



**Now
you have
received**

mercy.

1 PETER 2:10

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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919-851-7248 WWW.RLCARY.ORG

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. This month Resurrection will be celebrating forty two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today 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.

The Lessons and Liturgy Today

We enter God's Presence today and admit that we don't always embrace or live out the faith to which we have been called. Through Jesus' Life, Death, and Resurrection, God guarantees His Promises, Assurances, and Benefits for all who take up their cross and follow Jesus---the Way, the Truth, and the Life---to believe in God and to face without fear whatever may oppose and confront us.

THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
MAY 10, 2020 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PREPARING TO COME INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

Saints Bound for Heaven – arr. H. Helvey

Harmonia Deum

From Egypt's yoke set free; Hail the glorious jubilee.
And to Canaan we'll return, by and by.

Our bondage it shall end, by and by.
From Egypt's yoke set free; Hail the glorious jubilee.
And to Canaan we'll return, by and by.

Our Deliverer will come, by and by.
And our sorrows have an end, With our threescore years and ten,
And vast glory crown the day, by and by.

Though our enemies are strong, we'll go on.
Though our hearts dissolve with fear; Lo! Sinai's God is near,
While the fiery pillar moves, we'll go on.

And when from Jordan's flood, we are come.
Jehovah rules the tide, And the waters He'll divide,
And the ransomed host shall shout, "We are come."
By and by, We'll go on.

To listen click <https://bit.ly/2xF6orr>

WELCOME

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.

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

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB 465

1. Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
Set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day
That by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heavn'ly blessèd sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord,
To Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS

P Let us confess our sins to God, our Father, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, asking God to grant us forgiveness and peace.

C Lord Jesus, as we confess with our lips that You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we wrestle with embracing this reality in our hearts. We struggle to accept the way that You make for us through Your suffering and death on the cross. We struggle to accept the way You choose to come to us in simple water, bread, and wine. We struggle to accept the way of our own cross and suffering, and to believe that You are still with us. Forgive us; strengthen, renew, and lead us by Your Spirit as people who have been redeemed through the Resurrection.

- P "The Stone that the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone...a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."
- C **"They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do."**
- P But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His Own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him Who called you out of darkness into His Marvelous Light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." As a Called and ordained servant of Christ, In the Name of Jesus 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! Praise to the One who is the Beginning and the End, for He has made His people strong. Amen.**

SONG

Rock of Ages – R. Baloche

**There is no rock, there is no god like our God;
No other name worthy of all our praise
The Rock of Salvation that cannot be moved,
He's proven Himself to be faithful and true -
There is no rock, there is no god like ours**

Refrain

**Rock of Ages Jesus is the Rock
Rock of Ages Jesus is the Rock
Rock of Ages Jesus is the Rock
There is no rock there is no god like ours**

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SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
O God, You make the minds of your faithful to be of one will.
Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may remain where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

(Stephen is selected to serve, seized, and stoned.)

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the Word of God in order to wait on tables.

Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.

We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.

They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. So the Word of God spread.

The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. Now Stephen, a man full of God's Grace and Power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people.

Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia.

These men began to argue with Stephen, To this he replied:

"Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

"You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears!

You are just like your fathers:

You always resist the Holy Spirit!

Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute?

They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One.

And now you have betrayed and murdered Him—you who have received the Law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it."

When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to Heaven and saw the Glory of God, and Jesus standing at the Right Hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see Heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the Right Hand of God.” At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed

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

at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

PSALM

Psalm 146

(We, who put our hope in the Lord, are blessed.)

L Praise the LORD.
C **Praise the LORD, O my soul.**

L I will praise the LORD all my life;
C **I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.**

L Do not put your trust in princes, in mortal men, who cannot save.
C **When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

L Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
C **whose hope is in the LORD His God, the Maker of Heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—**

L the LORD, Who remains faithful forever.
C **He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.**

L The LORD sets prisoners free,
C **the LORD gives sight to the blind,**

L the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,
C **the LORD loves the righteous.**

L The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
C **but He frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

L The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.
C **Praise the LORD.**

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.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

(We are precious stones, built together into a spiritual house on the Foundation of Jesus Christ, the Living Stone.)

