

Lenten Midweek Worship

March 3, 2021

Resurrection Lutheran Church

Opening

Behold, now is the acceptable time;
now is the day of salvation.
Turn us again, O God of our salvation,
that the light of your face may shine on us.
May your justice shine like the sun;
and may the poor be lifted up.

Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45

- ¹Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.
- ²Sing to the LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.
- ³Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- ⁴Search for the strength of the LORD;
continually seek God's face.
- ⁵Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,
- ⁶O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.
- ⁷The LORD is our God,
whose judgments prevail in all the world,
- ⁸who has always been mindful of the covenant,
the promise made for a thousand generations:
- ⁹the covenant made with Abraham,
the oath sworn to Isaac,
- ¹⁰which God established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- ¹¹saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
to be your allotted inheritance."
- ³⁷You led out your people with silver and gold;
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- ³⁸Egypt was glad to see them go,

because they were afraid of them.
³⁹You spread out a cloud for a covering
and a fire to give light by night.
⁴⁰They asked, and you brought quail,
and satisfied them with bread from heaven.
⁴¹You opened the rock, and water flowed,
so the river ran in the dry places.
⁴²For you remembered your holy word
and Abraham your servant.
⁴³So you led forth your people with gladness,
your chosen with shouts of joy.
⁴⁴You gave your people the lands of the nations,
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
⁴⁵that they might keep your statutes
and observe your teachings.

Reading + John 12:36-43

³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them. ³⁷Although he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him. ³⁸This was to fulfill the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah: “Lord, who has believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” ³⁹And so they could not believe, because Isaiah also said, ⁴⁰“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, so that they might not look with their eyes, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.” ⁴¹Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke about him. ⁴²Nevertheless many, even of the authorities, believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God.

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

Reflection

Hymn: ELW # 580 “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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Prayers + Lamenting Damage to the Earth

With the ancient seer John we cry out:

We have visions of destructive storms and scorching heat.

We foresee animals dying, trees cut down, the sea swallowing up the land.

O God, is all this devastation our fault?

We want always more, and to get more, humans have damaged the earth.

Sung Trisagion by the Choir

Hear us, O God:

Hear us, O God.

Teach us your earth care:

Teach us your earth care.

Give us your life.

Give us your life.

A time of silence is kept.

Hear these words, and receive their power:

God the Father promises to restore the old and to create the new.

God the Son forgives our thoughtlessness and greed.

God the Spirit enlightens our way to wise coexistence on earth.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

(This prayer is from RELC member, Gail Ramshaw, in *Prayer, Praise, Give Thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* (Augsburg Fortress, 2017), 22-27.)

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Blessing

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
Amen.