

# Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran

September 3, 2023

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

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



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## AS WE GATHER

"Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart" (Jeremiah 15:16). The prophet Jeremiah did not praise God with such words because his life was super easy. No, Jeremiah rejoiced

in the Lord even as his life had plenty of problems. Why such delight in difficulty? Surrounded by evil in this world, like Jeremiah, we cling to the God who is good, learning to trust His Word as the means by which we receive His deliverance from our enemies of sin and death. The living, active, delightful voice of our Savior guarantees His ongoing presence in our life. Because of this, we rejoice! As we gather in the presence of Jesus this day, let us echo Jeremiah's anthem of praise: "Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart!"

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

Opening Hymn: #815 All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

Jeremiah 15:20b

- P** Since we are gathered to delight ourselves in the Word of God and to assemble as one family around His Table, let us with repentant hearts confess our sins before our heavenly Father, seeking His forgiveness in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

*(We pause for a moment of silent prayer and confession.)*

- P** O Lord our God, hear us as we pray:  
**C** We confess that we have not walked in Your faithfulness, turning away from You when we should be turning toward You.
- P** Father, forgive us.  
**C** Our love has not been genuine. We have not overcome evil with good.
- P** Have mercy upon us, Lord Jesus.  
**C** The grace You tell us to share with both our friends and our enemies is the mercy we also need.
- P** Renew us, Spirit of truth.  
**C** Remove our transgressions from us so that we may live as those who have been called by Your name, delighting in Your goodness to us in Christ. Amen.
- P** “I am with you to save you and deliver you,” declares the Lord. Through Jesus Christ—crucified, risen, and coming again—you have been delivered from your enemies of sin, death, and the devil. Keep His saving, steadfast love before your eyes and walk by faith in His promises. As one called to be your pastor and commissioned by Jesus to deliver the delight of His Word, I 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 the peace of the Lord to be delivered to troubled homes and hearts, for friendship to replace warfare, and for His people to choose love instead of hate, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For evil to be overcome and victory in Christ to be known, both here in this holy house and wherever the Gospel is proclaimed, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For salvation, deliverance, and forgiveness for all, including our enemies, that we may walk in the steadfast love of our Savior, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** Heal us! Bless us! Renew 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.  
Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption.  
**C** Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads.

- P** Delighting in Your goodness to us, we ask for this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.  
In your forbearance take me not away;  
know that for your sake I bear reproach.  
<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy  
and the delight of my heart,  
for I am called by your name,  
O LORD, God of hosts.  
<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of revelers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,  
for you had filled me with indignation.  
<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing,  
my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?  
Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail?  
<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:  
“If you return, I will restore you,  
and you shall stand before me.  
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall be as my mouth.  
They shall turn to you,  
but you shall not turn to them.  
<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you,  
declares the LORD.  
<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

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

## Gradual

*Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

- P** Fear the LORD, you His saints,  
**C** for those who fear Him lack nothing!
- P** Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
**C** but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

**Marks of the True Christian**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. <sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

**Verse**

Matthew 16:25

**P** Alleluia. Whoever would save his life will lose it,  
**C** but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Alleluia.

**Holy Gospel**

Matthew 16:21-28

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

**Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection**

<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

**Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus**

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. <sup>28</sup>Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

**CHILDREN'S SERMON****Sermon Hymn: #574 Before the Throne of God Above****Sermon****Nicene Creed****Prayer of the Church**

**P** Remember the call of God through Paul in Romans 12:12:  
**C** "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

- P** Rejoicing in God's promise to hear our prayers, we delight ourselves in Him, even in the difficulties of life. Together let us give voice to our constant prayers.

Heavenly Father, You alone have the power to redeem Your enemies and make them friends. In the mercy of Jesus, who has claimed us as His own, enable us to show love to our enemies, heaping Your grace upon them. As You have loved us even though we never deserve it, help us to do the same to others in our lives. In Your love, O Lord,

- C** help us to love as You have first loved us.

- P** Lord Jesus, our hearts delight in Your goodness despite the evil of this fallen world. You entered into our midst because of Your mission to seek and save the lost. We join with You in this mission, Lord, commissioned by Your Gospel to make known among the nations what You have done. Restore us, renew us, and lead us! We delight in the new life You have given to all who trust in You. In Your joy, O Lord,

- C** help us to rejoice in all things.

- P** Spirit of truth, You resuscitate what is dead, mend what is broken, and overcome what is evil with the goodness found only in You. Turn us again and again to Your mercy that we, having received it from You, may then extend it to others. Work mightily through each of us in our vocations at church, home, work, and society. Fill the hearts and minds of all who need Your wisdom and discernment, equipping them for the challenges they face. Through it all, instill in us Your peace to guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. In Your peace, O Lord,

- C** help us to be peacemakers.

- P** Be near to those who are broken in heart, body, and mind. Comfort the lonely and renew the spirit of those who despair. Clothe the naked and shelter the homeless. Let those who walk through the desert of difficulty discover the oasis of Your living water. Hear the prayers we offer for those in our family of faith who need Your healing mercies, [*including . . .*]. Your caring love for us is genuine and eternal. In Your care, O Lord,

- C** help us to care for others.

- P** To You, gracious Father, be all the glory, honor, and praise, in Christ Jesus and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## Offering

~~SACRAMENT~~

Preface  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Lord's Prayer  
The Words of Our Lord  
Pax Domini

Distribution Hymns:

*851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*  
*588 Jesus Loves Me*  
*980 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*  
*724 If God Himself Be for Me*

Post Communion Thanksgiving Prayer

### Closing Sentences

*Based on Romans 12:9-21*

- P** Let your love be genuine. Turn from what is evil and hold fast to what is good.  
**C** Let us see one another as brothers and sisters in Christ!
- P** Delight yourself in the Lord even when life is difficult. Hold fast to Jesus. Rejoice in Him!  
**C** Let us overcome evil with good as we go forth in Jesus' name.

### Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26*

- 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

### Closing Hymn: #848 Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

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

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