



Life Together:
Dead Pride
Living Faith

James 2:17

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 - 11:00 AM**

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. We celebrate our Savior's love 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.

For those individuals or families desiring a space that is physically distanced, please feel welcome to sit in the rows that are marked as reserved.

Lessons and Liturgy Today

We relate to God only by grace through faith in the saving work of Jesus Christ on our behalf. This faith implies and assumes the works of faith that proceed from and have their source in grace alone-just as faith does. Faith is never alone. Faith is always accompanied by the good works that spring from this faith. The good we do is not us but Christ in us, working in us, and through us. Faith and works neither compete nor require a choice. Where Christ lives in us by Baptism and faith, the one and the same Spirit attests to the genuineness of this faith by producing good works. These too are from God. There is no faith without good works and there are no good works that do not spring from faith-God is all and in all.

Welcome and Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Musical Offering, Opening Song: Open The Eyes Of My Heart

P. Baloché

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You,
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up,
shining in the light of Your glory;
pour out Your power and love
as we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You,
I want to see You Repeat x2

To see You high and lifted up,
shining in the light of Your glory;
pour out Your power and love
as we sing holy, holy, holy Repeat x2

Ending
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see You Repeat x2

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Invocation of The Holy Trinity

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

P We make our beginning in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Be strong and let your heart take courage,

C **all who wait upon the LORD,** (*Psalm 31:24*)

P I trust in You, O LORD,

C **You are my God.**

P Make Your Face shine upon Your servant.

C **Save me in Your Steadfast Love.** (*Psalm 31:14, 16*)

Confession of Sins and Good News of Forgiveness

P As we prepare to receive our Lord under bread and wine, let us remember the Word of God where we hear Jesus affirm that all things are possible for one who believes.

C **I believe; help my unbelief!** (*Mark 9:23-24*)

P Let us therefore go to God's Throne of Grace in prayer, confessing our sins and asking Him to remove them far from us. Gracious God,

C **we confess that we all stumble in many ways as we attempt to live out our faith. In our moments of weak faith we even wonder if You can do anything!**

Have compassion and help us. (*Mark 9:22*)

For these and all other sins we confess our guilt. We come to You, Father, for Your Mercy for the Sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering, Song of Praise: Build My Life

B. Younker

1. Worthy of ev'ry song
we could ever sing,
worthy of all the praise
we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath
we could ever breathe, we live for You Repeat

Refrain

Holy, there is no one like You,
there is none beside You;
open up my eyes in wonder
and show me who You are,
and fill me with Your heart,
and lead me in Your love
to those around me

2. Jesus, the name above
ev'ry other name,
Jesus, the only one
who could ever save;
worthy of ev'ry breath
we could ever breathe -
We live for You,
we live for You Repeat

Bridge

I will build my life
upon Your love,
it is a firm foundation;
I will put my trust
in You alone
and I will not be shaken Sing x4 Refrain x2 Bridge

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Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 50:14-10 [ESV]

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle – James 2:1-10, 14-18 [ESV]

My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel – Mark 9:14-29 [ESV]

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the ninth chapter.

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

And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw Him, were greatly amazed and ran up to Him and greeted Him. And He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” And someone from the crowd answered Him, “Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” And He answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me.” And they brought the boy to Him. And when the spirit saw Him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And He said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children’s Message – Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Musical Offering, Song of the Day: You Are So Good To Me

B. Pasley/R. Pasley

1. You are so good to me,
You heal my broken heart;
You are my Father in heaven Repeat 2x

Refrain

You are beautiful,
my sweet, sweet song;
You are beautiful,
my sweet, sweet song;
You are beautiful,
my sweet, sweet song;
I will sing again,

2. You ride upon the clouds,
You lead me to the truth;
You are the Spirit inside me Repeat 2x Refrain

You are my strong melody,
You are my dancing rhythm;
You are my perfect rhyme
and I want to sing forever

3. You poured out all Your blood,
You died upon the cross;
You are my Jesus who loves me Repeat 2x Refrain

You are my Father in heaven,
You are the Spirit inside me,
You are my Jesus who loves me

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Message

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Life Together: Dead Pride Living Faith
James 2:1-10,14-18
(sermon notes on last page)

Blessing of Teachers, Coaches, Helpers and Learners

P As people of God called to teach and admonish one another with all wisdom; together we share the responsibility for Christian education in our homes, schools and our church to encourage one another and build each other up and let the light of the Gospel shine through us. We therefore ask you, leaders and learners in this congregation and its schools, to recommit yourselves to the ministry of Christian education at Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools. Dear co-workers in God's Kingdom, our Lord has called you into service at Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools. He has blessed you with His Gifts and His Word to share His Love in Christ with the children, youth and adults of this congregation and its schools in this community.

