



October 18th, 2020

TWENTIETH 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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In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

GATHERING

Now the Feast and Celebration – Marty Haugen

Announcements

Words of Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

L: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L: Most Merciful God,
have mercy on us.

We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have don and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen

L: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Apostolic Greeting:

L: 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.

Kyrie – Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain:

Let us pray to the Lord, **have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all ...

Refrain

For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word ... **Refrain**

Help, save and defend us, O God

Amen

Now the Feast – Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain: Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory forevermore!

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. **Refrain:**
2. Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. **Refrain:**
3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God: to make all things new. **Refrain:**

Prayer of the Day

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

L; Let us pray

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Chat and Sunday School Time

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

An earthly ruler works God's will

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your

name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

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

Psalm 96:1-13 (We will read this responsively)

Ascribe to the Lord honor and power (Ps. 96:7)

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Thanksgiving for the church at Thessalonica

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

A teaching about the emperor and God

Gospel Response

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Now Thank We All Our God (isometric) (ELW 840)*

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

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.**

Prayers of the People

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt (*especially*). Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you (*especially*). We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

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

Offering

Offertory Prayer

L: Merciful God,

Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 Hymn *What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW 742)*

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--take it to the Lord in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

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

Special thanks to our musician Dory Harder, our Worship Assistant Cam Harder, our Readers Bob Berikoff, Eva Marie and Marcelle Anne Tote, Sunday School support Nicole Bilinski and Nahema Tchokonte; David Kirton for technical support, and Garry Booth for Zoom support.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR OCTOBER 25, 2020

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28, John 8:31-36

PRAYER LIST

Flora Tabien as she mourn the passing of her brother Edson, Grace Janke who is in hospital, Bob and Eunice Huber as they mourn the passing of Bob's sister Donna Joyce Lindsay, Dominique's mother Marie who is recovering from surgery, Gloria Powell-Smith for healing after hip replacement surgery, Ruth Hilderman (Esther Cherland's sister), Judy Pannell, the family of Pastor Gene Grant and Pastor Richard Engel who is starting at LuMinHos as Chaplain.

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

Givings:

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

September envelope givings in total: **\$2,965.92**

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

Chequing Account Balance: **minus \$16,753.30**

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

In-Person Service Plans

To register you and your family for the in person worship services, please use the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD4EADA72AA4FEC52-sunday> or call the church office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. In order for everyone to have an opportunity to participate in in-person worship, we are asking that you only **register for one of the two services in November, either November 1 or November 15**. We are accepting registrations for either **November 1 or November 15**.

The schedule for our city-wide joint on-line services for 2020/2021 is as follows:

November 8 – Redeemer

December 13 – Augustana

January 10 – King of Glory

February 14 – Good Shepherd

March 14 – Trinity

The office will be open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 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.

At the present time, we cannot accept any donation for the Food Bank. We will inform you when donations can be accepted again.

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 Ryan know. The

directory will only be made available to our congregation members and will not be published anywhere.

The ***Eternity for Today*** devotional for October/November/December has arrived. If you would like one, please call Ryan 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>

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 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!