Messy Discipleship, 1:



Here I Am Isaiah 65:1-9

THE ORDER OF THE DIVINE SERVICE THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 19, 2022 - 8:00 AM

A warm welcome to all worshiping 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

Messy Discipleship

Life is messy! Our calendars are full, our phones are buzzing, our families are loud, we have so much going on all the time it can easily feel like our messy lives are spiraling out of our control. We would love it if God waved His strong right hand over our mess and simply made it all disappear. But God does something even greater than that... He enters into our mess and makes us His disciples. By the presence of God the Holy Spirit, our God engages with us as His messy disciples and uses us for His work. In this summer sermon series, we will be taking a look at some Old Testament stories examining the way that God has used and continues to use messy disciples like us in His salvation story.

Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.
The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRELUDE

Concerto in A Minor - A. Vivaldi/J. S. Bach

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.

*

Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1. Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light; Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight. Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease, Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

2. Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word; Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand; From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3. Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place. Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done; Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

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CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS John 20:21-23

- P Beloved in the Lord!
 Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring
 Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
 Salvation belongs to the LORD;
- C Your blessing be on Your people!
- P I cried aloud to the LORD,
- C and He answered me from His holy hill.
- P Brothers and sisters in Christ, because of our sin, we have rebelled against God.Moreover, 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. (1 John 1:8-9)

- P Let us therefore confess our sins to our gracious God.
- C O Lord, before we sought You, You came seeking us. Before faith came, we were held captive under the Law. Our sins have controlled us and thrown us into confusion. In our sin we are helpless to save ourselves. In Your Mercy come to save us. In Your Forgiveness help us to know the freedom of Your Truth. Release us from the grip of our fears and give us Your Peace. Amen.
- P God has sent the Spirit of His Son into your hearts.
 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 A Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding.

C Cast out all sins and evil desires from us, and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 65:1-9 [ESV]

(God grants redemption for faith, judgment for unbelief)

I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for Me;

I was ready to be found by those who did not seek Me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that was not called by My Name.

I spread out My Hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke Me to My Face continually, sacrificing in gardens and making offerings on bricks; who sit in tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat pig's flesh,and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels; who say, "Keep to Yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for You." These are a smoke in My Nostrils, a fire that burns all the day. Behold, it is written before Me: "I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their lap both your iniquities and your fathers'

iniquities together," says the LORD;

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

"because they made offerings on the mountains and insulted Me on the hills, I will measure into their lap payment for their former deeds."
Thus says the LORD:
"As the new wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for My servants' sake, and not destroy them all.
I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of My mountains;
My chosen shall possess it,

and My servants shall dwell there.

EPISTLE

Galatians 3:23-4:7 [ESV]

(We are children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.)

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the Law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the Law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

- ✤ ALLELUIA VERSE
- C Alleluia. Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you. Alleluia. (2 Luke 8:39a)

✤ HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 8:26-39 [ESV]

(Healing a man with a demon)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met Him a man from the city who had demons.

For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs.

When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before Him and said with a loud voice, "What have You to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?

I beg You, do not torment me."

For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man.

(For many a time it had seized him.

He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. And they begged Him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged Him to let them enter these. So He gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs,

and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country.

Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid.

And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise, Shine, You People

 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered Our human story; God in Him is centered.
 He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, With grace unbounded.

2. See how He sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.All men and women, who by guilt are driven, Now are forgiven.

3. Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling, Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story Of Jesus' glory.

Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with Him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Kelsey Sarrault

LSB 825

4. Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation His new creation.

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SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

HERE I AM!

Isaiah 65:1-9 Sermon Notes on Page 16

✤ 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,

C 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.

NEW MEMBER RITE

P Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission to the world.
 In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his

Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from His Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation.

You have been nourished at His holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- P That we may rejoice in your confession, I now ask you in the presence of God and of this congregation:
- P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God? If so, answer: I do.
- R I do.
- P Do you confess that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures as you have learned to know them from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true? If so, answer: I do.
- R I do.
- P You have made public profession of your faith.
- P Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism, to hear the Word of God and to receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
 Will you commit yourself to live a godly life according to the Word of God in faith, word, and action? If so, answer: I do so intend, with the help of God.

- R I do so intend, with the help of God.
- P Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers, time, treasure, and talent?If so, answer: I will, with the help of God.
- R I will, with the help of God.

P Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?

(Each person answers in turn.) I do.

- R I de
- P Upon this your confession of faith, I, in the name of this congregation, extend to you the right hand of fellowship and love, acknowledging you as a member of Resurrection Lutheran Church and welcoming you to participate in all the blessings of salvation which God has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the ♥ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

(As each person is welcomed, his/her name is called.)

