

Sacrifice Made Possible

Luke 14:25-35



THE ORDER OF THE DIVINE SERVICE
THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 4, 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

Jesus was born to walk the lonely path of the cross. Many people walked with Jesus as He journeyed to that cross but many of them did not stay with Him. We are called to walk with Him in faith – not some meandering stroll, but the walk of disciples who follow the Lord Jesus, where He has forged the way. We also pray that we may not wander away but endure to Eternal Life.

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

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

PRELUDE

Machs Mit Mir, Gott – J. Walther, J. Kittel

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.**

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

P See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. *(Deuteronomy 30:15)*
C **The LORD knows the way of the righteous.** *(Psalm 1:6)*

P Therefore choose life, loving the LORD your God. *(Deuteronomy 30:19)*
C **Blessed is the man whose delight is in the Law of the LORD.** *(Psalm 1:1-2)*

P Dearly beloved, in order that we may receive Life and good from God, we must first confess our ways of death and evil. Our sin constantly separates us from the Love of God and lures us to the way of loneliness and death. We confess our sin in the faith and hope of the promised forgiveness of our sin for the Sake of Jesus Christ.

C **I confess to Almighty God, and to you my brothers and sisters that I have sinned in my thoughts, words, and deeds, and chosen the way of death and evil. In sincere sorrow God's Gift of faith moves me to plead for forgiveness and the earnest desire to choose life and good for the Sake of Jesus Christ, my Lord.**

P Love the Lord your God, obey His Voice and hold fast to Him, for He is your Life.
(Deuteronomy 30:20)
As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I pronounce to You His Word and Promise: I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ 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 Merciful Lord, You did not spare Your Only Son but delivered Him up for us all.

C **Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 [ESV]

(The Lord calls upon His people to walk in His Ways and keep His Word.)

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.

¹⁶ If you obey the Commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in His Ways, and by keeping His Commandments and His Statutes and His Rules, then you shall live and multiply,

and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,

¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish.

You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.

¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse.

Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD

your God, obeying His Voice and holding fast to Him, for He is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM HYMN

The Man Is Ever Blessed

Psalm 1
LSB 705

**1. The man is ever blessed Who shuns the sinners’ ways,
Among their counsels never stands, Nor takes the scorners’ place,**

**2. But makes the Law of God His study and delight
Amid the labors of the day And watches of the night.**

**3. He like a tree shall thrive, With waters near the root;
Fresh as the leaf his name shall live, His works are heav’nly fruit.**

**4. Not so the wicked race, They no such blessings find;
Their hopes shall flee like empty chaff Before the driving wind.**

**5. How will they bear to stand Before the judgment seat
Where all the saints at Christ’s right hand In full assembly meet?**

**6. He knows and He approves The way the righteous go;
But sinners and their works shall meet A dreadful overthrow.**

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EPISTLE

Philemon 1-

21 [ESV]

(Paul's commends the slave Onesimus back to his master, not only as a slave but as a brother in the Lord.)

¹ Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ² and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers,

⁵ because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints,

⁶ and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the Sake of Christ.

⁷ For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸ Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹ yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—

¹⁰ I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment.

¹¹ (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.)

¹² I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart.

¹³ I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the Gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord.

¹⁵ For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever,

¹⁶ no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.

¹⁸ If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.

¹⁹ I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self.

²⁰ Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord.

Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

(Galatians 6:14)

C Alleluia. But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
Alleluia.

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 14:25-35 [ESV]

(Jesus speaks of the cost of discipleship and calls on those who would follow Him to deny themselves and take up the cross.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

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

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied Him,
and He turned and said to them,

²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me and does not
hate his own father and mother and wife
and children and brothers and sisters,
yes, and even his own life, he cannot be
My disciple.

²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross
and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

²⁸ For which of you, desiring to build a
tower, does not first sit down and count
the cost, whether he has enough to
complete it?

²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a
foundation and is not able to finish, all
who see it begin to mock him,

³⁰ saying, ‘This man began to build and
was not able to finish.’

³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter
another king in war,
will not sit down first and deliberate
whether he is able with ten thousand to
meet him who comes against him with
twenty thousand?

³² And if not, while the other is yet a great
way off, he sends a delegation and asks for
terms of peace.

³³ So therefore, any one of you who does
not renounce all that he has cannot be My
disciple.

³⁴ “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste,
how shall its saltiness be restored?

³⁵ It is of no use either for the soil or for
the manure pile.

It is thrown away.

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake

LSB 688

1. “Come, follow Me,” the Savior spake, “All in My way abiding;
Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding.
O bear the cross, whate’er betide, Take My example for your guide.
2. “I am the light, I light the way, A godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below.
3. “My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing;
And gracious words My lips express, With meekness overflowing.
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.
4. “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your soul’s salvation,
Your heart from ev’ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”
5. Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to His Word, In suff’ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain The crown of heav’nly life obtain.

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SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

SACRIFICE MADE POSSIBLE

Luke 14:25-35

Sermon Notes on Page 15

Commissioning of Troy Hirt as Stephen Ministry Leader

PRESENTATION

P Troy Hirt, you have been trained at a Stephen Series Leader's Training Course and have been asked to serve as Stephen Leader at Resurrection Lutheran Church. You are a gift of God to us, to lead us in this ministry of equipping and caring.

ADDRESS

(To the congregation)

P As Christians who are a part of the priesthood of all believers, all of us are called to offer ourselves to our Lord in thanksgiving for what God has done and continues to do for us in Jesus Christ. But it is also our privilege to recognize and support those who are trained for specific ministries in this congregation, especially today as we recognize and affirm this Stephen Leader who will direct the Stephen Ministry.

