



August 16th, 2020

Eleventh 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 Isaiah we hear that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

GATHERING

Announcements

Words of Welcome

Today, the people of God of the Vine and Branches congregations of Trinity, King of Glory, and Resurrection Lutheran, gather together virtually for worship.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen

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

P: Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. For the sake, of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Greeting

Gathering Hymn

All Are Welcome ELW #641

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray together.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

Children's Chat

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A house of prayer for all the people

¹ Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

Psalm 67 (We will read this responsively)

Let all the peoples praise you. O God. (Ps. 67:3)

- ¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us **and make his face to shine upon us,**
² that your way may be known upon earth, **your saving power among all nations.**
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**
⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, **for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**
⁶ The earth has yielded its increase; **God, our God, has blessed us.**
⁷ May God continue to bless us; **let all the ends of the earth revere him.**

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God's mercy to all, Jew and Gentile

¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Holy Gospel

Mathew 15:10-28

The Canaanite woman's daughter is healed.

Gospel Response

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." ²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It

is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Healer of Our Every Ill ELW #612

Refrain: Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

1. You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. Refrain
2. In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. Refrain
3. Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. Refrain
4. You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. Refrain

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 for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!**

Prayers of the People

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interest, contending alliances and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make your face shine upon all.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities and towns, and for those who need your healing.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation, Resurrection Lutheran Church, grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, especially Bill Cowan, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayer to you: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Song Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing ELW #886

1. Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and king, the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.
3. The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ear, brings life and health and peace.
4. He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
5. Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!
6. To God all glory, praise and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

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 Sharon Babcock and Eva Marie Tote, Pastor Mike Poellet for assisting with the service, David Kirton for technical support, and Garry Booth for Zoom support.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR AUGUST 23, 2020

Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

PRAYER LIST

Lorraine Cowan and her children Kim and Craig after the passing of her husband and their father Bill.

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

Givings:

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

August envelope givings in total: **\$2,370**

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

Chequing Account Balance: **minus \$11,673.31**

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

Summer Services schedule:

- August 16: Home service led by Resurrection and Pastor Ali Tote for the 3 Vine and branches congregations (Live Zoom)
- August 23: Shared service with the 3 Vine and Branches congregations led by King of Glory Lutheran and Pastor Michael Poellet (Audio recorded)
- August 30: Shared service with the 3 Vine and Branches congregations led by Trinity and Pastor Mark Hedlin (YouTube recorded)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a new committee has been formed at our church – the Resurrection Re-opening Committee. The mandate of this committee is to coordinate the planning and implementation of our church's re-opening for in-person services, *once it is safe to do so*.

The committee is in great need of volunteers to serve on the committee to:

- meet periodically (via zoom) to plan the re-opening

- prepare the physical space of the church for service resumption
- support the safe congregation of members before, during, and after services

“Many hands make light work”, **so please consider volunteering!** If you are interested or have questions please contact the committee’s chair, Angela England at ang.England@shaw.ca or 306-221-9594.

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 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 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>

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!