

ORDER OF THE DIVINE SERVICE
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
NOVEMBER 28, 2020, 6:00 PM

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May of 2020, Resurrection Lutheran Church celebrated forty-two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people, whether we are together in God's house or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY

Advent begins a new Church Year with a note of anticipation and assurance – **anticipation** that the days are coming when the Lord will return, and **assurance** that the Lord has already come to save us. Advent has a present focus in Christ's Coming to us now in Word and Sacrament. There is also a forward focus in the Christ Who has promised to return at the end of days and bring to completion what He began in His Incarnation. So we prepare to celebrate His Coming at Christmas, His Coming into our hearts in faith through the Holy Spirit, and to await joyfully His Coming at the Last Day.

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at this worship service. All who are baptized in the name of the Triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and who affirm the following are welcome to come forward to receive it:

- I am a fallen and sinful person in need of God's forgiveness;
- The Sacrament is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine instituted by Christ Himself for us to eat and to drink;
- In the Sacrament, everyone who believes the words "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," receives forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.

At Resurrection Lutheran Church children who are baptized as infants are instructed so that they may receive Holy Communion understanding what it is we are looking for, and why we are coming. Newcomers to Resurrection Lutheran Church receive the opportunity for in-depth catechetical instruction.

If you and/or your children of any age are not prepared to receive the Lord's Supper with this same statement of faith, you are requested to refrain from receiving Holy Communion at this time. We do, however, welcome you and the members of your family to come forward to receive a blessing.

Please either stand still with head bowed or fold your arms across your body as a sign to receive the verbal blessing.

Grape juice is available in the center of each tray of individual cups for those who cannot tolerate wine; and gluten free wafers are also available in the center of the paten, if needed. If you have any questions, please speak with an usher.

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRELUDE

RINGING IN THE NEW CHURCH YEAR

Processional Alleluia – K. McChesney

Heavenly Handbells

GREETING

❖ **INVOCATION**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

❖ **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

THE FIRST CANDLE: THE PROPHECY CANDLE

P As we light the first candle on our Advent wreath, we recall with thanksgiving the vivid and courageous words and actions of the prophets. Called by God and overtaken by the Word, they spoke forth God's Truth and pointed to the coming of the Messiah. Their words still call us to faith and to action.

C **Lord Christ, come among us and by Your Spirit, grant us the courage to speak and to act as those who have been called and chosen to carry Your Word to our world. Raise up among us wise and faithful messengers of Your Grace and Peace. In Your Strong Name, Amen.**

❖ **SONG**

We Light the Candle



Advent I: We light the can - dle of hope, _____ we
 Advent II: We light the can - dle of peace, _____ we
 Advent III: We light the can - dle of joy, _____ we
 Advent IV: We light the can - dle of love, _____ we



light the can - dle of hope! _____ This can - dle - light,
 light the can - dle of peace! _____ This can - dle - light,
 light the can - dle of joy! _____ This can - dle - light,
 light the can - dle of love! _____ This can - dle - light,



burn - ing bright, re - minds us that Christ brings hope. _____ We
 burn - ing bright, re - minds us that Christ brings peace. _____ We
 burn - ing bright, re - minds us that Christ brings joy. _____ We
 burn - ing bright, re - minds us that Christ brings love _____ We



light the can - dle of hope, _____ we light the can - dle of hope! _____ He's
 light the can - dle of peace, _____ we light the can - dle of peace! _____ He's
 light the can - dle of joy, _____ we light the can - dle of joy! _____ He's
 light the can - dle of love, _____ we light the can - dle of love! _____ He's



com - ing soon, Em - man - u - el; Je - sus will bring us hope!
 com - ing soon, Em - man - u - el; Je - sus will bring us peace!
 com - ing soon, Em - man - u - el; Je - sus will bring us joy!
 com - ing soon, Em - man - u - el; Je - sus will bring us love!

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

Isaiah 64:1-9

(The prophet prays for God to rend the heavens and come down, acknowledging that we are all the work of His Hands.)

Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before You! As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make Your Name known to Your enemies and cause the nations to quake before You! For when You did awesome things that we did not expect, You came down, and the mountains trembled before You. Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides You, Who acts on behalf of those who wait for Him. You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember Your Ways. But when we continued to sin against them, You were angry.

How then can we be saved?

