

Dear members of God's family at Resurrection Church,

Today's readings invite us to consider the nature of our varied calls from God to follow, to serve, to lead, to bear witness to Jesus Christ, the one who beckons us in grace for the sake of the world. 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.

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



**The Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 17, 2021
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 in 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.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

A reading from 1 Samuel.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; lie down again." So Samuel went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if the LORD calls you, you shall say, 'Speak,

LORD, for your servant is listening.’ ” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.”

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” ¹⁷Eli said, “What was it that the LORD told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that God told you.” ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “The LORD will do what seems good to the LORD.”

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

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/20210117/playlist>

PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18

¹LORD, you have | searched me out;

O LORD, you | have known me.

²You know my sitting down and my | rising up;
you discern my thoughts | from afar.

³You trace my journeys and my | resting-places
and are acquainted with | all my ways.

⁴Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it | altogether.

⁵You encompass me, behind | and before,

and lay your | hand upon me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;
it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.
¹³For you yourself created my | inmost parts;
you knit me together in my | mother's womb.
¹⁴I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.
¹⁵My body was not hid- | den from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the earth.
¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written | in your book; my days were fashioned before they |
came to be.
¹⁷How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!
How great is the | sum of them!
¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by divine power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are parts of the body of Christ? Should I therefore take the parts of the body of Christ and make them parts of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with that prostitute? For it is said, ‘The two shall be one flesh.’ ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with the Lord. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found the one about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” ⁴⁶Nathanael said to Philip, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸Nathanael asked Jesus, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹And Jesus said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son-of-Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Having read these readings, think of this:

Sometimes we feel as if we have no word from God, no vision, no place to come and see what God is doing, no center in a time of alienation. But, as the Psalm says, God has seen us and known us. More: in our baptism, God has called us, like Samuel, Philip, and Nathanael were called. Listen to these texts more deeply. In Jesus Christ heaven has opened. For us, the angels of God ascend and descend upon him more surely than they did upon Jacob’s ancient Bethel (Genesis 28:12). In his death and resurrection, Jesus has become for us the lamp of God, the ark of God, and the house of God where we may come and see. The crucified and risen Christ, present in his word and sacraments — and present to us in the scriptures read in our homes — is today the place where we may meet God. Then, gathered into Christ’s body by the Holy Spirit, we become together the temple of God, our own bodies now dedicated to bearing witness to God’s love for our needy neighbors and for all the world.

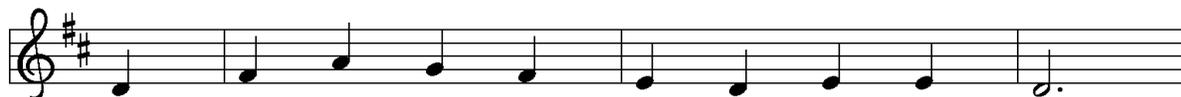
At this point, read or listen to Pastor Linman’s Second Sunday of Epiphany Sermon. It may be found in the RELC News, on the RELC website, or at:

<https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20210117/playlist>

You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20210117/playlist>

HYMN OF THE DAY #584

The Son of God, Our Christ



1 The Son of God, our Christ, the Word, the Way,
2 In ev - 'ry test, in tri - als man - i - fold,
3 To - day, as then, Christ sum - mons us to dare
4 In cit - y street, in town, or on the soil,
5 Wher - e'er we find our wit - ness should be made,



shared hu - man life and toiled through - out the day;
these ser - vants wit - nessed, by their faith made bold;
to fol - low bold - ly and his work to share,
may each serve Christ in faith - ful dai - ly toil,
what - e'er our task, be thou, O Christ, our aid,



from com - mon folk he called the twelve to be
and with the gifts and tal - ents which they brought
to help and heal the sick, the blind, the lame,
and in each thought and kind - ly word and deed,
that we may glad - ly give for thee our best



co - work - ers in his sa - cred min - is - try.
the church was found - ed and God's mes - sage taught.
de - clar - ing to the world his ho - ly name.
o - bey Christ's call and go where he shall lead.
and find each task di - vine - ly sent and blest.

Text: Edward M. Blumenfeld, b. 1927, alt.

Music: SURSUM CORDA, Alfred M. Smith, 1879–1971

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Then pray these intercessions:

As this week we observe the Week of Prayer for Christian unity, commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr., and inaugurate the new President of the United States, let us offer our laments and petitions to God, responding to each with the words “In mercy, receive our prayers.”

O God, we lament the times when our churches have rejected collaboration with your worldwide family of grace -- *a brief silence* – and we pray for your blessing on the Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Protestants, evangelicals, and independents, that all your people will follow your call to discipleship and grow deeper into our unity in Christ.

