

Resurrection Lutheran Church

9777 Grand Avenue
Franklin Park, IL 60131
Phone: 847-455-7013
E-mail: office@rlcfp.org, Website: www.rlcfp.org

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 12, 2021—9:30 AM

Third 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

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

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 #248

People, Look East

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "People, Look East". It features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single staff. Below the staff, there are four lines of lyrics, each numbered 1 through 4. The lyrics are: 1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing; 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is; 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the; 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new.

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

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.
We light this candle for joy.

HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
(verses 5 & 6)

ELW #257

5 O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer:
O sun of justice, now draw near
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray
- C **Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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: Zephaniah 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Isaiah 12:2-6 (read responsively)

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not¹ be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become¹ my salvation.

³**With joy you¹ will draw water
from the wells¹ of salvation.**

⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call¹ on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name¹ is
exalted.

⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done¹ gloriously;
let this be known in¹ all the earth.**

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O¹ royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy¹ One of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

P The holy gospel according to Luke

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

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P The gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Darryl Thompson Powell

He Came Down

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light;
 he came down that we may have peace; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
 he came down that we may have joy;

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.

SENDING SONG

ELW #250

Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

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



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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.**

From Sundays and Seasons v.20211019.1122 Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003703.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Pastor
Director of Music
Oboe

Darryl Thompson Powell
Henrietta Atkin
Wayne Ryerson



The flowers today are **from Sue Koevenig in honor and respect for all professional therapists.**

Someone is needed to pick up altar flowers December 19, 26, and January 2. Please put your name on the signup list on the bulletin board if you are able to help. Thank you.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION

Monday, December 13

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

Tuesday, December 14

Wednesday, December 15

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

Thursday, December 16

7:30 pm Al-Anon Meeting

Friday, December 17

Pastor Darryl's Sabbath

Saturday, December 18

Sunday, December 19

9:30 am Worship, Holy Communion
11:00 am Coffee Hour



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

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.



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 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!



There is a mitten tree in the fellowship area near the offices. If you would like to donate any gloves or mittens for us to offer our food pantry guests it would be appreciated! All sizes are needed.

Christmas Eve Worship: There will still be two services: 4:00 PM & 11:00 PM.

Christmas Eve Concert: There will be a Christmas Eve concert at 10:30 PM with the choir!

Christmas Day Service: A short, virtual-only service will be available to watch on Dec. 25, premiering at 9:30 AM. It's Jesus' day; you can at least spend an hour celebrating the reason for the season.

All services and the concert will be available on Facebook (www.facebook.com/rlcfp/live) and YouTube (bit.ly/rlcfp_YouTube).

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):



