

Dear members of God's family at Resurrection Church,

Today, we turn our attention seasonal changes of various kinds and to end times along with the call to be attentive, awake and watchful. 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 Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 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 of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

A reading from Amos.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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/20201108/playlist>

PSALM 70

¹Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
²Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced.
³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great | is the LORD!”
⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For that very Lord, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹“Then the dominion of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Sir, sir, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Having read these readings, think of this:

As the darkness around us grows and the vegetation dies, Christians turn to think of the end of our lives and the end of time. All three readings today join in that thinking. Amos warns us not to imagine that the day of the Lord will be wonderful for us unless we have done justice to our neighbors. Matthew warns us to stay awake; without wisdom we could be excluded in the end. But Paul uses old cosmological imagery to assure us that the death and resurrection of Christ brings life to all, the living and the dead. In fact, for Christians, the wedding feast has already started. Though we have often slept, Jesus Christ has stayed awake for us and has shared with us his oil. In Christ's death and resurrection God's marriage with the earth has begun. And even though many of us cannot gather together for the feast now, the Holy Spirit kindles for us the lamp of the word. By the light of that word let us begin again to do justice in a needy world. And no matter who has been elected, as concerned citizens let us call for them to do justice as well.

At this point, read or listen to Pastor Linman's 23rd Sunday after Pentecost sermon. It may be found in the RELC News, on the RELC website, or at:

<https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20201108/playlist>

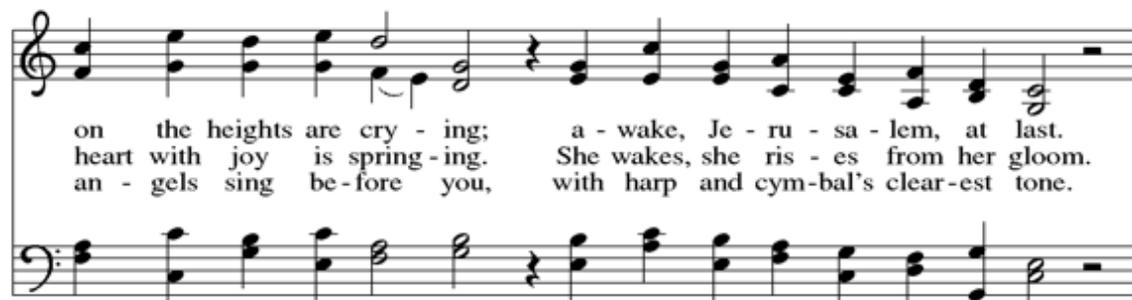
You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20201108/playlist>

HYMN OF THE DAY #436

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
 Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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Then pray these intercessions:

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for God's power to come upon the church, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "O Lord, make haste to help us."

A brief silence.

Holy God, rouse us to prayer and praise, both when we gather for worship and when we cannot. Sustain our Pastor, Jonathan Linman, and all those who help us to worship at this time.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Creator, delight us with the autumn beauty of your earth. At this change of seasons, give the animals what they need for survival.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Peacemaker, give peace to our conflicted nation. Quell all attempts at violence, and halt the desire for retribution. Cure our nation from prejudice of every kind. Teach us how to abide together as one diverse people. Restore families and friendships torn apart by political differences.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Sovereign, grant that all newly elected officials of government will work faithfully for the common good. Give them wisdom, honesty, and humility. Illuminate their convictions with a spirit of cooperation. *If the next president has been named:* Bless especially President-elect *name*. Pour upon him and upon all his advisors a right spirit of dedication to justice and truth. *If the next president has not yet been named:* Give to our nation patience as it awaits the presidential election results.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Protector, bless the observance of Veterans Day. Bring armistice to areas of conflict, and keep safe the military who serve in harm's way. Give to all the armed forces a dedication to defend the common good. Heal the wounds, both physical and emotional, experienced by active and retired service members.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Healer, bring health and wholeness to those who are sick, those who live with chronic pain, and the thousands who daily contract Covid. Console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Protect those living in resettlement camps. Uphold medical care workers, especially in third-world countries. We pray especially for those we name here before you: Barb Jensen, Charlotte Boeck, David Collins, Don Hansen, Karen Huff, Jack Mulloy, Gretchen Zeltner, Jane, Angie, Kyler, Debbie, Kat, Jeanne, Russ, Elisabeth Wollheim and Don Oaks.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Beloved, form us into a people close to your heart, and receive now our silent petitions:

A longer period of silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy and immortal One, we remember before you all who have died in the faith, especially the military and the civilians who died in armed conflicts, and those we name before you here. . . . At the end, bring us with them to be with our Lord forever.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Receive these prayers for the same of him who lived, died, and rose for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Now read or sing the following Hymn. Accompaniment is at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20201108/playlist>

HYMN #880 O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,
and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;
for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,
at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:
we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,
we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Glory and praise to you, O God, for your words of promise. With Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Deborah and Elijah, Mary and Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul, we receive your gospel of challenge and comfort. By your Spirit, equip us to serve those in need, faithfully following your Word, Jesus Christ, our Companion and Savior, 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 Psalm 63. **Tuesday** 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397; Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855) Matthew 24:29-35. **Thursday** Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12. **Friday** Ezekiel 7:1-9. **Saturday** Matthew 12:43-45. **Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost** Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30.

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