P I ask you now: Do you willingly accept your tasks as teachers, coaches, and leaders in Resurrection's education ministry, assured that our Lord will guide and support you as you carry out His Will and His Work?

If so, please answer, "*Yes, with the Help of God.*"

R **Yes, with the Help of God.**

P Let us pray.

Lord, give to these people Your Gifts of wisdom, creativity, kindness and faithfulness; so that they may effectively teach and guide, encourage and build each other up. Be with these teachers of the faith, coaches, and these helpers; that they may be strong in their commitment and faithful in their work.

In Jesus' Name we pray.

C **Amen.**

P All of us – young and old – are encouraged by Jesus Himself to continue in the Word and build each other up. For that purpose, Resurrection Lutheran Church and its schools offer Christian education opportunities for all ages.

P Do you, the children, youth and adults of this congregation and community, commit yourselves to group and individual study of God's Word; so that you might grow in the knowledge and Grace of Christ?

If so, please answer, "*Yes, with the Help of God.*"

C **Yes, with the Help of God.**

P Jesus tells us: "You are the light of the world...Let your light shine, for all to see, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Heavenly Father. (*Matthew 5:14a, 16b*)

Let us pray.

C **Give us a strong desire to continue in Your Word within the fellowship of this community at Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools.**

Bless all the study groups at Resurrection; so that we may be enabled to grow in faith, stand strong in life, encourage each other, shine the light of faith and reach out with Your Love to those who may not know You now. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

P This day we have pledged ourselves to teaching and learning God's Word. I, therefore, consecrate you as teachers, coaches, helpers and partners in the Christian Education Ministry of Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools, for this 2021-2022 year; in the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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.

Prayers of the Church

after each petition:

P Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The 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.

Benediction

Musical Offering, Closing Song: Love The LORD Your God
L. Brewster

1. Love the LORD your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength Repeat 1x

With all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, with all your strength,
Love the LORD your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength

2. I will serve the LORD with all my heart,
with all my soul, with all my mind,
and with all my strength Repeat 1x

With all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, with all my strength,
I will serve the LORD with all my heart,
with all my soul, with all my mind,
and with all my strength

I will love You (I will love You)
I will praise You (I will praise You)
I will serve You (I will serve You)
I will trust You, LORD (I will trust You)

With all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, with all my strength Repeat 1x

I will love You, LORD, with all my heart,
with all my soul, with all my mind,
and with all my strength Repeat 2x

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+ Go in Peace! Serve the Lord! Thanks Be to God! +

In Service Today:

Praise Worship Leader: Christopher Reed
Congregation Song Leader: Randy Leach
Video Technician: Tom Campau
Sound Technician: Grant Hundertmark
Live Stream Producer: Susan Moore
Camera Operators: Jill Hammergren, Shane Kirby

Preacher: Pastor Jonathan Blanke
Presiding Minister: Pastor Zach Sarrault
Assisting Minister: Pastor Alan Shaw
Reader: Melinda Stephani
Altar Care: Sharon Hahne
Greeter: Melinda Stephani
Worship Assistant: Michael Hahne



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Dead Pride, Living Faith (James 2:1–10; 14–18)
Series B, Proper 18

James called his readers to live according to the “completeness,” won by Christ. Today our focus is on how that completeness is lived out in treating *all* people with honor and respect.

1. **That we are saved by “_____” “*sola fides*” is an important, life-giving message of the Scriptures (Ephesians 2:8-9).** Yet we dare not isolate faith as a virtue, forgetting about what faith clings to: the mercy of God for sinners like us! Without God’s mercy in Christ, my faith becomes a matter of pride—dead pride. This is why St. James reminds us that “faith without works is dead” (2:17).
2. **The _____ of LIVING pride, DEAD faith is our default mode.** We might not disparage or ignore poor people. But the fine clothing and accessories St. James describes *do* cause us to make distinctions between people. How many of us are drawn to and favor those who *don’t* appear needy (spiritually or otherwise)? St. James’ message: Such a default mode of living by pride—not faith—demonstrates that by ourselves we are *incomplete*.
3. **Jesus _____ (_____) all righteousness.** Jesus said: “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them.” Jesus’ work of fulfilling all righteousness starts with OUR need to be complete. When he was put to death on the cross he put OUR pride to death. When he came out of the tomb, he became the living object of OUR faith that perseveres, even when we seem incapable of producing any good works at all!
4. **The completeness of DEAD pride, LIVING faith is a _____.** “Has not God chosen what is poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom?” (2:5) Though we revert to an incomplete, default mode of living pride/dead faith, God gives us the gift of a common poverty, that we might all, together, do the good works He works in us and contribute to the greater good of all. Write one way that you can contribute to the greater good this week and treat all people with honor and respect: