



Hope for the City

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

SINGING A NEW SONG OF
PRAISE
TO OUR RISEN KING!

THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 22, 2022 - 8:00 AM

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today! We celebrate together God's work in our lives as we receive His Word and Sacraments to strengthen our relationship with Him and one another. By the blood of Christ, we are made the household of God. Here, God builds us up by grace, through faith, and for service!

LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY

SINGING A NEW SONG

No, this is not a recruitment for more musicians at RLC. (Though if you are musical, contact Bob Unger, or Chris Reed) This is our new sermon series for the season of Easter. Christ is risen! And that is reason to "sing praises" to God in all that we do! The book of Revelation gives us a glimpse of the heavenly Kingdom where all believers will sing a new song of praise to the risen Lamb, Jesus. As people of the heavenly Kingdom dwelling here below, we have the new song now. So we sing! But it's not just the vocal singing in worship, it is the way we live our lives for our risen King as we live out our worship of Him every day.

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

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

PRELUDE

Now the Green Blade Riseth – arr. D. Hermany

Heavenly Handbells

WELCOME

❖ **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.**

P Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



HYMN

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

LSB 474

**1. Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

**2. Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.**

Refrain

**3. Jesus the vine, We are the branches; Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people, Gift of the future now flowing to me.**

Refrain

**4. Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!" Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.**

Refrain

**5. City of God, Easter forever, Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, Saints and archangels, Sing with creation to God the I AM!**

Refrain

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CONFESSION OF SINS

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, Who is Faithful and Just, will forgive our
sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

C We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.
For the Sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your Will and walk in Your Ways to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.

❖ **ABSOLUTION** *John 20:21-23*

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins.
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!

❖ **HYMN OF PRAISE** *This is the Feast* – arr. R. Hillert **LSB 155**

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain***

**2. Power, riches, wisdom and strength
And honor and blessing and glory are His. *Refrain***

**3. Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation:**

**4. Blessing, honor, glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain***

**5. For the Lamb who was slain
Has begun His reign. Alleluia. *Refrain***

❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You are the Giver of all that is good.

C **Inspire us to think those things that are right and loving, and by Your Merciful Guiding to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 16:9-15 [ESV]

(The Gospel is preached in Philippi; to Lydia and her household.)

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the Gospel to them. So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days.

And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.

One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God.

The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalms 67 [ESV]

L May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His Face to shine upon us,
Selah
that Your way may be known on earth, Your saving power among all nations.

C Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

L Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah*

C Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

L The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

**C God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear Him!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27 [ESV]

(In John's vision of Heaven, he sees the Glory of God.)

Then came one of the seven angels who
had the seven bowls full of the seven last
plagues and spoke to me, saying,
“Come, I will show you the Bride,
the wife of the Lamb.”

And he carried me away in the Spirit to a
great, high mountain, and showed me the
holy city Jerusalem coming down out of
Heaven from God, having the Glory of
God, Its radiance like a most rare jewel,
like a jasper, clear as crystal.

It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates,
and at the gates twelve angels, and on the
gates the names of the twelve tribes of the
sons of Israel were inscribed—on the east
three gates, on the north three gates, on
the south three gates, and on the west
three gates.

And the wall of the city had twelve
foundations, and on them were the twelve
names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.
And the twelve gates were twelve pearls,
each of the gates made of a single pearl,
and the street of the city was pure gold,
like transparent glass.

And I saw no temple in the city,
for its temple is the Lord God the
Almighty and the Lamb.

And the city has no need of sun or moon
to shine on it, for the Glory of God gives
it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

By its light will the nations walk,
and the kings of the earth will bring their
glory into it, and its gates will never be
shut by day—and there will be no night

there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

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

❖ ALLELUIA VERSE

LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

❖ HOLY GOSPEL WITH ACCLAMATIONS

John 16:23-33 [ESV]

(Jesus reminds us that we can have peace because He has overcome the world.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

In that day you will ask nothing of Me.
Truly, truly, I say to you,
whatever you ask of the Father in My
Name, He will give it to you.
Until now you have asked nothing in My
Name.

Ask, and you will receive, that your joy
may be full.
I have said these things to you in figures
of speech.
The hour is coming when I will no longer
speak to you in figures of speech but will
tell you plainly about the Father.

In that day you will ask in My Name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came from God.

I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

His disciples said,

“Ah, now You are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech!