Another brief silence.

O God, Shepherd of your people, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament the ways that we and our society have misused your earth with selfish or short-sighted actions – *a brief silence* -- and we pray for an increased commitment to the care of your marvelous creation.

Another brief silence.

O God, Gardener of the globe, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament the occasions when our government has neglected the needs of the people of America and the calls for international cooperation – *a brief silence* -- and we pray for President-elect Biden, for Vice President-elect Harris, and for all our elected members of Congress, that they fulfill their obligations to uphold and extend the common good.

Another brief silence.

O God, Shield of the commonwealth, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament the uncontrolled rage and the senseless violence that recently defaced our nation – *a brief silence* -- and we pray that peace reign in our streets, that our capital cities be safe, that all citizens come to accept the new administration, and that a spirit of reconciliation and cooperation mark the next stage of our national life.

Another brief silence.

O God, Peacemaker in our land, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament the decades of ethnic injustices and racial prejudice that brought such suffering to many residents of our country – *a brief silence* -- and we pray that you bless the indigenous peoples, descendants of Africans, and all immigrants to this land, and that you form us into a nation in which all are honored in equal measure.

Another brief silence.

O God, Liberator of the oppressed, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament the unspeakable sadness that has been unleashed by the coronavirus here and around the world – *a brief silence* -- and we pray that you bring health to the sick, comfort to the dying, resilience to health workers, prompt vaccinations to everyone, and a lasting end to this scourge. Especially we pray for: Linnea Hoppe, Bob Hoppe, Olivia Hoppe, Barb Jensen, Charlotte Boeck, Gretchen Zeltner, Lynn Kiewel, John Beston, Frank Fuelling, Phillip Swingler, Michael Chaffier, Maria Liwski, Grant Aldonis, Angie, Kyler, Debbie, Kat, and Lee Hanson.

Another brief silence.

O God, Physician and Nurse, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament also our private sorrows and our hidden fears,
and we pray that as with the boy Samuel, you speak to us in the night of our need.

A longer period of silence.

O God, Lover of our souls, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We lament the lives of those who have died, in storms, in riots, and in sickbeds.
We praise you especially for the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr., and those we name here before you; – *a brief silence* – and we pray that at the end, we join with all the members of your family in your presence.

A brief silence.

O God, eternal Arms of Mercy, hear our cries;

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Into your hands, O loving God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20210117/playlist>

HYMN #627

O Day Full of Grace

1 O day full of grace that now we see ap - pear - ing on
2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, our Lord on the
3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the
4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, the Spir - it new
5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go that Christ is for

earth's ho - ri - zon, bring light from our God that we may
earth ar - riv - ing; then came to the world that light sub -
cross was hang - ing; and then he a - rose and moved the
life re - veal - ing, that we might no more in death be
us pre - par - ing, we'll gath - er in song, our hearts a -

be a - bun - dant in joy this sea - son. God, shine for us
lime, great joy for us all re - triev - ing; for Je - sus all
stone, that we, un - to him be - long - ing, might join with an -
lost, its pow'r o - ver us dis - pel - ling. This flame will the
glow, all joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, and there we will

now in this dark place; your name on our hearts em - bla - zon.
mor - tals did em - brace, all shame and des - pair re - mov - ing.
gel - ic hosts to raise our voic - es in end - less sing - ing.
mark of sin ef - face and bring to us all true heal - ing.
join God's end - less praise, with an - gels and saints a - dor - ing.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt.
Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

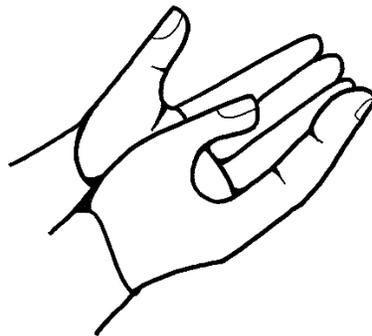
Holy God,
Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness,
we hear your Word in the Scriptures,
proclaiming to us your wisdom
and inviting us to follow your call.
For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God.
We thank you, O God.

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother,
who preached your righteousness, healed the sick,
and revived the brokenhearted.
For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God.
We worship you, O God.

By your Spirit bless all who receive this Word,
that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.
For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

Blessed are you, holy God, around us, with us, and in us,
now and forever. 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 (Confession of Peter; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins) Matthew 16:13-19.

Tuesday (commemoration of Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, 1156) Acts 5:1-11.

Wednesday Luke 18:15-17. **Thursday** (commemoration of Agnes, martyr, c. 304)

Psalm 62:5-12. **Friday** 2 Peter 3:1-7. **Saturday** Luke 10:13-16. **Third Sunday after Epiphany**
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

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