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is Good.

As you come to Him, the Living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him—

you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

*“See, I lay a Stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious Cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.”*

Now to you who believe, this Stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The Stone the builders rejected has become the Capstone.”

and,

*“A Stone that causes men to stumble
and a Rock that makes them fall.”*

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God,

that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful Light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Sonshine Singers

Rejoice, It's Easter Day – J. Reeves

To listen click <https://bit.ly/2W85PzA>

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, it's Easter Day!

With joyful hearts we gladly sing praises to our Risen King. Rejoice, it's Easter Day!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, it's Easter Day!

Oh hurry now, let's all go tell Christ is risen; all is well! Rejoice, it's Easter Day!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus is alive today! "Alleluia," all creation joins to say.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

(Jesus proclaims that He is the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.)

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

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

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God; trust also in Me.

In My Father's House are many rooms;
if it were not so, I would have told you.

I am going there to prepare a place for
you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I
will come back and take you to be with
Me that you also may be where I am.

You know the way to the place where I
am going.”

Thomas said to Him,

“Lord, we don't know where You are
going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered,

“I Am the Way and the Truth and the
Life. No one comes to the Father except
through Me.

If you really knew Me, you would know
My Father as well.

From now on, you do know Him and
have seen Him.”

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and
that will be enough for us.”

Jesus answered:

“Don't you know Me, Philip, even after I
have been among you such a long time?
Anyone who has seen Me has seen the
Father.

How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?
Don't you believe that I am in the Father,
and that the Father is in Me?

The words I say to you are not just My
Own.

Rather, it is the Father, living in Me,
Who is doing His Work.

Believe Me when I say that I am in the
Father and the Father is in Me;

or at least believe on the evidence of the
miracles themselves.

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

And I will do whatever you ask in My Name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.
You may ask Me for anything in My Name, and I will do it.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, Lord Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lea Webb

HYMN

You Are the Way; to You Alone

LSB 526

**1. You are the Way; through You alone
Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed
His Heart and Will and Mind.**

**3. You are the Life; the empty tomb
Proclaims Your Conqu'ring Arm,
And those who put their trust in You
Not death nor hell shall harm.**

**2. You are the Truth; Your Word alone
True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind
And purify the heart.**

**4. You are the Way, the Truth, the Life;
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win
Whose joys eternal flow.**

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SERMON

Socially Distant but Spiritually Close in Christ, 4: It's All About Jesus
Pastor Jonathan Blanke

I Peter 2:2-10

See Sermon Outline on Page 15

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

Cornerstone – R. Morgan

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly trust in Jesus' Name.
but wholly trust in Jesus' Name.
Refrain
Christ alone, Cornerstone;
Weak made strong in the Savior's love,
Thro' the storm He is LORD,
LORD of all.
2. When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil,
my anchor holds within the veil!
Refrain

Bridge

He is LORD, LORD of all

3. **When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found;
dress'd in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne!
faultless to stand before the throne!**

Refrain

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PRAYER FOR MOTHERS' DAY

- P** Most Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of human life from its very beginning in the womb. You have given to women the capacity and privilege of bringing new life into this world. In Your Will, grant that every woman may come to understand the full meaning of that blessing, which gives her the opportunity to reflect Your Selfless Love for every child she may be privileged to bear, and for all Your children everywhere.
- C** **Watch over every mother who is with child, strengthen her faith in Your Care and Love for her and for her unborn child.
Give her courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and doubt, and hope in times of trouble.
Grant her joy in the birth of her child.**
- P** To mothers You have given the great responsibility of being a child's first teacher and spiritual guide. Help mothers to grow daily in knowledge and understanding of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant them the wisdom to impart this knowledge faithfully to their children, and to all who depend upon them. We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to all mothers 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 mothers 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 motherhood. 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 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.

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

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.

