

Dear members of God's family at Resurrection Church,

As we enter into a springtime of renewed life, today's readings point us to the still greater wonder of the radical mystery of life from death in Christ Jesus. 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 Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 21, 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.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was married to them, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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/20210321/playlist>

PSALM 51:1-12

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.
- ²Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.
- ³For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.
- ⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.
- ⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.
- ⁶Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.
- ⁸Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.
- ⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.
- ¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.
- ¹²Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

A reading from Hebrews.

- ⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,
“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;
- ⁶as God says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 12th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Having read these readings, think of this:

Things fall apart. People break their covenant with God. We sin. We die. But “come and see,” says the Gospel according to John. And with the Greeks and Philip and Andrew, here at the end of Lent in our homes, we do. We see the cross. That Jesus is lifted up is at the same time his death and his glorification. He is the falling seed that becomes a huge harvest. What we think is an awful death has become the center that draws all things and all people into a new unity in God as if God has married them in a new covenant. The sufferings of Christ have become the source of eternal salvation. In baptism we have been drawn into that salvation, marked with that cross, made part of that new covenant, made alive. In baptism, we have received the very Spirit poured out from Christ and we have been forgiven. Exactly in God’s forgiveness, all of us — least and greatest, wise and not so wise — come to know who God really is. Then we ourselves can learn to turn with forgiveness to our neighbors.

At this point, read or listen to Pastor Linman’s Fifth Sunday of Lent Sermon. It may be found in the RELC News, on the RELC website, or at:
<https://www.relcarlington.org/hw/20210321/playlist>

You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20210321/playlist>

HYMN OF THE DAY #330

330

Seed That in Earth Is Dying



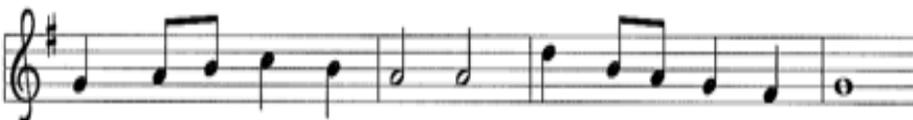
1 Seed that in earth is dy - ing grows in - to ears of
2 We were bap - tized in Je - sus, in - to his death and
3 Seed that in earth is dy - ing ris - es to bear much



grain. Grapes that are crushed in the ves - sel
grave, to res - ur - rec - tion's prom - ise:
fruit. Christ, as we meet at your ta - ble,



turn in - to gold - en wine. God, through this mys - ter - y grant us
praise and e - ter - nal life. Heav - en's own prais - es be - gin here
give us the bread of life. Lord, we do thank and a - dore you!



faith in our deep - est dark - ness, life in our night and death.
where you your - self are near us, deep in our night and death.
Un - ceas - ing praise of the a - ges ris - es from night and death.

Then pray these intercessions:

On this fifth Sunday in Lent, let us offer both our laments and our petitions to God, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "have mercy on us."

A brief silence.

O God, we lament that over the past months many Christians have not been able to assemble in person for worship. Many believers have languished alone. And we pray: Strengthen all Christians in every church around the globe in the covenant of their baptism. Equip children and teachers in Sunday school, confirmation, and service projects, whether online or in person.

A brief silence.

O faithful God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We lament that by indulging our own desires, we have misused your creation and have worsened the poverty of others. And we pray: Continue your care for the earth you have made. Protect animals and their habitats. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds, and shelter all lands from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires.

A brief silence.

O almighty God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We lament that as a nation we have not insured justice for all and equal access to freedoms and to the necessities of life. We lament ongoing prejudices and violence on our streets and in our homes. And we pray: Bring an end to warfare and terrorism. Imbue our courts with truth and wisdom. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all.

A brief silence.

O righteous God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We lament the sufferings of people the world over. We lament the sorrows of the pandemic. We lament hunger, homelessness, and loneliness. And we pray: End this pandemic. Provide vaccinations to all persons around the earth. Guide us in healing the sick, welcoming the migrant, feeding the hungry, and living with others in harmony. We pray especially for: Judy Jaquette, John Showman, Grant Aldonis, Barb Jensen, Charlotte Boeck, Gretchen Zeltner, Lynn Kiewel, John Beston,

Frank Feulling, Phillip Swingler, Michael Chaffier and family, Maria Liwski, Tucker Dean and Lisa.

A brief silence.

O benevolent God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We lament the hopelessness that afflicts so many people. We lament the anguish of refugee camps, of overcrowded hospitals, of unhappy homes. And we pray: As this Thursday we celebrate the annunciation of the birth of Jesus to Mary, instill in us gratitude for your presence among humankind, for holding us through sorrow, and for leading us into joy.

A brief silence.

O compassionate God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We lament our secret sorrows known only to you, and we ask you to receive the prayers of our hearts.

A longer period of silence.

O mothering God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We lament the countless who have died of Covid and the diminishment of life that so many have endured. We praise you for those who have given us words for our lament and our praise, especially today Thomas Cranmer and Bettye Henck. At the end, bring us with all who have died in Christ into your everlasting presence.

A brief silence.

O everlasting God, in your steadfast love,
have mercy on us.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, Father of glory, in your bountiful Spirit, and in the name of Christ, our great high priest, now and forever.

Amen.

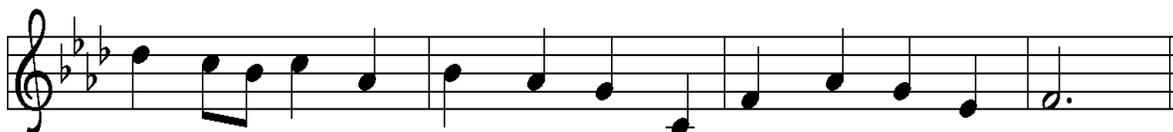
You might now sing the following hymn. Music may be found at <https://www.relcarlinton.org/hw/20210321/playlist>

HYMN #328

Restore in Us, O God



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Holy God, our living Water, our faithful Companion, our true Guide, by your Word you created a world with rivers and seas, wells and springs, and in mercy you provided water for your people in the wilderness. For your Word with the water of baptism, we thank you, O God.

We thank you, O God.

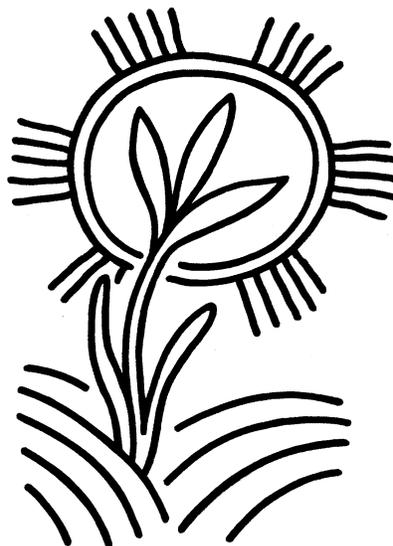
We praise you for Christ, who joined us in our desert, calling us to righteousness, granting forgiveness, and walking with us into newness of life. For Jesus, your gracious Word, we glorify you, O God.

We glorify you, O God.

Through these days of Lent we plead for your Spirit, that strengthened by your Word, we may care for others and for the world you made, and work for justice and peace for all. For your Word in our hearts and minds, we praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

Receive our thanksgiving, and grant us your blessing, Holy God, 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 (commemoration of Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, 1758) Psalm 119:9-16. **Tuesday** Acts 2:14-24. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, martyr, 1980) Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23. **Thursday** (Annunciation of Our Lord) Luke 1:26-38. **Friday** Philippians 2:12-18. **Saturday** Jeremiah 33:10-16. **Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1—15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47].

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