Now we know that You know all things and do not need anyone to question You;

this is why we believe that You came from God.”

Jesus answered them,

“Do you now believe?

Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave Me alone.

Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with Me.

I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have peace.

In the world you will have tribulation.

But take heart;

I have overcome the world.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rosie Spangenberg

HYMN OF THE DAY

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556, vs. 1-4

**1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing,
And with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done, How His right arm the vict'ry won.
What price our ransom cost Him!**

**2. Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay; Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my mother bore me.
But daily deeper still I fell; My life became a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.**

3. My own good works all came to naught, No grace or merit gaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought, Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair Left only death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.

4. But God had seen my wretched state Before the world's foundation,
And mindful of His mercies great, He planned for my salvation.
He turned to me a father's heart; He did not choose the easy part
But gave His dearest treasure.

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SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Hope for the City
Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

(Sermon Notes on Page 15)



CREED

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into Heaven
and sits at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,

C the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the Life ✠ Everlasting. Amen.

INSTALLATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY FACILITATORS

P Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, you are to serve our Lord and Resurrection Lutheran Church as Neighborhood Community Facilitators.
Hear what the Holy Scripture has to say about those who serve in the Church:

P *For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. (Romans 12:3-8)*

P In the presence of God and this congregation, I install you as Neighborhood Community Facilitators in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us pray.
O Lord, visit these Neighborhood Community Facilitators with Your Love and Favor. Enlighten their minds with the light of Your Gospel. Place in their hearts a love of the truth, and increase in them true faith. Nourish them with Your Goodness and, of Your great Mercy, keep them in Your Love that they may be faithful in their service; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Go in the Name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.
The Almighty and most Merciful God the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**



GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to 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, by postal mail, and in baskets located in the Narthex. Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pads.)

MUSICAL OFFERING

Come, Ye Faithful – R. S. Thatcher

Sanctuary Choir

*1. Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
Of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought his Israel
Into joy from sadness;
'Tis the spring of souls today,
Christ hath burst his prison,
And from three days sleep in death
As a sun hath risen.*

*2. Now the queen of seasons,
Bright with the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts,
Comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem,
Who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection.*

*3. Neither might the gates of death,
Nor the tomb's dark portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal,
Hold thee as a mortal;
But today amidst the twelve
Thou didst stand, bestowing
That thy peace with evermore
Passeth human knowing.*



ANNIVERSARY PRAYER AND RE-DEDICATION

P Dear Loving Heavenly Father: Your Loving-Kindness toward us is especially evident today.

C **We thank and praise You for creating Your Church and for giving life to this congregation through the Power of Your Holy Spirit.**

- P Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for bringing Resurrection Lutheran Church to its 44th anniversary.
We celebrate, along with all the saints who have gone before us, reaching out in love, by grace to serve one another, our community and our neighbors near and far.
- C **Holy Father, may the next generation find us faithful, steadfast and persevering. May they see Your Fruit evident in our lives and hunger to seek You and to know You.**
May we boldly proclaim Your Goodness to the next generation and encourage them in their faith to rise up as servants to tend the harvest.
- P Lord, give Your Grace, Strength, Patience and Wisdom to all whom we ask to administrate the work we do together, so that all our service may honor You.
- C **Lead us as we make our plans for the future; and complete the plans we make, so that in all we start, continue and finish by Your Grace, Your Name will be glorified.**
- P Lead us, guide us and strengthen us as we continue to build Your Kingdom, so that all may come to know the Love and Saving Grace of Christ Jesus.
- C **To You, Lord, be glory and honor, forever and ever! Amen.**

❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- After each portion of the prayers:*
- P Lord, in Your Mercy,
C **Hear our prayer.**
- P Into Your Hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**
- P Jesus, 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.

❖ **BENEDICTION**

Numbers 6:24-26

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.
C Amen.