SONG

[WOV 776]

Be Thou My Vision – arr. T. Cottrell

Harmonia Deum, Exodus and Congregation

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy Presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my True Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my Great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

To listen click <https://bit.ly/2YGN7kf>

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

OFFERING (The offerings of God's people will be received through electronic giving, and through the mail.)

SENDING MUSIC

My Lighthouse – Rend Collective

Harmonia Deum/Exodus

1. In my wrestling and in my doubts, In my failures, You won't walk out.
Your Great Love will lead me through You are the Peace in my troubled sea.
2. In the silence You won't let go. In the questions Your Truth will hold.
Your Great Love will lead me through You are the Peace in my troubled sea.

Chorus

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse, Shining in the darkness, I will follow You.
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse, I will trust the promise, You will carry me safe to shore.

3. I won't fear what tomorrow brings, With each morning I'll rise and sing:
My God's Love will lead me through. You are the Peace in my troubled sea.

Chorus

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse, Shining in the darkness, I will follow You.
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse, I will trust the promise, You will carry me safe to shore.

Bridge

Fire before us. You're the brightest. You will lead us through the storms. (4x)

Chorus

To listen click <https://bit.ly/35NkNyx>

Servants in Worship

Preacher – Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke

Liturgist – Vicar Alan Shaw

Assisting Minister – Lea Webb, Co-Director of Children and Family Ministry

Organist/Pianist/Vocals – Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry

Pianist/Vocals – Christopher Anderson Reed, Praise Worship Leader

Vocalists/Lectors – Ilea Kuo, Rebecca Melland-Kuo, Deb Oesterling

Video Editor – Ben Bipes

Acknowledgments

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Socially Distant but Spiritually Close in Christ, 4: It's All About Jesus

Easter 5 (1 Peter 2:1–10)

Part 4 of our 5-part series “socially distant but spiritually close in Christ” focuses on our new identity in Christ. No longer defined by a default “me-oriented” outlook toward one another and the world, we are freed to be people God’s Word says that we are in Christ as we declare “the excellencies of the one who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light” (10).




- I. “_____?” is a question many are asking
 - a. This is the month of May, and many graduates are considering future vocations
 - b. The coronavirus has many people wondering how to help...or maybe even just what life is truly all about
 - c. We are directed to the Word of God to consider our *God-given* identity; it’s not all about us
- II. A _____ is important for us.
 - a. Marvel and DC Comics demonstrate the yearning we have to be superheroes even though we truly have feet of clay: Think Iron Man, Captain America, etc.
 - b. Greek Philosophers before Jesus and educators after Him have tried to form young people to be “people of quality”: through sports, studies, and teaching right from wrong
 - c. Our new, God-given identity can’t be appreciated before first laying out our “default” identity: people of malice, deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, slander (2:1)
- III. Three important _____ convey our new identity as forgiven people of God:
 - a. *Newborn infants*: we are called to desire God’s pure, unadulterated Word as a tiny baby craves its mother’s milk: God’s Word shows us our sins but recreates faith in us that causes us to “grow up unto salvation” (2:2)
 - b. *Living stones*: we are built into a spiritual household on Jesus Christ, the Living Corner Stone and foundation for the ministry that we share with one another!
 - c. *A people for God’s own possession who have received mercy*: we are the fulfillment of God’s promise to Hosea and the people of Israel! See Hosea 1:10.
- IV. Whether as newborn infants, living stones, or people who have received mercy, as people made new in Christ we are given to report the _____ of our ____! (9)
 - a. My personal story and how God used me for a specific vocational purpose once I realized it “wasn’t all about me.”
 - b. It’s not about us...it’s all about Jesus and what Jesus through ordinary, forgiven sinners like us!
 - c. How can you approach your vocation (or search for your future vocation) as one given a *new* identity in Christ Jesus?



There are many opportunities to connect, serve, learn, and grow at Resurrection. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Subscribe to our YouTube channel for our worship services and other devotionals and encouraging words from Pastor Jonathan. We encourage you to join us as we reach out with the love of Christ – ***by grace, through faith, for service.***

How to Get Connected

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