



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

ORDER OF THE DIVINE SERVICE
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 5, 2020, 6:00 PM & DECEMBER 6, 2020, 8:00 AM

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

Throughout the ages, God has sent messengers with special messages for His people. Many centuries before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Isaiah told of how God would comfort His people. The prophet Isaiah was a voice of comfort to God's people. His words became incarnate in Jesus Christ, Who brings comfort to us in the forgiveness of sins and lives born anew to heavenly glory. God is coming to His people to announce an end to their warfare, the pardon of their sins, and the promise of a whole new future. We proclaim the Comfort of the Lord and the Grace that forgives sins---not as someone to come, but as the One Who came for us and our salvation. Today we not only listen for our own sake, but we listen so that we may speak into the world the Grace of Him Who came - before He comes again.

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

Puer Nobis Nascitur – P. Manz

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 SECOND CANDLE: THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE

P As we light the second candle on our Advent wreath, the Bethlehem candle, we remember how God chose the little town of Bethlehem to be the birthplace of our Savior, fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy and making great what was small.

C **We give You thanks, our Heavenly Father, that You exalt the humble and bring down the proud. Grant that, as we travel once more to Bethlehem to greet our Savior and King, we may be humbled in His Presence and blessed to serve Him; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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



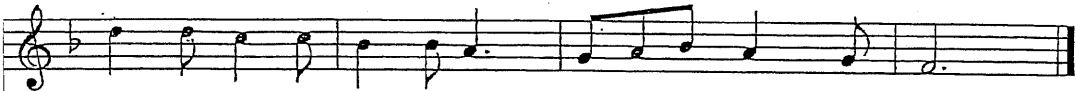
light the can - dle of hope! _____ This can - dle - light,
 light the can - dle of peace! _____ This can - dle - light,
 light the can - dle of joy! _____ This can - dle - light,
 light the can - dle of love! _____ This can - dle - light,



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 40:1-11

(Comfort, comfort My people, says the Lord our God.)

Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's Hand double for all her sins.

A voice of one calling:

"In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the Glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it.

For the Mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out."

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the Breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God stands forever."

You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and His Arm rules for Him.

See, His Reward is with Him, and His Recompense accompanies Him.

He tends His flock like a shepherd:

He gathers the lambs in His Arms and carries them close to His Heart;

He gently leads those that have young.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P God of Comfort, we are grateful that You are patient; not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to repent. Today we come before You in repentance, confessing our sin and longing for Your 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.**

C 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. As God's Called and ordained servant, I announce God's Grace to you; and representing Christ, and at His Command, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit. Praise God for His Gift of Love to us.

C Amen.

❖ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your Only-Begotten Son that by His Coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

❖ **ENTRANCE HYMN**

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 347

All: Verses 1 & 4 Ensemble: Verses 2-3

1. "Comfort, comfort ye My people, Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
"Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover And her warfare now is over."

2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon, Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many_a day, Now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness Into ever-springing gladness.

3. Hark, the herald's voice is crying In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners to repentance, Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.

**4. Make ye straight what long was crooked; Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token That His Word is never broken.**

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EPISTLE

II Peter 3:8-14

(St. Peter reminds us that God's Time and our time are not the same; and we must be ready at all times for our Lord's Return.)

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends:
With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.
The Lord is not slow in keeping His Promise, as some understand slowness.
He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
But the Day of the Lord will come like a thief.
The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the Day of God and speed Its coming.
That Day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.
But in keeping with His Promise we are looking forward to a new Heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.
So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him.

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 1:1-8

(Our Lord's Coming begins with the voice sent to prepare the world for His Appearing.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The beginning of the Gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

It is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send My messenger ahead of You, who will prepare Your Way" --

"a voice of one calling in the desert,

`Prepare the Way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him."

And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him.

Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

And this was his message:

"After me will come One more powerful than I, the thongs of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Bob Unger

HYMN

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344

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

**1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!**

2. Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.

3. We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

4. Lay on the sick Thy healing hand And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

❖ **5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit evermore.**

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SERMON “Promises Fulfilled, 1: ‘Here Is Your God!’” Pastor Jonathan Blanke
Isaiah 40:1-11

❖ **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.)

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Truth from Above – arr. R. Vaughan Williams

Sanctuary Choir Ensemble

*This is the Truth sent from above,
The Truth of God, the God of Love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But harken all both rich and poor.*

*Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run
That He would redeem us by His Son.*

*The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell
Woman was made with man to dwell.*

*And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands He did teach.*

*Thus He in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what He did say.*

❖ **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P Lord Jesus, come.

C **Come, Lord Jesus, to encourage us.**

P Heavenly Father, bring to Your Church a high level of responsibility for justice and peace in Your world. Send us out to point to Christ and His Love for all people.

C **Come, Lord Jesus, to strengthen us by Your Spirit.**

P By Your Healing Presence, bless those who are sick and recovering; that they may endure with faith and trust in Your Goodness and Grace.

