

# Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran

October 1, 2023

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

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



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**AS WE  
GATHER**

Among the flags of the fifty states of the United States, one of the most distinctive is the flag of

Rhode Island. It is a simple design featuring a golden anchor on a field of white, surrounded by thirteen golden stars which commemorate the fact that Rhode Island was the thirteenth of the original colonies to become a state officially.

There is just one word on the flag: hope.

The likely inspiration for the inclusion of this word is from Hebrews: "We who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul" (Hebrews 6:18-19). The founders of the colony of Rhode Island were hopeful of finding a place of refuge to express their Christian faith freely in their times. In our time, we also are people of Christian hope, as well as people abiding in faith who are given to charity in Christ's name.

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

# SERVICE TODAY: Divine Setting IV

LSB page 203 or on Screens

*(Hymns; and Prayers/Texts that change weekly are below)*

## Opening Hymn: #904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32*

### The Soul Who Sins Shall Die

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

<sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

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

## Epistle

*Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18*

### Christ’s Example of Humility

<sup>1</sup>If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or questioning, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup>Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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

### The Authority of Jesus Challenged

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

### The Parable of the Two Sons

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

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

## Children's Message

### SERMON HYMN: #523 O Word of God Incarnate

#### Sermon

#### Prayer of the Church

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

#### **CONTINUE**

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Merciful Lord, in You there is no shadow due to change. Enkindle Your divine light in us, that we may stand united as Christ's own body, holding fast to the word of life and shining brightly in the midst of this world's darkness; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### Offering

### Service of the Sacrament LSB 208

Distribution Hymns: #525 Crown Him with Many Crowns; #909 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation; #809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness; #512 At the Name of Jesus

### CLOSING HYMN: #917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

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