



reformation  
*presbyterian church*

May 15, 2022

A Congregation of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

# WELCOME TO REFORMATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Christ-centered · Gospel-driven · Kingdom-focused*

**How we worship:** Each church has its own worship style, but worship is more than style. It begins with a heart for God through faith in Christ. It is also a dialogue between God and his people; he speaks, and we respond. Finally, worship is defined by God, not our imaginations. All that we do in worship (e.g. singing, praying, affirming our faith, preaching, etc.) comes from God's word. He promises to meet with us as we praise him in these ways.

**Call to worship:** God calls his people into his holy and loving presence in worship. As we worship we are blessed with the joy of the Lord. Today he graciously invites all people to worship through faith in Christ.

**Worship through singing:** God delights in hearing his people sing. As we sing our faith, we give praise to God and he transforms our hearts so that we are more like His Son.

## PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS — (see page 11)

Rev. Matt Lucas

## MOMENT OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### CALL TO WORSHIP — Psalm 27:1, 4, 8

Elder Joseph Warren

Elder: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.**

Elder: You have said, "Seek my face."

People: **My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."**

### HYMN OF ADORATION — *Holy, Holy, Holy!*

Trinity Hymnal #100

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### LORD'S PRAYER — Matthew 6:9-13

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH — 1 John 1:5-7

Elder: Who is God?

People: **This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (ESV)**

### RESPONSE OF PRAISE — *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Trinity Hymnal #38 (vv. 1, 3)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

### Prayer of invocation:

Invocation means “to call upon.” Even as God calls us to worship, we call upon God to fill our hearts with his Spirit to assure us that we belong to him and to help us worship him in Spirit and truth.

### Affirmation of our faith:

Believing God’s truth sets us free from the lies of Satan, the world, and our sinful hearts. We affirm our faith in the truth each Sunday in order to worship God, strengthen our faith, and encourage one another.

**Call to renewal:** God calls his people to renew their commitment to him as he renews his commitment to us. Through his word, the sin that we hide is exposed, not to shame us, but to lead us to repentance so that we can be forgiven. With grateful hearts, we receive instruction in the way of righteousness.

**Confession of sin:** Our sin isn't just about breaking rules, it's about hurting our relationship with a loving God who gave up his Son to save us. Grace softens our hard hearts so that we freely confess our sins during a time of silent confession. We also confess our sins together as the people of God have always done in worship.

**Words of assurance:** God uses his word to convict our conscience of sin, but he also assures us that we are forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ and dearly loved.

## CALL TO RENEWAL — John 3:19

Rev. Zack Keuthan

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. (ESV)

## SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Father,

You are light. Forgive us for the ways we love darkness more than you. Sometimes, we pursue the desires of our darkened hearts. Sometimes, we think dark thoughts. Sometimes, we remain content with keeping our sins in the dark. Forgive us and set us free that we may live transparently in the light of your Son. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE — 1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (ESV)

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE — *Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*

Words: John Newton | Music: Laura Taylor | Arranged: Joel Littlepage

© 2001 Laura Taylor Music

Let us love and sing, and wonder,  
Let us praise the Savior's name!  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder,  
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame;  
He has washed us with his blood,  
He has washed us with his blood,  
He has washed us with his blood,  
He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us,  
Pitied us when enemies!  
Called us by his grace and taught us,  
Gave us ears and gave us eyes:  
He has washed us with his blood,  
He has washed us with his blood,  
He has washed us with his blood,  
He presents our souls to God.

Let us wonder, grace and justice  
Join and point to mercy's store;  
When through grace in Christ our trust is,  
Justice smiles and asks no more:  
He who washed us with his blood,  
He who washed us with his blood,  
He who washed us with his blood,  
Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus  
Of the saints enthroned on high;  
Here they trusted him before us,  
Now their praises fill the sky:  
You have washed us with Your blood,  
You have washed us with Your blood,  
You have washed us with Your blood,  
You are worthy, Lamb of God.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Matt Lucas

## CHILDREN'S HYMN — *Here I Am to Worship* (v. 1)

Words | Music: Tim Hughes

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Light of the world,  
You stepped down into  
darkness,  
Opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made  
This heart adore You,  
Hope of a life spent with You.

