

Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran

August 13, 2023

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

10th Sunday after Pentecost



"Why?"

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AS WE GATHER

When children cannot understand why they can't do something, the answer is often,

"Because I said so." As they grow up, they may get the answers they seek. Job did not get an answer, but he kept his faith in his Creator. In the Gospel, the disciples cannot understand Jesus' walking on the sea, but when He is in the boat with them, they confess, "Truly You are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33). Though we may ask God, "Why?" and Paul in the Epistle says we cannot understand God's reasons, we can confess with our mouths and believe in Christ's resurrection. It is an exercise of the faith God has so graciously given us. Why did He come to earth? He came to save us. In great might He destroyed death itself so that we might live with Him forever. That's why!

We begin with Welcome! Hello! Glad you're here!



Opening Hymn: #871 Greet the Rising Sun

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences 2 Samuel 22:47; Psalm 18:3, 6, 46

P The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

C and exalted be the God of my salvation.

P I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

C and I am saved from my enemies.

P In my distress I called upon the LORD;

C to my God I cried for help.

P From His temple He heard my voice,

C and my cry to Him reached His ears.

P The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

C and exalted be the God of my salvation.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us consider our unworthiness to come before almighty God and confess our sins to Him in the presence of one another.

We confess, Creator Lord, that like Job, we become angry at times with what You have allowed in our lives and we have wondered why.

C Forgive our pride and turn us to humbly rely on Your gracious plans for us.

P We confess, Savior Lord, that unlike Paul, we have neglected people around us who have not accepted Your sacrifice for them.

C Forgive our self-centeredness and inaction, and move us to tell them the Good News as You provide opportunity.

P We confess, Spirit of truth, that like Peter, we have failed to trust You in all things and have been overwhelmed by the storms of life.

C Forgive our weakness of faith and enable us to follow where You lead the way.

P All things in heaven and earth are under God's rule. His almighty power was shown chiefly in sending His Son into this fallen world to destroy the powers of sin, death, and the devil. Your pride, self-centeredness, weakness of faith, and anything else that would separate you from His great love have been forgiven for Jesus' sake. 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.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God,

C preserve us from all harm and danger

P that we, being ready in both body and soul,

C may cheerfully accomplish what You want done;

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.

Old Testament Reading

Job 38:4-18

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,

⁹when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,

¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

¹²“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,

¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?

¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.

¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.

¹⁶“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?

¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Message of Salvation to All

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”



¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Matthew 14:27

- P** Alleluia. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying,
C “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

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

Jesus Walks on the Water

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

²⁸And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”



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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Sermon Hymn: #543 What Wondrous Love is This

Sermon

Nicene Creed

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

C O N T I N U E:

P let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, hear our prayer.

* * *

P For those near and dear to us who call out for relief, renewal, and health, [*including . . .*], that God would hear their prayers and answer according to His great love for them, let us pray to the Lord.

C Grant us our requests, heavenly Father, for we lift our voices in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Offering

SACRAMENT



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: 607 From Depths of Woe I cry to thee; 752 Be Still, My Soul;
715 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me; 979 God, Whose Almighty Word

Benediction

Closing Hymn: 739 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Dismissal

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3.

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