

Dear members of God's family at Resurrection Church,

If we are faithful, the church is to follow Christ in the life-giving way of the cross. Paul helps us see today that this way includes rejoicing and weeping with those who rejoice and weep and therefore together persevering in prayer for them. If you are able, join the congregation of Resurrection church at 10 AM this Sunday to listen to the word of God and to include such joy and sorrow in our common prayer.

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



**The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2020**

Our Common Prayer at Home

You may choose to participate in this home prayer simply by using this text, or by adding into it the printed text of Pastor Linman's sermon, or by adding one or more of the clip-based worship videos, or by engaging the entire worship video.

Find a peaceful place to pray, perhaps a table. You may wish to light a candle near where you pray. One person may lead in this acclamation and then pray the Prayer of the Day.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Then the readings for this Sunday may be read, as follows:

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.

²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

This Psalm is sung or read in response to the First Reading:

Music may be found at:

<https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20200830/playlist>

PSALM 26:1-8

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

²Test me, O | LORD, and try me;
examine my heart | and my mind.

³For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴I have not sat | with the worthless,
nor do I consort with | the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

⁷singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell
and the place where your glo- | ry abides.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

²⁰No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷“For the Son-of-Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son-of-Man coming in his dominion.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Having read these readings, think of this:

We would often like to think that having faith in God should lead to an easy life. Jeremiah discovered the opposite. And in Matthew's Gospel, Peter made a God-given confession last Sunday but this Sunday he opposes Jesus by arguing for that easy life. Still, what is it to "take up our cross?" This is not a call to invent new sufferings nor to think we will save ourselves nor to counsel other people to put up with injustice. Rather, we need to tell the truth about how the world is full of suffering and see that in sharing our sufferings and death, God in Christ saves us all and shows us a way to walk behind him. Paul gives detail to that way: taking no vengeance; associating with people who are considered lowly; weeping with those who weep; not claiming to be wiser than we are; persevering in prayer; rejoicing in hope — those are some of the traits of the way of the cross for us. In ordinary times we were able to be strengthened for this humble way by receiving the gift of Christ's life-giving cross in the holy communion. But now, in this time of waiting, we can still gladly join Jeremiah in eating — trusting and taking deeply into our lives — the words we read.

At this point, read or listen to Pastor Linman's Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost sermon. It may be found in the RELC News, on the RELC website, or at <https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20200830/playlist>

You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20200830/playlist>

HYMN OF THE DAY #667

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,

"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;
per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;
nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;
nor think till death to lay it down;

for - sake the past, and come this day,
 his strength shall bear your spir - it up,
 for you the Lord en - dured the cross
 for those who hum - bly bear the cross

and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.”
 sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.
 to save your soul from death and hell.
 one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.

Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848; arr. hymnal version

Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Then pray these intercessions:

As we gather separately and together in the Spirit, let us pray for the needs of the world, responding to each petition with the words, “In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.”

A brief silence.

Caring for the church around the world, we pray
for a spirit of ecumenical cooperation,
for the health of congregations during this difficult time,
for Bishop Ortiz, Pastor Linman, and our congregation’s lay leaders. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Savior;
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Seeing before us your good creation, we pray
for the repair of what we have harmed,
for polar ice,
for lands dealing with oppressive heat,
for fields ravaged by storms and fires. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Creator:
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Facing so many international problems we pray
for the strengthening of democracies,
for peaceful resolutions to conflicts,
for the people of Belarus, Lebanon, and Yemen,
for researchers seeking a vaccine,
for racial justice within our nation,
for our legislators to assist the lives of the poor,
for an ethical election campaign. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our mighty Fortress;
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Surrounded by people with great and hidden need we pray
for families frightened by the uncertain future,
for those whose homes have burned down,
for students deprived of effective education,

for refugees and for prisoners. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Hope,

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Aware of all who are sick and suffering we pray

for all who are facing the coronavirus,

for those without medical care,

for Don Hanson, Karen Huff, Barb Jensen, Lyle Kubly, Jack Mulloy,

Gretchen Zeltner,

for those we remember here before you. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Healer;

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Confident of your love for us, we pray also for ourselves:

A longer period of silence.

Hear us, God our Friend;

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

Mindful of all who have gone before us in the faith, we offer our thanks

for all the saints famous and forgotten,

for medical workers who have died of the virus,

for friends and family we have loved, including Ann Mugavero

for the promise of everlasting life with you. . .

A brief silence.

Hear us, God our Homeland;

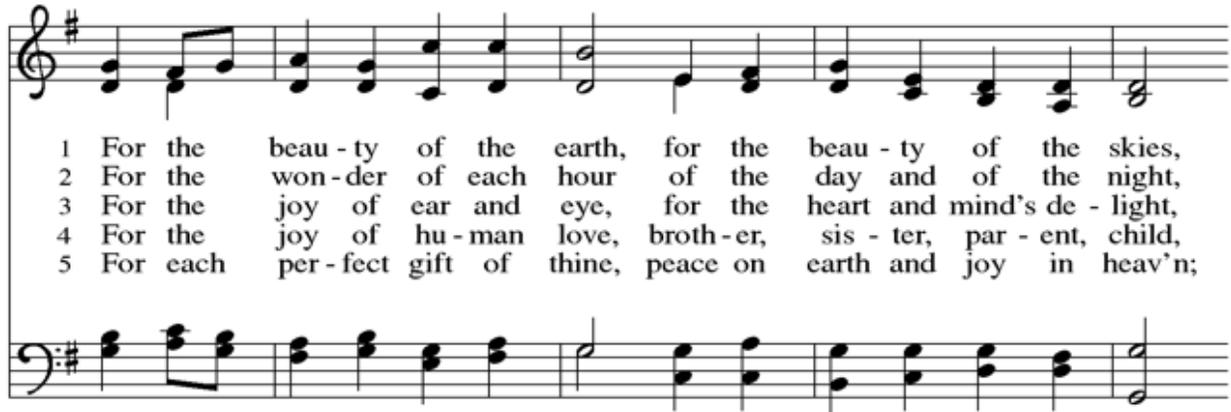
In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

