

Hope for the City

*Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27*



SINGING A NEW SONG OF  
**PRAISE**  
TO OUR RISEN KING!

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 22, 2022 - 11:00 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.

**Welcome and Sharing the Peace**

**P** Christ is risen!

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

**P** The peace of the LORD be with you!

**C** And also with you!

**Opening Song**

Let It Rise

Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the praises  
of the King  
rise among us,  
let it rise

Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the praises

of the King  
rise among us,  
let it rise

O, let it rise  
O, let it rise

Let the songs  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the songs  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the joy  
of the King  
rise among us,  
let it rise

Let the songs  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the songs  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the joy  
of the King  
rise among us,  
let it rise

O, let it rise  
O, let it rise

Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the praises  
of the King  
rise among us,  
let it rise

Let the glory  
of the LORD  
rise among us;  
Let the glory  
of the LORD

rise among us;  
Let the praises  
of the King  
rise among us,  
let it rise

O, let it rise  
O, let it rise

CCLI Song #2240585 Holland Davis. Copyright © 1997, 1999 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.). For use solely with the SongSelect. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #541609.

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

P God so loved the world that He gave His Only Son,  
C **That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have Eternal Life.**

P Jesus says, "My Command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.  
C **Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."**

P Let us not love in word or talk,  
C **but in deed and in truth.**

## 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.**

### **Confession of Sins and Good News of Forgiveness**

**P** Even though we know we are sinners, we often think of ourselves as being "not so bad". But this is an illusion. Especially in the light of God's Commandments, we fail miserably. Our only hope is to approach the Throne of the God of Love, seeking His Mercy in the Name of the risen Christ.

**C** **Gracious Father, we confess that we have sinned against You and each other. There are many times when we wonder what this world is coming to, when we agonize about the future. We worry about the world and wrestle with our own and others' problems. We overlook the cross and empty tomb and forget Jesus' words, "Take heart; I have overcome the world." Forgive us, Father, for the Sake of Jesus the Christ, the Lamb Who sits on the Throne. Grant us Your Peace.**

**P** Our Gracious God and Father, hears our cries for mercy and forgives us our sin. With the Command of Christ and power of the cross, as a Called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Live and love in the joy of the Resurrection!

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

### **Song of Praise**

### **Here I Am To Worship**

Light of the world,  
You stepped down  
into darkness,  
opened my eyes,  
let me see  
Beauty that made  
this heart adore You,  
Hope of a life  
spent with You

So here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that  
You're my God  
You're altogether lovely,

altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me

King of all days,  
O so highly exalted,  
glorious in  
heaven above  
Humbly You came  
to the earth  
You created;  
all for love's sake,  
became poor

So here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that  
You're my God  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me

And I'll never know  
how much it cost  
to see my sin  
upon that cross  
And I'll never know  
how much it cost  
to see my sin  
upon that cross

So here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that  
You're my God  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me

So here I am to worship,  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that  
You're my God  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me

## First Reading

*Acts 20:17-35 [ESV]*

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.

## Epistle

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

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.

## The Holy Gospel

*John 16:23-33 [ESV]*

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

**C** Glory 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

### **Song of the Day**

### **God Of Wonders**

LORD of all creation,  
of water, earth, and sky;  
The heavens are  
Your tabernacle -  
Glory to the LORD on high

God of wonders  
beyond our galaxy,  
You are holy, holy  
The universe declares  
Your majesty;  
You are holy, holy  
LORD of heaven and earth,  
LORD of heaven and earth

Early in the morning  
I will celebrate  
the light;  
And when I stumble  
in the darkness,  
I will call  
Your name by night:

God of wonders  
beyond our galaxy,  
You are holy, holy  
The universe declares  
Your majesty;  
You are holy, holy  
LORD of heaven and earth,  
LORD of heaven and earth



Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth

God of wonders  
beyond our galaxy,  
You are holy, holy  
Precious LORD,  
reveal Your heart to me,  
Father, hold me, hold me  
The universe  
declares Your majesty,  
You are holy, holy,  
holy, holy

Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth  
Hallelujah to the LORD  
of heaven and earth

CCLI Song #3118757 Marc Byrd | Steve Hindalong. Copyright ©2000 Never Say Never Songs (admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) New Spring (admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Meaux Mercy (admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Storm Boy Music (admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License #541609.

## **The Message**

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

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

## **Nicene Creed**

**C I believe in 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.**

- C** 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.

### **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 44<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### **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**

**C** 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**

**P** The worship has ended.

**C** The service now begins.

**P** Go now in peace to serve the LORD.

**C** Thanks be to God!

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

### **In Service Today**

Preacher - Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Presiding Minister - Pastor Alan Shaw

Praise Worship Leader - Christopher Reed

Reign! Vocals - Randy Leach

Reign! Musicians - Marty Stephani, Doug Durnbaugh, Elliot Lubak, Charlie Shiel, Lecia Cecconi-Roberts

Assisting Minister - Rosie Spangenberg

Reader - Kathy Rasmussen

Sound Technician - Jeff Ashmore

Camera Operators - Garrett Nigg, Jill Hammergren

Live Stream Producer - Susan Moore

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, W Lake)  
Zone 16: Donni Becksford (Central Apex, West Cary)  
Zone 17: Claudia Guthrie (SW Apex)  
Zone 18: Devin & Heather Hildale (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 Pl, 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)



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

[rlcary.org](http://rlcary.org)

919-851-7248 | [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)