
Seeking: Confirmation Mentors: We are seeking volunteers to serve as Confirmation mentors. These mentors will be invited to spend time with their assigned Confirmand during their Affirmation of Baptism journeys. The commitment is to meet together once every other month, in person, or on zoom, for 1 hour. Preference will also be given to members over 60 years of age. All mentors will be required to submit to background checks.

Altar Guild Opportunities. Are you looking for a way to become more involved with worship at Reformation? The Altar Guild needs you, especially at the 8:30 AM service. Guild members prepare the sacrament of communion every week for both services, and clean up. Your commitment would be one Sunday per month (or less if enough people can help). If you are interested or would like additional information, please reach out to Sarah Stauderman (sarah.stauderman@gmail.com).

Join our Signal chat for a quick-response hub to support Reformation's mobilizing efforts. This is a space to share information and ways to take action together. This private chat is for our Reformation community– all members must join through an admin in an effort to protect the safety and focus of the group. Join the signal chat by scanning this QR code or via the link in the Weekly Word. Ask Pr. Kevin if you need support getting Signal on your smart phone!



The Reformation Book Club November selection is *This Blessed Earth: A Year in the Life of an American Family Farm*, by Ted Genoways. We will meet Monday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room for a hybrid in-person and virtual discussion. Contact Ivy Finkenstadt for the Zoom link.



Community Soup & Support Suppers. In these politically, professionally, and/or emotionally trying times, we will be gathering weekly for a meal and fellowship on Thursday evenings at 6pm. We hope that these gatherings can be ongoing for the sake of sharing, nourishment, and mutual support. If you're able to bring something in a potluck style (particularly if you're a non-federal or adjacent ally), please do so. If you're not able to bring anything, that's okay too. Come out to support and be supported.

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

- Presiding Minister:** Pastor Kevin Vandiver
- Altar Care:** Melissa Lord
- Tellers:** Emily Sollie
- Reader:**
- Cantors:** Gabbi Levy, Alexa Newlin, Ruslan Bondar, JP Barringer
- Communion Assistant:**
- Greeter/Usher:** Matt Aviles, Nisa Kibona
- Stream Team:** Andy Weaver, Matt Cook
- Acolyte:** Ramona Benoit
- Cruficer:** Graham Finkenstadt
- Minute for Mission:**

If you are in need of pastoral care, please call the church office at 202-543-4200, ext. 103. You may also email Pastor Kevin at vandiver@reformationdc.org.

Senior Pastor	The Rev. Kevin Vandiver, Ph.D.	vandiver@ReformationDC.org
Director of Music & Arts	Paul Leavitt	pdleavitt0918@gmail.com
Director of Facilities & Operations	Julie Miller	operations@ReformationDC.org
Community Host	Emmanuel Kabasaala	space@ReformationDC.org

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**President:** Evan Schrage                      **Vice President:** Craig Middlebrook  
**Treasurer:** Matt Aviles                      **Financial Secretary:** Suzanne Hazard



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