

Dear members of God's family at Resurrection Church,

This Sunday, we will be challenged to examine our commitments and loyalties to God, creator of all things, and to Christ our Lord. If you are able, join the congregation with your own worship at home **at 10am on Sunday** or otherwise engage our home worship resources in ways appropriate to your circumstances at home.

**RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**



**The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 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.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Thus says the Lord to Cyrus, the Lord's anointed,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip rulers of their robes,
to open doors before Cyrus—
and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,

and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the Lord do all these things.

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/20201018/playlist>

PSALM 96:1-13

¹Sing to the Lord | a new song;
sing to the Lord, | all the earth.
²Sing to the Lord, bless the name | of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.
³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
⁴For great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.
⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have | made the heavens.
⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.
⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord hon- | or and power.
⁸Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the Lord.

⁹Worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, | all the earth.
¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: “The | Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peo- | ples with equity.”
¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O Lord,
for you come to | judge the earth.
¹³You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from Thessalonians.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor
of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers
and sisters beloved by God, that God has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and
with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among
you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of
persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that
you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the
word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia,
but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to
speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of wel-
come we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living
and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for God’s Son from heaven, whom God raised from the
dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to Jesus, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then Jesus said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Having read these readings, think of this:

In this account, found in all three synoptic Gospels, Jesus says we should pay our taxes. Only, for us, there is no Caesar. Our commitment is to functioning government, to government “by the people.” When we are the government, we should gladly pay our taxes, but, even more, we should give what belongs to our shared government by voting. And we should endeavor to see that the taxes are spent justly, especially to aid the most vulnerable, like Cyrus letting the captive people go. That all is what Luther would call God’s “left hand,” in which God mysteriously governs the world through the powers that be. But what about God’s “right hand?” Jesus Christ, the one who is being threatened with arrest and death in this story, is himself the very image of God. He is our head. His cross finally holds together and inscribes all things. Everything is God’s, not only the government. By the power of the Spirit, Jesus gives life and salvation to us in his word and — when we can come to it — in his supper, so that, like Paul and the Thessalonians, we can in turn give thanks for, pray for, and give to the earth and our neighbor. That is giving to God what is God’s.

At this point, read or listen to Pastor Linman’s Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost sermon. It may be found in the RELC News, on the RELC website, or at <https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20201018/playlist>

You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20201018/playlist>

HYMN OF THE DAY #713

O God of Every Nation

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O God of Every Nation'. It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,
when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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Then pray these intercessions:

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need, responding to each petition with the words "In mercy, receive our prayers."

A brief silence.

We pray for the church around the world: that our Pastor Jonathan Linman and all church leaders be supported in their ministries; that national and local churches receive the necessary funding to accomplish their tasks; and that, hearing you call us by name, we join with all the baptized to give you praise, even in this time of great trouble.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Redeemer:

in mercy, receive our prayers.

We pray for the earth, the lands, the waters, the animals: that what in nature has been destroyed or harmed be renewed; that the wildness of both storms and viruses be tamed; and that all people become faithful stewards of your good creation.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Creator:

in mercy, receive our prayers.

We pray for the nations of the world: that violence between and within nations cease; that the World Food Program, the ELCA World Hunger, and other relief agencies be enabled to feed those who face starvation; that elections in the world's democracies be conducted fairly; and that the people of our country shun acts of hostility and sedition.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Sovereign:

in mercy, receive our prayers.

We pray for a right use of taxation: that laws concerning taxes reflect justice for all; that tax monies be directed to worthy uses; and that citizens honestly pay what is fairly charged, so that our nation may be maintained.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Judge:

in mercy, receive our prayers.

On this day commemorating St. Luke, we pray for all ministries of healing: that hospitals and clinics receive adequate resources; that medical care be improved in neighborhoods of poverty, in prisons, and in refugee camps; that physicians and nurses be upheld; and that kindly hospice care be available to the dying.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Healer:
in mercy, receive our prayers.

We pray for all in need: for all who suffer from the coronavirus; for all who are living with high anxiety; for those who are unemployed; for those evicted from their housing; for all who experience prejudice based on skin color, ethnicity, or economic status; for those we name here before you: Barb Jensen, Charlotte Boeck, David Collins, Don Hansen, Karen Huff, Lyle Kubly, Jack Mulloy, Gretchen Zeltner, Roy Baker and Olivia Baker.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Comforter:
in mercy, receive our prayers.

We pray finally for ourselves: that you give us steadfastness in faith and love; and that you hear the petitions of our hearts.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Friend:
in mercy, receive our prayers.

We praise you for the centuries of the faithful who have died in the faith, especially today for the evangelist Luke, and for those we remember in our hearts. . . . That at the end you will welcome us all into your presence, we pray.

A brief silence.

You are great, O God, our Hope:
in mercy, receive our prayers.

Hear us when we call upon you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Now read or sing the following Hymn. Accompaniment is at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20201018/playlist>

HYMN #705 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Holy One of wisdom, throughout human history and today among us here, you call us to walk the paths of justice and peace. We praise you, O God of truth, for your precious words. Grant that sheltered under their richness as under the tree of life, we live in gratitude and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, your Word and our Wisdom, now and forever. **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 (Luke, Evangelist [transferred]) Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53. **Tuesday** Daniel 3:19-30. **Wednesday** Matthew 17:22-27. **Thursday** Psalm 1. **Friday** (commemoration of James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62) Titus 2:7-8, 11-15. **Saturday** John 5:39-47. **Reformation Sunday** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36.

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