

# **Resurrection Lutheran Church**

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**Resurrection Lutheran Church is called by God, to reach beyond our walls and share the Good News, bringing Christ to the world through Prayer, Love, and Action.**

**Sunday, December 5, 2021—9:30 AM**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to commune and receive Christ in bread and wine. Please fill out a communion card and give it to the usher when coming forward for Communion.*

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

## **WELCOME**

## **CENTERING PRAYER**

## **CENTERING MUSIC**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C** Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Time of silence and self-examination*

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

## PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

## SHARING OF PEACE

## OPENING HYMN


ELW #264

### Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
 So let your praise be sound-ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



*Refrain*  
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

P We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

## HYMN

(verses 3 & 4)

ELW #257

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray

C **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

*God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.*

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Luke 1:68-79 (read responsively)

<sup>68</sup>Blessed are you, Lord, the <sup>1</sup> God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and <sup>1</sup> set them free.

<sup>69</sup>**You have raised up for us a <sup>1</sup> mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your <sup>1</sup> servant David.**

<sup>70</sup>Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us <sup>1</sup> from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup>from the hands of <sup>1</sup> all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup>**to show mercy <sup>1</sup> to our forebears,  
and to remember your <sup>1</sup> holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup>This was the oath you swore to our <sup>1</sup> father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup>to set us free from the hands of our <sup>1</sup> enemies,  
**free to worship you <sup>1</sup> without fear,**

<sup>75</sup>**holy and righteous before you, all the days <sup>1</sup> of our life.**

<sup>76</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of <sup>1</sup> the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to pre-<sup>1</sup>pare the way,  
<sup>77</sup>to give God's people knowledge<sup>1</sup> of salvation  
 by the forgiveness<sup>1</sup> of their sins.  
<sup>78</sup>In the tender compassion<sup>1</sup> of our God  
 the dawn from on high shall<sup>1</sup> break upon us,  
<sup>79</sup>to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad-<sup>1</sup>ow of death,  
 and to guide our feet into the<sup>1</sup> way of peace.

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Stand as you are able*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

*John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

P The holy gospel according to Luke

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

P The gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON**

**Seminarian Sharei Green**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW #249**

### On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



|   |         |             |      |       |       |        |      |        |         |          |      |
|---|---------|-------------|------|-------|-------|--------|------|--------|---------|----------|------|
| 1 | On      | Jor - dan's | bank | the   | Bap - | tist's | cry  | an -   | nounc - | es       |      |
| 2 | Then    | cleansed    | be   | ev -  | 'ry   | life   | from | sin;   | make    | straight | the  |
| 3 | We      | hail        | you  | as    | our   | Sav -  | ior, | Lord,  | our     | ref -    | uge  |
| 4 | Stretch | forth       | your | hand, | our   | health | re - | store, | and     | make     | us   |
| 5 | All     | praise      | to   | you,  | e -   | ter -  | nal  | Son,   | whose   | ad -     | vent |



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen**



**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**—In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God’s presence.

*A brief silence. Each petition ends:*

**P** Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**P** God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERING**

*Stand as you are able*

### **OFFERTORY SONG**

### **“We Are an Offering”**

**ELW #692**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an offering.

Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands,  
Lord use our lives, they are yours:  
we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be,  
we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering,  
we are an offering.

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
 2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.  
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

*Please be seated*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** - *all are invited \*gluten free wafers are available.*

*Please be seated*

**LAMB OF GOD**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**TABLE BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray.

C God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

**P** Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit

**C** **Amen.**

## **SENDING MUSIC**

## **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the world, for the sake of the Lord!

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

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Pastor  
Director of Music  
Oboe

Darryl Thompson Powell  
Henrietta Atkin  
Wayne Ryerson



The flowers today are **from Barb Ziemer in memory of Ron.**

### **TODAY'S SCHEDULE**

9:30 am      Worship, Holy Communion  
11:00 am      Decorate the Church

### **THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION**

#### **Monday, December 6**

12:00 pm      Food Pantry & Clothing Closet  
6:00 pm      Council Meeting

#### **Tuesday, December 7**

6:00 pm      Finance Meeting

#### **Wednesday, December 8**

1:00 pm      Midweek Worship Service  
2:00 pm      Bible Study  
7:00 pm      Evening Prayer Service  
7:30 pm      Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, December 9**

7:30 pm      Al-Anon Meeting

#### **Friday, December 10**

Pastor Darryl's Sabbath

#### **Saturday, December 11**

#### **Sunday, December 12**

9:30 am      Worship, Holy Communion





All donations are appreciated! The items that we currently need are: **macaroni and cheese, shampoo, and deodorant.** Thank you!



**PRAY FOR MEMBERS:** Judy H, Irwin K, Janet G, Donna T, Dave N, and Marvin K.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF RLC MEMBERS:** Billy G, Walter Molley, Joyce S, Judy K. Sue Koevenig's nephew Kevin, and niece Alison V, Barb Miralgio's mother Anne, Terry, Stan and Darlene Majka, Beth Silenzi's friend Luke and his family, Sue Flanagan's son Robert, housekeeping staff at hospitals and nursing homes, Fred Shoemaker, Karen Shumaker's brother Curtis and cousin Joan, Lynn, Elaine R, Lamone Carter, Eileen Gorski, Russ Sprenger's daughter Kimberly Shubinski, Sophia, Linda Bike, Christine Riep, and Janet Grace's son-in-law Scott Backus.

**THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:** Josiah Gross, Edward Scharlow, Mike Brimie, Robert Dilks, and Mike Ignoffo.



## **Help Brighten a Child's Christmas This Year!**

The Outreach Committee will be donating \$250.00 to Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) foster care and family Christmas program. We are inviting members to join us. Our hope is to meet or exceed that amount from member contributions (last year RLC members generously contributed \$460.00!).

For families who were already struggling, the pandemic has made the cost of warm winter coats, boots, hats, holiday meals, and Christmas presents even further out of reach. Dedicated staff members at LSSI foster care and family support programs are working to identify and meet the urgent needs of the children and families served by each location throughout the state, and ensure that every child receives a Christmas present this year.

If you are interested, donations can be dropped off, mailed, or sent to us electronically as you normally send in your weekly offerings to the church. Checks should be made payable to Resurrection Lutheran Church. Please mark your donations "LSSI Christmas".

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**LONGEST NIGHT/BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: Monday, December 20th, 7pm (At United in Faith Lutheran Church, 6525 W Irving Park Rd, Chicago, IL**

While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or joy filled. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. Even those who are not struggling with losses may feel the stress of preparations and expectations around Christmas time. We come together seeking healing and room to share grief, sadness, loneliness, or confusion when these emotions often feel out of place during the holidays. Join us for songs, scripture, prayer, and a time for personal reflection.

# Poinsettias for Christmas

You are invited to share in decorating the church for Christmas by ordering poinsettias for **\$10.00 each**.

If you would like to have a plant reserved in your name, please complete this form, include payment and drop in the offering plate, turn it into the office, or send it in the mail. The last day to order is **Sunday, December 12**.

You have the opportunity to dedicate your plant in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please indicate your wishes below.

**Please order \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia (s)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given in honor/memory of (please circle one):**

\_\_\_\_\_

