

Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran

July 23, 2023

In Christ the Cornerstone...Living His Word, Sharing His Love

8th Sunday after Pentecost

God's Plans



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AS WE GATHER

God's plans are far beyond our understanding. Even His divine existence sends our minds reeling.

No wonder that Jesus' disciples, and we who follow them, cannot figure out why He lets His and our spiritual enemies live with us. But because we have been given faith by the Holy Spirit, and although we cannot understand God's plans, in the death and resurrection of Christ, our Lord, we trust His divine wisdom. We have the firstfruits of the Spirit and know that the Spirit intercedes for us. Thus, even in the groans of our prayers, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. In sure hope, we wait for the day when we shall "shine like the sun" in our Father's kingdom.

Opening Greetings!

Opening Hymn: #892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:8-9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C We confess, gracious God, that we groan not only because of sin in the world, but our failure to trust You for all that we need. We have not waited patiently; we have demanded reasons from You; we have sought to excuse ourselves. Yet You have given us the Spirit, who intercedes for us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us to hope not in ourselves but in the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- P** The promises of God are sure; one day creation will be set free from corruption. Your sins were taken to Christ's cross, where you were redeemed as God's beloved children. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Kyrie

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For peace and salvation from God above, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For peace in this sin-sick world, growth in the Church, and unity among its members, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For this holy house, ourselves, and all who worship here, let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C Amen.

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment,
C we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter;
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Besides Me There Is No God

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
“I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.
Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
⁸Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!
Is there a God besides me?
There is no Rock; I know not any.”



- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle**Romans 8:18-27****Future Glory**

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual and Verse*Romans 11:33, 36; Matthew 13:35b*

- P** Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
- C** How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!
- P** For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
- C** To Him be glory forever. Amen.
- P** Alleluia. I will open My mouth in parables;
- C** I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Parable of the Weeds

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" . . .



The Parable of the Weeds Explained



³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sermon Hymn: #576 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Sermon

Nicene Creed

(On Screen or inside back cover of LSB)

Prayer of the Church

- P** When we look at the storms gathering around us, many people are in dire straits. Let us pray for them, for the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.
- P** let us pray to the Lord.

C Hear us, heavenly Father, as we pray in hope.

CONTINUE:

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father,
C grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Offering

SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you,

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: 761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me 850 God of Grace and God of Glory
822 Alleluia! Let Praises Ring 794 The Lord, My God, Be Praised

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn: #827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

Dismissal

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

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