C **Come, Lord Jesus, to comfort us.**

P Especially comfort those among us who mourn the passing of loved ones. Grant them consolation and hope rooted in the Promises of Christ in the Scriptures that because He lives, we shall live also..

C **Come, Lord Jesus, with Your compassion.**

After each additional petition:

P Lord, in Your Mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Empower us so that we may endure, holding fast to Your Truth and boldly proclaiming Your Coming to the nations. In Your Strong Name, we pray.

C **Amen.**

+ SACRAMENT +

❖ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P We give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Whose Way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance that we might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory.

With joy we honor You as Lord of all creation.

In Your Mercy You did not abandon us when we rebelled against Your Will and chose the path of sin.

You sent forth the Promise through the prophets, delivered up Your Own Son in the fullness of time, and He emptied Himself in suffering on the cross to redeem us from sin and its death.

Now we receive the Grace He won for us in the bread He sets apart as His Body and the cup He blesses as His Blood.

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.

MUSIC DURING THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MUSICAL OFFERING

Sanctuary Choir Ensemble

Arise, O Christian People

LSB 354

1. Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;
Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes your sins away.
To us by grace alone The truth and light were given;
The promised Lord from heaven To all the world is shown.
2. Prepare the way before Him; Prepare for Him the best.
Cast out what would offend Him, This great, this heav'nly guest.
Make straight, make plain the way: The lowly valleys raising,
The heights of pride abasing, His path all even lay.
3. The humble heart and lowly God raises up on high;
Beneath His feet in terror The haughty soul shall lie.
The heart sincere and right, That heeds God's invitation
And makes true preparation—It is the Lord's delight.
4. Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside,
And help me to receive You This blessed Adventide.
From stall and manger low Come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing Your praises gladly And forth Your glory show.

❖ **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.**

❖ **PRAYER**

P Merciful Father, Everlasting God, You sent forth a voice of comfort through the prophet Isaiah and Your people were reborn in hope. You sent forth a voice to be the messenger of Your Kingdom and Your people were called to repentance and faith.

C **Now send us out with the comfort we received in this Sacrament and the call to faith, that the world may be reborn in hope through Jesus Christ and be prepared to meet Him when He comes again in glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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**

Prepare the Royal Highway

LSB 343

1. **Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory Foretold in sacred story:**

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!

**2. God's people, see Him coming: Your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before Him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!**

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!

**3Then fling the gates wide open To greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation Its tribute too should bring.
All lands, bow down before Him! All nations, now adore Him!**

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!

**4. His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding For kindness so abounding:**

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!

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L Go in peace and serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway – P. Manz

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Acknowledgments

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Servants in Worship (6:00)

Preacher..... Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Liturgist..... Vicar Alan Shaw
Organist/Pianist/Director.....Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry
Lector.....Tim LaCroix
Greeters.....Glenda Moser
Altar Care.....Laura Lubak
Sanctuary Choir Ensemble.. Rebecca Melland-Kuo, Kristi Grabow, Garry Grabow, Jim Linn

Servants in Worship (8:00)

Preacher..... Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Liturgist..... Vicar Alan Shaw
Organist/Pianist/Director.....Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry
Lector.....Roberta Danilowicz
Ushers.....Michael & Trudy Haertling
Greeters.....Brenda Peterson
Altar Care.....Brenda Peterson
Sanctuary Choir Ensemble.. Rebecca Melland-Kuo, Kristi Grabow, Garry Grabow, Jim Linn



Join us during this season of Advent and Christmas!

ADVENT WORSHIP

December 2	Wednesday, 6:00 pm <i>Hanging of the Greens</i>
December 6	2nd Sunday in Advent
December 9	Wednesday, 6:00 pm <i>Holden Evening Prayer</i>
December 13	3rd Sunday in Advent
December 16	Wednesday, 6:00 pm <i>O Antiphons</i>
December 20	4th Sunday in Advent
December 23	Wednesday, 4:30 & 6:00 pm <i>Outdoor Candlelight Christmas at RLC</i>

Service Times: Saturday, 6:00 pm | Sunday, 8:00 am
Sunday, 10:45 am (Praise)

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

3:00 pm in the Sanctuary
For families with young children featuring interactive lessons and carols.

4:30 pm in the Sanctuary
Traditional Christmas carol family worship with special pre-service musical offerings by Resurrection Music School students.

6:00 pm in the Family Life Center
Candlelight service with contemporary settings of traditional carols.

8:00 pm in the Sanctuary*
Candlelight service with traditional Christmas carols.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Festival celebration of Holy Communion with carols.

We are meeting for in-person worship. The number of worshipers will be limited to 50 people per service, so we ask that you sign up for the service you choose to attend at rlcary.org/about-us/advent-worship.

Our Sunday 8:00 am and 10:45 am services, the Wednesday night services, and the 8:00 pm Christmas Eve* service will be live streamed online at youtube.com/resurrectionlutheranchurchcarync.