❖ **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

LSB 477

1. Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

2. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried: Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

**3. Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!**

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P Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE
Nun Fruet Euch - P. Manz

+ + + + + + +

Preacher/Presiding Minister.....Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Organist/Director.....Ashley Huddle
Sanctuary Choir
Assisting Minister.....Rosie Spangenberg
Lector.....Lynn Miller
Greeters.....Brenda Peterson, Kelley Vick
Usher.....Brenda Peterson

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Hope for the City (Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27)
Easter 6, Series C

1. Today is the fifth week of our sermon series on singing a new song of praise to our risen King. **We sing as people made beautiful and built up to reflect the glory of God as the _____ of _____, the New Jerusalem (21:10).** Because of Jesus there is hope today for human community on earth!
2. **There are two cities in the Scriptures that almost serve as bookends for the books of the Bible: a half-built city from the beginning of time (“_____” in Gen 11:1-9) and a glorious and holy city at the end of time and in eternity, “The New Jerusalem.”** The first city reflects a self-absorbed humanity estranged from God. The second, a gift “coming down from heaven,” is a city humanity could never have built alone!
3. The present Easter season is a time to see ourselves as the End Time New Jerusalem despite the ruins of Babel now. Though we know what it means for our human community (universities, companies, families...even churches) to be fractured and broken, **though we know what it means to be unworthy of God’s love, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ builds us up as a people united around the _____ and the _____.** Our sins are forgiven! We are declared holy by the blood of the Lamb! Because of the crucified and risen Christ there is hope for all human community on earth!
4. **That we have hope for the city/community of God on earth means we live with hope for _____...and _____, too.** We do not yet see the New Jerusalem with our own eyes, but with the eyes of faith. Seeing it in faith, we rejoice! And in Hebrews we read where that joy leads: “Let brotherly love continue...Here we have no lasting city, but we seek the City that is to come!” (13:1, 14). The Holy City that will offer rest to the weary sinner, gates open to all, and opportunities to see and enjoy God’s glory together is our reason to live and serve our own cities and communities together right now. How will God lead you to “seek the City that is to come” in your life this week?

List of Community Facilitators by Zone Number and Geographical “Label”

- Zone 1: Brenda Peterson (North Central Cary)
- Zone 2: Ron Taylor (East Cary)
- Zone 3: Ron & Carol Bostick (North Apex)
- Zone 4: Bob Shimmel (Central Holly Springs)
- Zone 5: Annette Langefeld-Kennedy (NW Raleigh, Durham, Morrisville)
- Zone 6: Autumn Yamamura (North Fuquay-Varina, East Holly Springs, South Apex)
- Zone 7: Bob Hirt (West Cary: Brookstone, Tatton Place, Arlington Ridge)
- Zone 8: Keith & Yvonne Braswell (Fuquay-Varina, Willow Spring)
- Zone 9: Faith Junghahn (West Fuquay-Varina, South Holly Springs)
- Zone 10: John Viehe (SE Cary, West Raleigh)
- Zone 11: John & Virginia Heilman, Sandy & John Eckstein (NW Cary: Amberly, Cary Park)
- Zone 12: Sandy Wuori (West Apex, New Hill, Pittsboro)
- Zone 13: Bill & Eileen Douglas, Sandra Nigg (West Holly Springs)
- Zone 14: Charlotte Beyer (NW Apex, Chapel Hill, Pittsboro)
- Zone 15: Suzi Heffner (SE Apex: Hickory Creek, Brighton Forest, Brookshire Manor, West Lake)
- Zone 16: Donni Becksford (Central Apex, West Cary)
- Zone 17: Claudia Guthrie (SW Apex)
- Zone 18: Devin & Heather Hilldale (SW Cary, Apex)
- Zone 19: Terry & Sandy Brummeyer (Lochmere Area)
- Zone 20: Dara Linn & Bonnie Wolfe (NW Cary: Highcroft, Heritage Pines, Wellsley)
- Zone 21: Stacy Miller (South Apex)
- Zone 22: Glenda Moser (SW Raleigh: Bradford Place, Huntingwood, Renaissance Pk, Bryn Mawr)
- Zone 23: Diana Rogers (Central Cary)
- Zone 24: Tim and Karol LaCroix (NE Cary)
- Zone 25: Dorothy Conners (South Raleigh, Garner)
- Zone 26: Ron Carrea (SE Apex and South Raleigh)
- Zone 27: Jay & Rebecca Indla (South Cary, Apex, Raleigh)
- Zone 28: Elke Cerny (West Cary: Savon Heights, Olde Salem, Ashcroft, Trappers Forest)
- Zone 29: Keith Leister (South Central Cary)
- Zone 30: Tom Gebbia (S Cary: S Chase, Renaissance, Falconer’s Ridge, Meadows at Kildare)
- Zone 31: Rosie Spangenberg (RLC Neighborhood)
- Zone 32: Kathy Rihani (SE Cary and SW Raleigh)
- Zone 33: Daisy Morris (Raleigh and Wendell)



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