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

No one calls on Your Name or strives to lay hold of You; for You have hidden Your Face from us and made us waste away because of our sins.

Yet, O LORD, You are our Father.

We are the clay, You are the Potter; we are all the work of Your Hand.

Do not be angry beyond measure, O LORD; do not remember our sins forever.

Oh, look upon us, we pray, for we are all Your people.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE

P The voice of the prophet cries out to us:

Prepare the Way of the Lord.

The Gracious God Whom we know in Christ comforts us with the promise of grace bigger than every sin.

C **God alone makes us clean and makes us ready to meet Jesus.**

He comes as a Shepherd to carry us in His Arms and to lead us home clothed in forgiveness and His Own Righteousness.

❖ **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- P The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber,
because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.
We are called to repent of our sins and trust in Christ's forgiveness.
- C **Lord, we come before You in prayer today, asking for forgiveness.
We have not loved as we ought to love, we have not given as we ought to give,
and we have fallen short of the mark of truly being Your obedient sons and
daughters.
We recognize our sins and in this moment of silence,
we privately remember our shortcomings in love and life.**

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

- P God, our Heavenly Father, hears the prayers of His children and answers those
prayers. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person of Jesus Christ, His
Son, Who died for our sin that we might have new life in Him.
To those who believe His Word of Truth He gives power to be the people of God.
Praise God for His Gift of Love to us.
- C **Amen. Let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light;
and clothe ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ.**

❖ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.
Stir up, we implore You, Your Power, O Lord, and come;
- C **that, by Your Protection, we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our
sins; and be saved by Your Mighty Deliverance; for You live and reign with
the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

❖ **ENTRANCE HYMN**

The Advent of Our King

LSB 331, vs. 1-2, 4, 6

All: Verses 1 & 6

Solo: Verses 2 & 4

1. **The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.**
2. The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on To set His servants free.
4. As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.
6. **All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.**

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EPISTLE

I Corinthians 1:3-9

(St. Paul comforts God's people with the Lord's Promise to sustain His people until the Day when our Lord returns.)

Grace and peace to you from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I always thank God for you because of
His Grace given you in Christ Jesus.
For in Him you have been enriched in
every way--in all your speaking and in all
your knowledge--
because our testimony about Christ was
confirmed in you.

Therefore you do not lack any spiritual
gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus
Christ to be revealed.
He will keep you strong to the end, so
that you will be blameless on the Day of
our Lord Jesus Christ.
God, who has called you into fellowship
with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is
faithful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24–37

(The Lord bids us to stay alert for we do not know the time when He will come again.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St Mark, the thirteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

"But in those days, following that distress,
"the sun will be darkened, and the moon
will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky, and the
heavenly bodies will be shaken."

"At that time men will see the Son of Man
coming in clouds with great power and
glory.

And He will send His angels and gather
His elect from the four winds,
from the ends of the earth to the ends of
the heavens.

"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree:
As soon as its twigs get tender and its
leaves come out, you know that summer is
near.

Even so, when you see these things
happening, you know that it is near, right
at the door.

I tell you the truth, this generation will
certainly not pass away until all these
things have happened.

Heaven and earth will pass away,
but My Words will never pass away.

"No one knows about that day or hour,
not even the angels in Heaven, nor the
Son, but only the Father.

Be on guard! Be alert!

You do not know when that time will
come.

It's like a man going away: He leaves his
house and puts his servants in charge,
each with his assigned task, and tells the
one at the door to keep watch.

"Therefore keep watch because you do
not know when the owner of the house
will come back--whether in the evening,
or at midnight, or when the rooster crows,
or at dawn.

If he comes suddenly, do not let him find
you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to everyone:
Watch!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, Lord Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Vicar Alan Shaw

HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332, vs. 1-2, 4-6, 8

All: Verses 1, 6, 8 Solo: Verses 2, 4-5

**1. Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.**

2. Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

4. Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

5. God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

**6. For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.**

**❖8. Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.**

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SERMON

"Standing Watch for the Master's Return"

Vicar Alan Shaw

Mark 13:24–37

❖ CREED

NICENE CREED

**C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of
His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of
Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by
Whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was
incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and
was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was
buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and
ascended into Heaven and sits at the Right Hand of the Father. And He
will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose
Kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds
from the Father and the Son,**

Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
Who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge
one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of
the dead and the ✠ Life of the world to come. Amen.

