



July 5th, 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“Resurrection Lutheran Church exists to proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour, in an open accepting fellowship, a loving caring community that reaches out to all people to serve Christ through worshipping, teaching, learning, sharing and giving of ourselves to meet the needs of this congregation, the community and the world, as the Holy Spirit moves us.”

Resurrection Lutheran Church

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The mystery of God’s ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God’s mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ’s invitation: “Come to me, all you that are weary.” Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

GATHERING

Announcements

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn **Will You Come and Follow Me ELW #798**

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

L: 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.

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

L: 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.

L: 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.

Kyrie ELW Setting 8

Refrain:

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For your Spirit to guide; that you centre our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray together.

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

WORD

Children's Chat

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

The king comes in peace.

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

Psalm 145:8-14 (We will read this responsively)

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful, **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹ The LORD is good to all, **and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, **and all your faithful shall bless you.**

¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, **and tell of your power,**

¹² to make known to all people your mighty deeds, **and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, **and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

The LORD is faithful in all his words, **and gracious in all his deeds.**

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who are falling, **and raises up all who are bowed down.**

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

The struggle within the self.

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good.

¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I

do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

Gospel Acclamation

Holy Gospel

Mathew 11:16-19, 25-30

The yoke of discipleship.

Gospel Response

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶ “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day “We Come to the Hungry Feast” ELW #479

1. We come to the hungry feast hungry for a word of peace. To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is not denied. We come, we come to the hungry feast.
2. We come to the hungry feat hungry for a world released from hungry folk of ev'ry kind, the poor in body, poor in mind. We come, we come to the hungry feast.
3. We come to the hungry feast hungry that the hunger cease, and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay with us; still we come, we come to the hungry feast.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Peace **Peace be with you. And also with you.**

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Merciful father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving, what you have first given us. Our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself to us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!

Prayers of the People

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the nations. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from patriotism that hinders relationship-building. Lead us to expansive love for our neighbour.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give you consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. Energize children's ministry volunteers, church administrators, and those who maintain our building. Shine in the place that we might notice the ways your transforms our lives.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for those who have died in faith. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all, we pray for our Bishops Susan and Sid, all our bishops, pastors, diaconal ministers, our lay leaders and all in ministry, for Resurrection Lutheran Church and for all members of Christ's body around the world. Prepare our hearts to accept your Word.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Song "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" ELW #551

1. The spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.
2. We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free: where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.
3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed and all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gospel to proclaim. God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

Dismissal Go in peace. Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Special thanks to our musician Bonnie Semenoff, our Worship Assistant David Kirton, our Readers Anna Jensen, Eva-Marie Tote, David Kirton for technical support, and Dorlan Oxelgren for Zoom support.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JULY 12th

Isaiah 55:10-13, Psalm 65:9:13, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

PRAYER LIST

To add or remove names from the list, please contact the church office or call Pastor Ali.

Givings:

2020 Monthly Budget: **\$15,125**

June envelope givings in total: **\$14,120**

Estimated PAR on July 20th: **\$8,131.25**

Chequing Account Balance: **minus \$12,726.43**

Thank you for your generous givings especially during this extraordinary time!

Effective July 1st, the office will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 am until 4 pm. If you need to come in to the church or are dropping something off, please call Ryan first at 306-242-4042.

Please follow along with **Pastor Ali's blog** on the response to the COVID-19 Pandemic at <https://covid19pastoralresponse.ca/>

We are working on updating the directory. If you can, please send in a new picture. If you have recently moved or changed your phone number, please send that new information as well. We would like to include email addresses this time. If you don't want to have yours in the directory, please let Elaine know. The directory will only be made available to our congregation members and will not be published anywhere.

Hello there! Did you think there would not be a **Vacation Bible School** this summer? Great news! Your family can enjoy our Cat.Chat VBS At Home... Our fun 5-DAYS AT HOME online VBS begins on **July 20, 2020**. We are *thrilled* to have your family join us! **Your Free At Home VBS includes:**

- A daily Cat.Chat Action Song Video for your children to watch, sing, and dance along to
- A Bible Verse Music Video to help kids memorize God's Word and plant seeds of faith
- 10 Cat.Chat VBS songs (2 songs daily) to stream from your device anywhere/anytime
- Printable faith and craft activities
- Snack and game activities
- A daily saint story and coloring page
- Prayers
- Connection questions to spark meaningful conversations
- Plus, an opportunity for kids to enter a SUMMER VBS coloring contest and **win exciting prizes.**

Look forward to receiving your At Home VBS email for **5 consecutive days**. Thank you for being intentional about giving your kids the opportunity to grow in their faith! This at Home VBS experience will bless your entire family. For more information, visit: <https://mailchi.mp/catchat.ca/cathletics-at-home-vbs-program-2020> **Your VBS Directors:** Patti Pasloski, St. Anne's Parish and Virginie Tomppé, Resurrection Lutheran Church

The ***Eternity for Today*** devotional for July/August/September has arrived. If you would like one, please call Elaine and arrangements can be made for you to pick one up. They are also available on the ELCIC website at <https://elcic.ca/EternityforToday.cfm>

Congratulations to Brian & Shellee Hogan who are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on July 5.

Caring for your Congregation during Social Distancing

One of the best things you can do during this time of difficulty and uncertainty, is to call fellow VBS members within your congregation to see how they are coping during these times and offer support in whatever way we can. Many will be isolated and alone.

Here are a few tips to help make that call a truly Christian caring call and things you will need to know:

1. You will need to be well equipped to provide caring over the telephone (or other media) ...*active listening * validating feelings *being as fully present as possible over the phone.
2. Offer prayer – pray with and for the person being called. People vary in terms of how comfortable they are praying over the phone, but most often the prayer support will be greatly appreciated. Build the prayer to what the person is specifically going through and what kinds of supports are most needed.
3. If part of your call is to gather information for the church office, inform the person you are calling and get permission to pass along any sensitive or difficult information from your conversation or prayer request. Otherwise, anything you share during your conversation should be kept confidential.
4. Know the resources your congregation has available for help if requested i.e. food ministry, clothing programs, financial assistance programs, etc. Whatever the needs are, follow up on them while keeping your pastor informed.
5. Throughout this process, provide care for yourself, the pastor, church staff and other congregation caregivers. Check In with each other regularly, lift one another up, and provide mutual care and support.

It's amazing what we can do by listening to people and being present for their pain, let God do everything else!