



THE
ASCENSION

Luke 24:44-53

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 W. Lochmere Drive Cary, NC 27518
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

Today we celebrate Christ's ascension to the Right Hand of the Father. Ascension Day goes beyond Easter and assures us that our future is in the care of a gracious and powerful God. As Jesus departed from this earth and was welcomed into Heaven, so we too look forward to worshipping the Lamb upon His Throne with our endless Alleluias.

THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
FESTIVAL OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - MAY 24, 2020

PREPARING TO COME INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Heavenly Handbells

Rejoice, the Lord Is King – arr. K. McChesney

To listen click <https://bit.ly/3cP9Tuj>

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.

L In the Name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 1:1-11

(St. Luke relates how Jesus was taken up into Heaven.)

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day He was taken up to Heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles He had chosen.

After His Suffering, He showed Himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that He was alive.

He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the Kingdom of God.

On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the Gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about.

For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when they met together, they asked Him, "Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them:

"It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His Own Authority.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After He said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.

"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky?"

This same Jesus, Who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into Heaven."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

DIALOG

L Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

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

L Alleluia! Christ is ascended into Heaven! Alleluia!

C **And He will come again! Alleluia!**

L God has ascended amidst shouts of joy! Alleluia!
C **The Lord amid the sounding of the trumpets! Alleluia!**

L For Christ is King over all the earth! Alleluia!
C **Sing to Him a psalm of praise! Alleluia!**

L God reigns over the nations! Alleluia!
C **God is seated on His Holy Throne! Alleluia!**

L “People of Galilee, why do you stand here looking into the sky?
This same Jesus, Who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the
same way you have seen him go into heaven.”
C **Christ has died! Alleluia!**
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Christ will come again! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INTROIT

The Lord Goes Up – M. Archer

Sanctuary Choir

1. The Lord goes up with shouts of joy,
While trumpets all His Triumph tell;
With Him humanity is raised
Above angelic worlds to dwell.
2. He sits with God, at His Right Hand,
Who is the Lord of everything;
The Father’s Glory is His own;
Christ Jesus, all creation’s King.
3. And when He comes again in might,
To raise on that splendid Day,
We shall be gathered up to Him,
And every tear be wiped away.
4. O God, our Father, hear our prayer:
With Christ, our Lord, Your Only Son,
Send forth the Spirit of Your Love
To live in us and make us one. Alleluia!

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

CONFESSION OF SINS

L 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.**

L 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. 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.**

GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS

John 20:21-23

C Amen. Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE

King of All Ages, Throned on High – P. Isom

Sanctuary Choir

1. King of all ages, throned on high,
Yet Saviour too of those with faith,
Death at Your Onslaught died in fear
And grace triumphant rules supreme.
2. Risen from death the Heavenly Christ
Receives from God the Father's Hand
Power over all created things:
A gift He could not know on earth.
3. Then at Your Coming on the clouds
With shining strength to be our Judge,
Cancel the debt we owe You still,
Give back the glory we have lost.
4. Glory to You, O Christ our Lord,
Exalted far beyond our sight,
Reigning with Them forevermore,
With Father and with Paraclete. Amen.

To listen click <https://bit.ly/2z60rVi>

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Let us pray.

L Lord of time and eternity, as we observe with rejoicing the day on which Your Son, Jesus Christ, ascended and was received at Your Right Hand; grant us Your Grace that we may journey in peace, and with joy, from earth to Your Glorious Presence in Heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15-23

(Jesus has dominion over all things for all time.)

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,

I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation, so that you may know Him better.

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the Hope to which He has called you, the riches of His Glorious Inheritance in the saints,

and His Incomparably Great Power for us who believe. That Power is like the working of His Mighty Strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His Right Hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

And God placed all things under His Feet and appointed Him to be Head over everything for the Church, Which is His Body, the Fullness of Him Who fills everything in every way.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia – R. Manuel

Sanctuary Choir

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

(Jesus ascends into Heaven.)

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

Then He said to them, “These are My Words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things.

And behold, I am sending the Promise of My Father upon you.

But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His Hands He blessed them.

While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into Heaven.

And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Vicar Alan Shaw

HYMN

A Hymn of Glory Let us Sing – arr. R. Bruening

LSB 493

1. A hymn of glory let us sing!

New hymns throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. The holy apostolic band

Upon the Mount of Olives stand.

Alleluia, alleluia!