*Chorus:*  
So, here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God.  
And You're altogether lovely,  
Altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

### Children's Sermon:

Please come forward for the children's sermon as we sing the last verse of the hymn. The children's sermon makes the Bible accessible to young children.

**Parents:** You are welcome to accompany your child to the front. Afterward, children 2-3 years of age may be dismissed to the nursery. Please gather in the narthex, and a deacon will lead you to the nursery.

**Doxology:** Doxology means “praise.” We praise God because of his generosity to us.

**Sermon:** The Bible teaches us how to know Jesus and experience his saving work. The sermon is for proclaiming Jesus and how we can trust in him for salvation and live for his glory. For those who receive the Bible as the word of God, it is profitable to teach us, rebuke our sins, build us up in his grace, and train us in

Sermons available at  
[www.refpres.org](http://www.refpres.org)

## PRAYER FOR CHRIST’S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

### DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### SERMON — *“The Light That Overcomes Our Darkness”*

Rev. Matt Lucas

John 8:12-30

[12] Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” [13] So the Pharisees said to him, “You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.” [14] Jesus answered, “Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. [15] You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. [16] Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. [17] In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. [18] I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me.” [19] They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” [20] These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

[21] So he said to them again, “I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come.” [22] So the Jews said, “Will he kill himself, since he says, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come?’” [23] He said to them, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. [24] I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.” [25] So they said to him, “Who are you?” Jesus said to them, “Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. [26] I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the

world what I have heard from him.” [27] They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. [28] So Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. [29] And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him.” [30] As he was saying these things, many believed in him. (ESV)

## SERMON OUTLINE

Jesus is the light of the world. Whoever follows him will have the light of life.

1. The light of his testimony

2. The light of his path

3. The light of his presence

4. The light of his salvation

## HYMN OF COMMITMENT — *To Hungry Souls*

Music: Christa Threlfall | Words: Jonathan Threlfall

2018

To hungry souls, Christ is the Bread who fills and satisfies.  
To darkened hearts, he is the Light, who opens blinded eyes.

*Chorus:*

Come to this Feast, behold this Light, pass through this open Door.  
Be led by Him and loved by Him, and live for ever more.

To wand'ring sheep, Christ is the Door who loves and lets them in.  
No better Shepherd can they know than He who died for them. (*Chorus*)

Those dead in sin will come alive at Jesus' mighty cry.  
For all who trust in Christ the Life will live and never die. (*Chorus*)

Like branches we can bear no fruit except through Christ the Vine.  
He is the only Way to God, the Truth, the Life, Divine. (*Chorus*)

## BENEDICTION

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — *The Light of the World Is Jesus*

Trinity Hymnal #476 (v. 1)

The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin;  
The light of the world is Jesus;  
Like sunshine at noonday his glory shone in,  
The light of the world is Jesus.

*Refrain:*

Come to the light, 'tis shining for thee;  
Sweetly the light has dawned upon me;  
Once I was blind, but now I can see;  
The light of the world is Jesus.

## POSTLUDE

**Benediction:** A benediction is not a prayer, but a pronouncement from God of his blessing and approval. God sends his people out to live in the strength of his blessing upon our lives.

## GET CONNECTED

### Next Step

NEXT STEP is for those who want to learn more about RPC. We gather on Friday evening and Saturday and Sunday mornings to talk about our vision, beliefs, and ministries. Participating in NEXT STEP does not require you to become a member of RPC but may help in making an informed decision about membership. Next session TBD.