(To the Stephen Leader)

P Because of your gifts, your calling, and your training, we charge you with these responsibilities.

- ▶ To build awareness of our growing Stephen Ministry
- ▶ To solicit the commitment of this congregation to Stephen Ministry at every opportunity
- ▶ To recruit, select, and train thoroughly as Stephen Ministers those members of this congregation whose gift it is to share in this one-to-one caring ministry
- ▶ To use the resources of our community as appropriate to enrich the training and ongoing supervision of Stephen Ministry in this congregation
- ▶ To work with the Pastoral Office of this congregation to identify members who could benefit from this confidential caring ministry
- ▶ To assign the trained caregiver who most appropriately fits a person's need
- ▶ To supervise these confidential caring relationships and offer regular opportunities for continuing growth in the skills and practice of caring ministry

Vows

P Will you assume this ministry in the confidence that it comes from God?

R *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

P Will you nurture the skills you have learned and use them in service to others – to support, encourage, build up, and heal people in all their needs?

R *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

(To the congregation)

P Members of Resurrection Lutheran Church, will you open your hearts to the ministry of this Stephen Leader and pray for him as a servant of Christ?

If so, answer: *"Yes, with the help of God."*

C Yes, with the help of God.

PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, You have called Troy Hirt to lead us into new paths of this caring ministry. You have gifted and empowered him for this task. Grant him joy in his service and a spirit of bold trust in You, that his ministry may stir us to greater caring and more fruitful service. Help us all to be both willing servants and thankful recipients of this ministry, so that Your Name may be glorified, Your people live in peace, and Your Good and Gracious Will be done, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P May the Lord of the Church fill you with the Holy Spirit and guide, bless, and keep you, so that you may be faithful in the ministry to which you have been called, gifted, trained, and sent.

C Amen.

P Go in peace.

❖ 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*)
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 Sanctuary.)

OFFERING SONG

Take My Life and Let it Be

LSB 784

1. Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.
3. Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.
5. Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.
6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

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❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.
- C **Lord, grant that we may walk with Christ in the Heavenly Way, and follow where He has led by His obedient Life, Life-giving Death, and victorious Resurrection.**
- P Lord, bless the efforts of the Church, and all pastors and church workers to proclaim Jesus as the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Path to Life.
- C **Help us to not count any earthly possessions or relationships greater than our bond to Jesus Christ by Baptism and faith, that we may take up the cross and follow Him to Everlasting Life.**
- P Lord, guide the leaders of the nations of the world that they may work for peace and justice, and that in every place people may live without fear; and with the freedom to worship You, the Triune God.
- C **Give us strength of heart and faith that we may not lose our faith amid the pressures and stresses of this life, but remain true to Christ in all things.**
- P Lord, wherever Your people gather around Your Word, help them grow in knowledge, understanding, and faith, and be equipped for every good work that glorifies You.
- C **Prepare us, who come to the Table of the Lord, to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus and all the blessings that come to us in this blessed Communion.**
- 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.

❖ **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

MUSIC DURING THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Your Table I Approach

LSB 628

1. Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.
2. Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.
3. Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.
4. Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.
5. O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.
6. Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

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Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

LSB 707

**1. Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!**

**2. Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.**

**3. Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.**

**4. Make me to walk in Thy commands—'Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.**

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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.



HYMN

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

LSB 660

**1. Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.**

**2. Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey;
Stand forth in mighty conflict In this His glorious day.
Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.**

4. Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.

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POSTLUDE

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Preacher.....	Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Presiding Minister	Rev. Zach Sarrault
Assisting Minister.....	Rev. Alan Shaw
Organist/Pianist.....	Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry
Lector.....	Larry Cameron
Camera Operator.....	Garett Nigg
Live Stream Producer.....	Susan Moore

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Sacrifice Made Possible (Lk 14:25-35; 23:26)
13th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 18, Series C

Salt adds savory interest to food invisibly. Jesus' words about salt today accompany a sermon on discipleship. He implies His followers will make a difference in the world the way salt makes a difference in food. Can we stay salty on our own? Can we begin to make the sacrifices Jesus describes? No. But where we say "I can't" the Spirit of the risen Christ in us (who gave up His life on His cross for us) says "I already have."

1. **The Gospels Record a Man Named _____ Carrying _____ (23:26)**
 - a. There was nothing "salty" about Simon of Cyrene—at least not at first. His carrying of Jesus' cross was a job forced on him.
 - b. Was Simon chosen to carry a cross a job forced on him as a foreigner and outsider? He might be the last person expected to sacrifice for someone else.
2. **The Book of Acts Records People Like Simon Were Present at the _____ (Acts 2:10) and Received _____ through Baptism**
 - a. The Spirit of the risen Christ is poured out on the first disciples and those from Cyrene hear them speak "as if in [their] own tongues the mighty works of God"
 - b. Simon's sons Rufus and Alexander were known to St. Mark (Mark 15:21) and therefore were baptized Christians; through Simon, the gift of faith was passed down!
 - c. Through hardship (not earthly blessing) the early church was given to grow.
3. **Our Very Lives Record the Difficulty of _____**
 - a. Are we called to truly "hate" our families? Yes. (Though in its original context, this would have meant being called to love God first and our families second.)
 - b. Can we truly "count the cost" of discipleship? No. We can begin to do so, but that cost will always be more than we are ready for.
4. **Jesus' Cross is the Place Where an _____ Has Taken Place for Us and the People of the World!**
 - a. Jesus' death and resurrection mean that God has exchanged our sins and death with Christ's righteousness and life. We, the unsalty people of God have become flavorful!
 - b. By the Holy Spirit, our concern is less and less about our OWN flavor and more and more about how God is at work through all of us to make the world a tastier place!