

**Lenten Midweek Worship**  
**March 17, 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* + Psalm 107:1-16

- <sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever.
- <sup>2</sup>Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,  
<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- <sup>4</sup>Some wandered in desert wastes;  
they found no path to a city where they might dwell.
- <sup>5</sup>They were hungry and thirsty;  
their spirits languished within them.
- <sup>6</sup>Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD,  
and you delivered them from their distress.
- <sup>7</sup>You led them on a straight path  
to go to a city where they might dwell.
- <sup>8</sup>Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.
- <sup>9</sup>For you satisfy the thirsty soul  
and fill the hungry with good things.
- <sup>10</sup>Some dwelt in darkness and gloom,  
prisoners in misery and irons;
- <sup>11</sup>because they rebelled against the words of God  
and despised the counsel of the Most High.
- <sup>12</sup>So you humbled their hearts with hard labor;

they stumbled, and there was none to help.  
<sup>13</sup>Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD,  
and you delivered them from their distress.  
<sup>14</sup>You led them out of darkness and gloom,  
and broke their bonds asunder.  
<sup>15</sup>Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.  
<sup>16</sup>For you shatter the doors of bronze  
and break the iron bars in two

**Reading** + John 8:12-20

<sup>12</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." <sup>13</sup>Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid." <sup>14</sup>Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. <sup>15</sup>You judge by human standards; I judge no one. <sup>16</sup>Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. <sup>17</sup>In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. <sup>18</sup>I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf." <sup>19</sup>Then they said to him, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also." <sup>20</sup>He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

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

**Reflection**

**Hymn:** ELW # 803 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

*Prayers* + Lamenting the Grip of Melancholy

With Job of old we cry out:  
Everywhere the innocent suffer.  
Our desires and efforts achieve us little.  
O God, are you good, yet do nothing to help us?  
Our answers have holes, and we fall through.

*Sung Trisagion by the Choir*

Hear us, O God:  
**Hear us, O God.**

Revive us with hope:  
**Revive us with hope.**

Give us your life.  
**Give us your life.**

*A time of silence is kept.*

Hear these words, and receive their power:  
The majesty of God the Father undergirds all that is.  
The mercy of God the Son accepts our despair.  
The comfort of God the Spirit embraces us in communities of care.

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.**