### Sunday School

Classes at Kirkside Hall (brick building next door), 9:30 am; nursery provided

Adult: *Walking by Faith in God's Grace*- Pastor Matt Lucas

Children: *The Gospel Story* - Nancy George and Hayley Bollinger, Sallye Lucas and Mary Keyzer, Crystal Goldsmith, Jeremy Maestro, and Marie Pender

Middle School: *Enjoying the God of All Things* - Tyler Blohm

High School: *Life and Everything* - Pastor Zack & Elly Keuthan

### Community Groups

Weekly small group Bible studies in church members' homes.

Sundays – Boyd Drive, 5:00 pm - Contact: John Gates at 907.244.7709

Mondays – Flat Rock, 6:30 pm - Contact: Glen Reid, 828.393.5004

Tuesdays – Kirkside Hall, 4:00 pm - Contact: David Taylor, 757.375.5062

Wednesdays – Sylvan Heights, 6:15 pm - Contact: Zack Keuthan, 828.702.6807

Fridays (1st & 3rd) – Olde Chanteloup Ct, 6:00 pm - Contact: Levi Friedly at 720.618.3533

### Ways to Serve

If you would like to serve in the nursery during Sunday morning worship or work in another area of children's ministry, contact Sallye Lucas at 828.702.2892.

### Additional Connections this Week

**Today**                      **5:00 pm** Youth Group

**Tuesday**                    **11:30 am - 1:30 pm** Ladies drop-in luncheon at Beth Oldham's

*Flowers today are given to the Glory of God,  
and in celebration of Emma Reid on her graduation  
from Converse College.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Next Sunday is Promotion Sunday. We will gather in the fellowship hall for Sunday School. After the service we will continue with a picnic at Flat Rock Park to honor our graduates. Please bring a dish to share.
2. Save the Date! The Ladies Summer Picnic, Saturday, June 25, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Details are coming soon!
3. Our church is teaming up with First ARP Gastonia for a short-term mission trip in Honea, SC, July 24-27. The trip will cost about \$150 per person. We need both youth and adults. Contact Pastor Zack if you want to know more.
4. Offering Box - All offerings can be placed in the box located in the Narthex. Please deposit them before the service begins.
5. Annual Youth Group Girls Ice Cream Crawl, June 1 at 6:30. Meet at the church parking lot. Contact Mary Neill Lucas if you are able to join or have any questions.

## NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

### May 15

Babies.....Marty Reed and Myra Johnson  
Walkers ..... Lauren Cason and Callie Stage

### May 22

Babies..... Eric & Sally Warren  
Walkers ..... Tom & Sue Shoger, Vardry Pender

## USHERS

### May

Charlie Johnson, Ben Oldham, Steve Stage

Valet Parking is available  
between 10:15 - 10:40 am

## GET CONNECTED

(Place in offering plate)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am visiting today

### I'D LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT:

ARP Denomination

Baptism

Children's Ministry

Community Groups

Membership

Men's Ministry

Missions/Outreach

Music Ministry

Women's Ministry

Youth Ministry

Receive a call from a pastor

## COMMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

(Continue on the back)

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## OFFICERS

### Session Members

John Gates  
Rev. Zack Keuthan  
Rev. Matt Lucas  
Michael Rhodes  
David Taylor  
Joseph Warren

### Diaconate Members

**Mark Dugle**  
Carlos Galvan  
Phil Hanna  
Kevin Keyzer  
Bill Mitchell  
Bill O'Brien

**Bold:** Denotes Officer of the Month

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Senior Pastor ..... Rev. Matt Lucas  
Associate Pastor/Youth ..... Rev. Zack Keuthan  
Children's Ministry Director ..... Sallye Lucas  
Custodian ..... Michael Rhodes  
Librarian ..... Elly Keuthan  
Interim Music Director ..... Rev. Eddie Reed  
Musician ..... Chris Zhang  
Office Administrator ..... Beth Hill  
Treasurer ..... Bob Johnson  
Women's Ministries ..... Gail Mitchell

## *Reformation Presbyterian Church*

120 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue W, Hendersonville, North Carolina 28792

828.698.3536 | office@refpres.org



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