

# Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran

September 10, 2023

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



**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**



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## **AS WE GATHER**

One way that many people hear about the prophet Ezekiel is through words of an African American spiritual: "Ezekiel saw

the wheel way up in the middle of the air." This song from the Black musical tradition was brought to the wider attention of other American listeners by William L. Dawson of the Tuskegee Institute. The song has been recorded by many notable singers, including Louis Armstrong and Bing Crosby. Although Ezekiel's visions make for memorable song lyrics, the prophet's words make for challenging hearing. In today's Old Testament Reading, we are challenged to hear words of warning from the prophet, who is mentoring God's people in captivity. His message for them is an admonition to us that deserves our most careful attention.

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

# SERVICE TODAY: Divine Setting IV

## LSB page 203 or on screens

**Opening Hymn: #594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; 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

**Ezekiel 33:7-9**

<sup>7</sup>"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."



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

### Epistle

**Romans 13:1-10**

#### Submission to the Authorities

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

## Fulfilling the Law Through Love

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

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

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 18:1-20*

### Who Is the Greatest?

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

### Temptations to Sin

<sup>7</sup>“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

### The Parable of the Lost Sheep

<sup>10</sup>“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

### If Your Brother Sins Against You

<sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

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

# Children's Message

## SERMON HYMN: #867 Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds

### Sermon

## Prayer of the Church

- P** Knowing that our Lord has promised to be in our midst wherever two or three are gathered in His name, let us bring our prayers and supplications before Him.

### **CONTINUE**

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

## Offering

### Service of the Sacrament pg 208

Distribution Hymns: #616 Baptismal Waters Cover me / #605 Father Welcomes  
#686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing / #853 How Clear is Our Vocation

## Benediction

LSB 212

### CLOSING HYMN: #725 Children of the Heavenly Father

#### Acknowledgments

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