

Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran

December 31, 2023

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



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AS WE GATHER

It is only eighty-eight days until Good Friday. Even though we haven't yet completed the twelve-day celebration of Christmas, today, on the eighth day, we are reminded already of our Lord's sacrificial suffering and death on the cross by means of two signs given already at His infancy: His circumcision and His name. As the incarnate Lord and God came to provide the only perfect sacrifice for the forgiveness of the sin of the whole world, so His blood is already shed in the sign of the covenant given through Abraham. Then, too, Mary and Joseph didn't have to struggle to come up with a name for the child for it was given by His Father through the angel. He is named Yeshua, Jesus, because that is what He came to do, namely, save His people from their sins. It would be on Good Friday that He would be wounded in the flesh of His arms, feet, and side as signs of salvation. The

apostle Thomas would see those signs still visible on the risen Lord and proclaim Jesus to be "my Lord and my God."

In your Holy Baptism, you received the sign of the cross both upon your forehead and upon your heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified. So it is with the sign of the holy cross marking our days and our deeds throughout our years as those redeemed, followers of the way, singing to one another, "Let us ever walk with Jesus," as we follow Him to the great and promised day of our resurrection to life everlasting.

Welcome!
We Are
Glad You
Are Here!

Holy Baptism

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Old Testament Reading

Numbers 6:22-27

Aaron's Blessing

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

²⁷“So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Galatians 3:23-29

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Matthew 1:21

Alleluia.

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the Church

Benediction

922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

sts. 1-4

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