❖ **GREETING OF PEACE**

*The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you,"
as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

OFFERING (The offerings of God's people will be received through electronic giving, rlcary.org., and in baskets located in the Narthex.)

OFFERTORY HYMN

The King Shall Come

LSB 348

All: Verses 1 & 5 Solo: Verses 2-4

**1. The King shall come when morning dawns And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills And life to joy awakes.**

2. Not as of old a little child, To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun That lights the morning sky.

3. Oh, brighter than the rising morn When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death Despite the rage of foes.

4. Oh, brighter than that glorious morn Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes And we shall see His face.

**5. The King shall come when morning dawns And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly, King of kings!**

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❖ **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P Let Your Mercy and Grace flow through us, body and soul, as we live in You this
Advent and Christmas and beyond.

Our Lord Emmanuel,

C **Be present with us now.**

P Bless all for whom we pray, as we trust in Your Powerful Presence to enrich our days.

Our Lord Emmanuel,

C Be present with us now.

After each additional petition:

P Our Lord, Emmanuel,

C Be present with us now.

P Come, Lord Jesus, to Your Church.

C On this first Sunday of a new Church Year, rekindle in us the joy of Your Presence. Bless those who worship in this place, and let Your Kingdom come here to all who seek You in this house of prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

+ SACRAMENT +

❖ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P God of God and Light of Light, You made all that exists and breathed life into dust that man might be a living being. You endowed Your highest creatures with reason and a soul and left them in freedom. Though they rebelled against Your Goodness and chose the path that led to death, You did not abandon what You had made. You prepared a Plan of Salvation through which Your only Son might become the Savior and Redeemer of Your fallen world.

You prepared a Heavenly Kingdom so that those who receive by faith what Your Son has accomplished, might be Yours and dwell with You in Eternal Life and light forevermore.

In order that we might receive the gifts Your Grace has won for us, Your Son set apart this Sacrament in which He gives to us His Body to eat and His Blood to drink.

C Amen.

❖ **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took, bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \times Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1Corinthians 11:23-25)

❖ PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Lord Jesus Christ, in giving us Your Body and Blood to eat and drink, You cause us to remember Your whole work of redemption, Your Incarnation and Birth, Your Suffering and Death, Your Resurrection and Ascension, and Your Promised Return. And we ask that You remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

❖ LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father Who art in Heaven,**
hallowed be Thy Name,
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy Will be done on earth
as it is in Heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom
and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

❖ **PEACE**

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Maintaining physical space of 6 feet behind and to the side of each communicant (small children may stand with parents), please follow usher instructions to enter the central aisle and approach the distribution area. There are six small tables between the pews and chancel area. Worshippers sitting on the left side of the sanctuary (facing the altar) will turn left to commune, and those sitting on the right side will turn to the right. Having removed your mask, please approach the first table corresponding to the side of the sanctuary where you are seated. It contains a large paten for communion host (gluten free wafers are available in the middle of the paten). Receive the host while standing to the side of these tables. Upon receiving the host, please approach the tray of individual cups at the worship leader's guiding and receive the wine to the side of the table. Empty cups are placed in the tray or basket on the third table. We recommend removing your mask to receive Holy Communion by touching ear loops or head straps only.

**MUSICAL OFFERING ,
MUSIC DURING THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

LSB 336

1. Lo! He comes with clouds descending, Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.
2. Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall their true Messiah see.
3. Those dear tokens of His passion Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture Gaze we on those glorious scars!
4. Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory, Claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

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❖ **DISMISSAL BLESSING**

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to Life Everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C **Amen.**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

P The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His Face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

C **Amen.**

❖ **CLOSING HYMN**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341, vs. 1-3

**1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.**

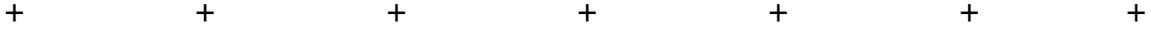
**2. A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.**

**3. How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is He Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.**

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POSTLUDE

Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland – P. Manz



Acknowledgments

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Servants in Worship

Preacher..... Vicar Alan Shaw
Liturgist.....Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Organist/Pianist/Director.....Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry
Vocalist.....Rebecca Melland-Kuo
Heavenly Handbells