And with His faithful foll’wers see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. To them the shining angels cry,
“Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”
Alleluia, alleluia!
“This is the Savior,” thus they say;
“This is His glorious triumph day!”
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5. Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise Your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. “You see Him now, ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia, alleluia!
“Hereafter Jesus you shall see
Returning in great majesty.”
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6. O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to You let earth accord:
Alleluia, alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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SERMON

Moving from the Temple to the World
Luke 24:44-53

Vicar Alan Shaw

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

LSB 717

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.
2. O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain,
O'er which our traffic runs amain
By mountain pass or valley low;
Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,
Protect them by Thy guarding hand
From ev'ry peril on the land.
3. O Spirit, whom the Father sent
To spread abroad the firmament;
O Wind of heaven, by Thy might
Save all who dare the eagle's flight,
And keep them by Thy watchful care
From ev'ry peril in the air.
4. O Trinity of love and pow'r,
Our people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea.

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PRAYER FOR THE ARMED FORCES

- L Lord God, You have sustained our nation in the past and continue to bless us. We recall how so many have given their lives for the cause of freedom. Men and women continue to sacrifice and serve in the armed forces. Today, we pause to reflect and honor those who gave or who continue to sacrifice so much in the defense of our freedom to be faithful.
- C **We remember the great courage and selfless service of so many throughout history who have answered the call to serve. We remember their honorable sacrifice for the freedom of others. Comfort the families who mourn the loss of loved ones. Comfort also those who suffer permanent injuries as a result of serving our nation in the military.**

- L We remember with thankfulness the millions of Americans who give so generously of their life and labor in times of national conflict, particularly the family members of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen.
- C **We are grateful for the devotion and sacrifices of military families. Grant us the resources and willing hearts to support them.**

ANNIVERSARY PRAYER AND RE-DEDICATION

- L 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.**
- L Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for bringing Resurrection Lutheran Church to its 42nd 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.**
- L 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.**
- L 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

- L 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:

L Lord, in Your Mercy,
C **Hear our prayer.**

L 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

L 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

See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph – arr. C. Schalk **LSB 494, vs 1-2, 5 (Tune: LSB 578)**

1. See, the Lord ascends in triumph;
Conqu'ring King in royal state,
Riding on the clouds, His chariot,
To His heav'nly palace gate.

Hark! The choirs of angel voices
Joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted
To receive their heav'nly King.

**2. Who is this that comes in glory
With the trump of jubilee?
Lord of battles, God of armies,
He has gained the victory.
He who on the cross did suffer,
He who from the grave arose,
He has vanquished sin and Satan;
He by death has crushed His foes.**

**5. He has raised our human nature
On the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heav'nly places,
There with Him in glory stand.
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne.
By our mighty Lord's ascension
We by faith behold our own.**

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L Alleluia! 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.)