Chris & Gina Alladin, Avery, Emily; Diane Breznik; June Buckler; Jonathan & Alaina Ciencewicki, Cadence, Luke, Holden; Bruce & Michelle Collins; Matthew & Leah Combs, Aiden; Robert & Adriane Field, Bobby; Michael & Christina Fuller, Caio, Jonas, Niall; Megan Menau, Anysah, Mason, Mackenzie; Steve & Esther Robinson

P Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

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; Epb. 4:1-3*) Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow, or handshake) is welcome.

OFFERING

(The offerings of God's people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail, and in baskets located in the Narthex.)

OFFERING SONG

Welcome to the Family (Printed on Page 15)

FATHERS' DAY PRAYER

- P Most Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank You for fathers, men whom You have entrusted with the task of following in Your Ways and passing on the faith to children. We thank you for their courage, strength, and faithfulness.
- C To fathers You have given the great responsibility of leading families. We pray that You would teach and lead them to be good fathers no matter how old or young their children are.

Give them hearts like Your Heart that they may become known for compassion, tenderness, and mercy.

May they live lives full of love and grace.

May they not be afraid to use appropriate discipline and may they lead their families with great wisdom and gentleness.

Help fathers to grow daily in knowledge and understanding of Your Son, Jesus, and grant them the wisdom to impart this knowledge faithfully to their children, and to all who depend upon them.

P Send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to all fathers who sorrow for children who have died; who are ill; who are estranged from their families; or who are in trouble of any kind.

Help grieving fathers to rely on Your Tender Mercy, granting them hope in the midst of their grief.

C We ask Your Blessing on all those to whom You have entrusted the responsibility of fatherhood.
May Your Holy Spirit constantly inspire and strengthen them to faithful service through self-giving love.
We pray all this in the Loving Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Christ Jesus has broken the grip of sin and freed us to live a new life. Let us pray for all who struggle against sin and death, and for everyone in their various needs.
 O God, Your Lavish Love has sought us out and continues to seek out those for whom You sent Your Son to save.

We give You thanks for Your undeserved Grace and pray that all people may hear Your Call to forgiveness, salvation, and Life.

- C Empower Your whole Church, and all pastors, teachers and evangelists, with Your Holy Spirit to proclaim in all the world Your Power to save.
- P Bend the wills of those who would oppose the progress of Your Kingdom that in all the nations of the world the power of Your Word may lead into ways of peace.
- C Strengthen and preserve us in true faith by means of Your Holy Body and Blood this day, and give us the love to empower us to testify to others of Your Great Salvation.
- 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.
- P Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!

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Acknowledgments

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Servants in Worship

Preacher	Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Presiding Minister	Rev. Zach Sarrault
Assisting Minister	Rev. Alan Shaw
Assisting Minister	Kelsey Sarrault
Organist/Pianist	Michael Haertling
Lector	Brenda Peterson
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100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518 rlcary.org 919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org **RESPONSE** – *Welcome to the Family*



Messy Discipleship, 1: "Here I Am" (Isaiah 65:1-9) Proper 7, Series C

We begin a new sermon series today on Old Testament texts. Being "saints" and "sinners" at the same time is a messy business! Jesus enters the messes of this world and draws us to Himself. In Jesus, God says "Here I am!" In Jesus, God is ready to be found, by all. By those who are called by His name AND by those who aren't.

- "God, this place is a mess!" In Is 64, God's people seem to have a ______ about just how ______ the world has become. "Won't you rend the heavens and come down?" they ask. In our text, God seems, at first, to share their frustration. He seems to have His own list, too (65:2-7)!
- 2. But God's list of "messes" (which includes living in tombs, eating pigs' meat, etc.) seems foremost on Jesus' mind in our Gospel reading. There Jesus travels to a place where people not called by God's name live. He rescues a naked, demon-possessed man, a truly "messy" guy living in a tomb (Lk 8:27). Jesus' victory over evil here foreshadowed His ultimate victory first demonstrated during His wilderness temptation and ultimately carried out on the cross (Luke 4:1-13; 23:46). Jesus is God's "_____ [" for the world.
- 3. In the end, there is no distinction. All have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. God says, "I have been found by those who did not seek me;" (Is 65:1; Rom 10:19). Yes, there is judgement, but in the end, the messiness of the world does not result in God's ______...but with God's ______. By the Holy Spirit's leading we do not judge...and we no longer take God's grace to us for granted, either.
- 4. Come—together with those lists you make up and the frustrations you feel—come to the presence of God! God is here, whether you have called on Him or not. Ours is a _____ God, with _____ (65:2) for all the messy people of the world. He repeats the words of Isaiah, "Here I am!" (6:8) Here you and I are, too...to follow!