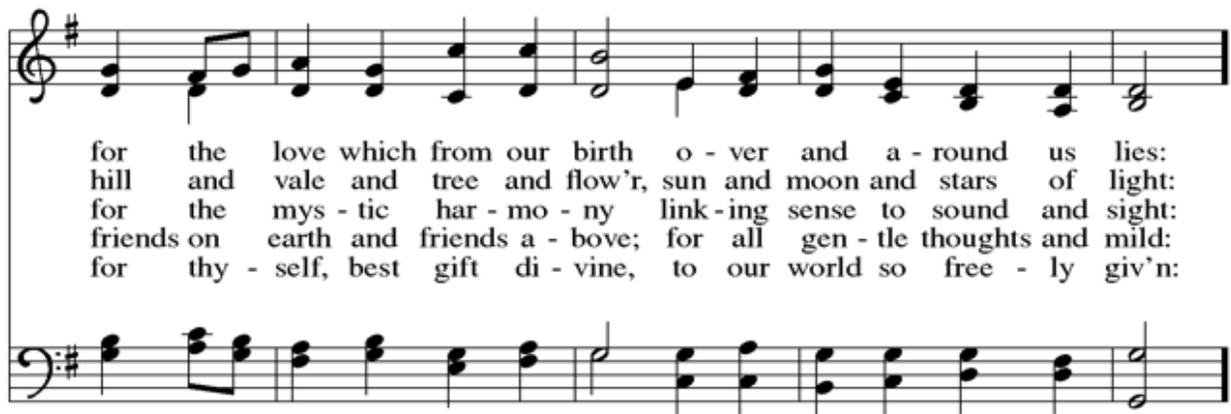
Amen.

Now read or sing the following Hymn. Accompaniment is at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20200830/playlist>

HYMN # 879 For the Beauty of the Earth

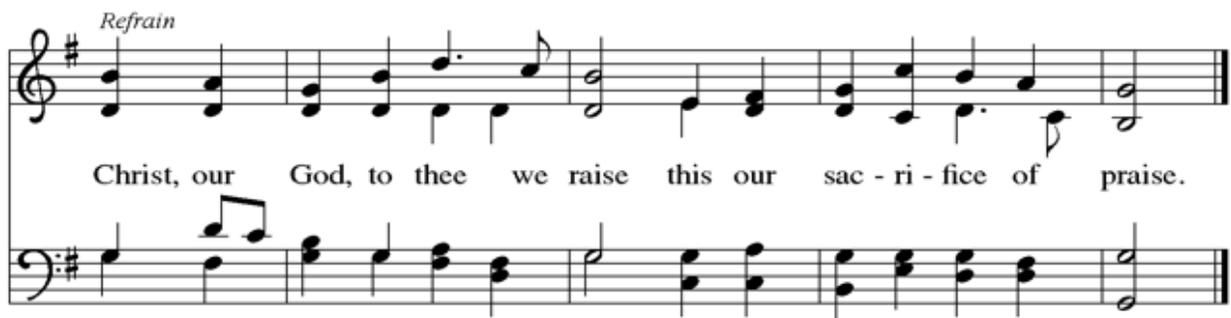


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

We thank you, O God, for your life-giving word,
for calling creation into being,
declaring forgiveness from the cross,
and delivering the spirit of rebirth.
We praise you, O God, for your word:
we praise you, O God, for your word.

Your word is a lamp lighting our path,
a mirror reflecting our selves,
a shield providing us refuge,
a fire burning for justice and truth.
Your word is sweeter than honey:
it nourishes our bodies like milk,
it sustains your people like bread.
We receive your promises, more treasured than gold.
We bless you, O God, for your word:
we bless you, O God, for your word.

Open our ears to your prophets, apostles, and saints,
and to all the cries of the needy.
Breathe into your church the mighty Spirit of Christ,
that heeding your voice of beauty and power
we are strengthened to serve wherever we are called.
To you, Father, Son, and Spirit – the Source, Word, and Breath --
we offer our thanks for your life-giving word:
we offer our thanks for your life-giving word.

Amen.

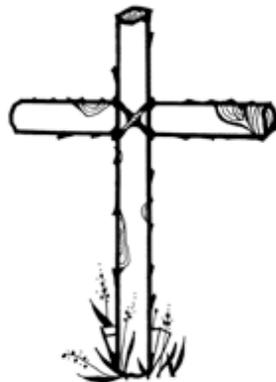
Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

Then speak the Blessing:

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.
Amen.



We cannot now celebrate the Holy Communion. But you can pray at your table in your home, a table which always echoes the Holy Supper. Christ is always present at your meal. Your meal is holy. Here is one prayer you might use, at breakfast, lunch, or dinner, to celebrate that presence.

**Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,
and let this food to us be blessed.
Blessed be God, who is our Bread,
may all the world be clothed and fed.**

Readings for the Week:

Monday Psalm 17. **Tuesday** Revelation 3:7-13. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872) Jeremiah 17:5-18. **Thursday** Psalm 119:33-40. **Friday** Romans 10:15b-21. **Saturday** Ezekiel 33:1-6. **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost** Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

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