POSTLUDE

Old North State Brass

Rejoice! – R. D. Burkhardt

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

Acknowledgments

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Servants in Worship

Preacher – Vicar Alan Shaw

Liturgist – Rev. Jon Richter

Lector – MaryAnn Unger, Co-Director of Children and Family Ministry

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

Pianist/Vocalist – Christopher Anderson Reed, Praise Worship Leader

Vocalists – Rebecca Melland-Kuo, Sonja Stirplin




Video Editor – Ben Bipes



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.***

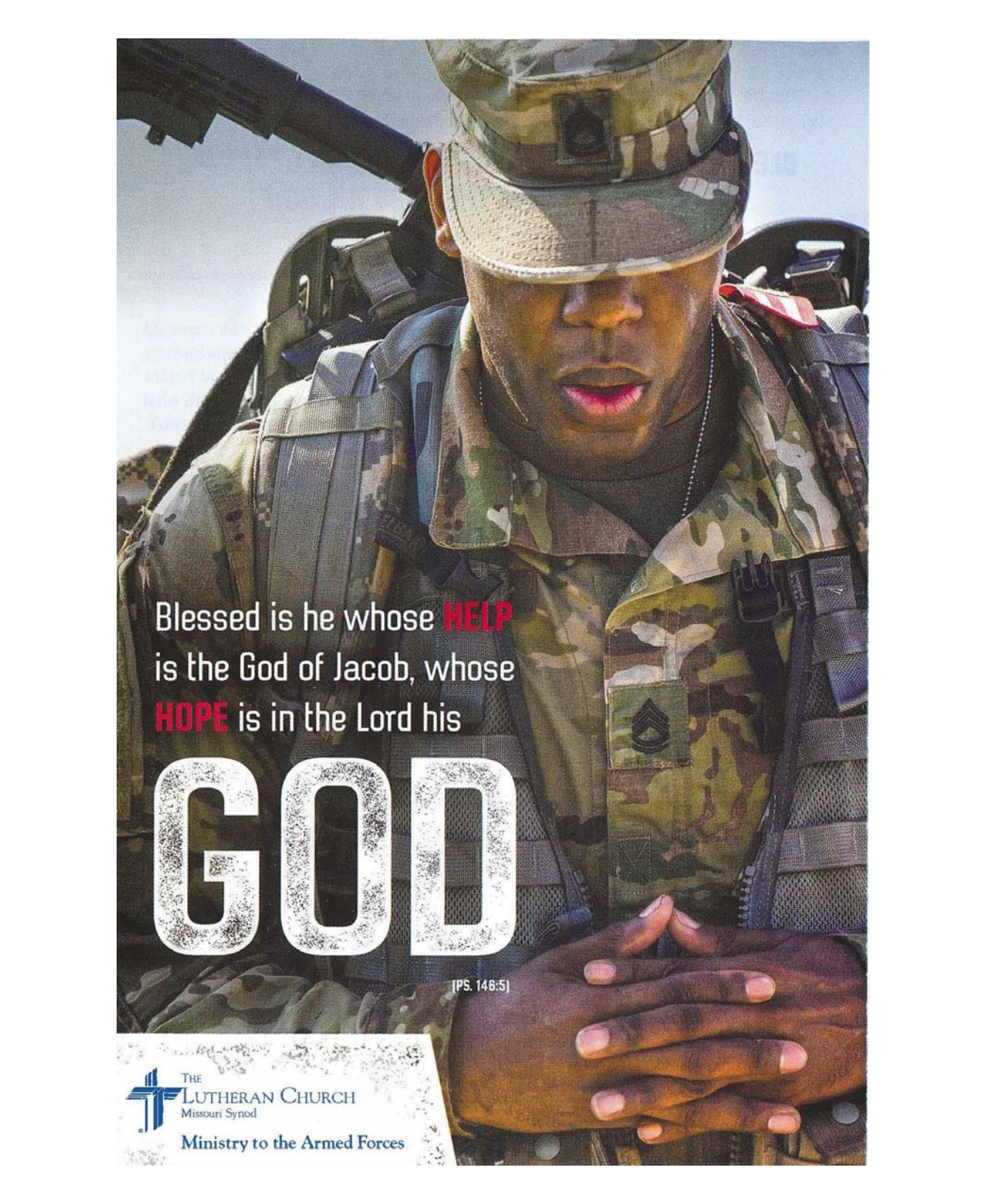
How to Get Connected

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Blessed is he whose **HELP**
is the God of Jacob, whose
HOPE is in the Lord his

GOD

(PS. 146:5)



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Ministry to the Armed Forces

“Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

**BLESSED IS HE WHOSE HELP IS THE GOD OF JACOB,
WHOSE HOPE IS IN THE LORD HIS GOD”**

(PS. 146:3-5).

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I want to personally thank you for your most generous and kind gift to our LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces to provide Lutheran spiritual support to all those who serve or have served our nation in uniform. THANK YOU! You are a blessing!

As I write this, I just saw an update that we now have eight LCMS chaplains deployed overseas and in harm's way, where they are providing pastoral care to our brave men and women who selflessly serve our nation. We will never forget all those who sacrifice so much to protect those freedoms we enjoy.

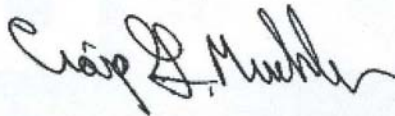
Through it all, Ministry to the Armed Forces is there with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That is the message we also bring to all our veterans and their families. Our courageous service members and veterans need support from their church to keep them spiritually fit and to assist in protecting their religious liberties. We need to stand up, support and defend them. They need good chaplains who will bring them the Word of God, even in combat situations and austere locations. They need good devotional materials to nourish and feed them when there is no chaplain nearby. They need someone to defend their religious liberties even as they protect our freedoms with their lives, if necessary. The men and women who selflessly volunteer

to serve our nation should not be expected or forced to abandon their religious liberties. Your LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces is ready and able to provide them with what they need to be spiritually fit, but we can't do it without your help.

Ministry to the Armed Forces is only supported by designated financial donations sent by people like you. Your sincere Christian care for our service members and their families is greatly appreciated. Your generous act of love through your donation to LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces will ensure that we can continue to provide Gospel-centered materials and support to our service members and their families for years to come. Thank you!

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil” (Eph. 6:10-11).

In Christ's Service,



Chaplain Craig G. Muehler
CAPT, CHC, USN (Retired)
Director, LCMS Ministry to
the Armed Forces

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MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL: //

- » **HELP SUPPORT THE RECRUITING, TRAINING AND ENDORSING** of our LCMS military chaplains. We have numerous chaplains who serve on active duty, the Reserve component, the National Guard, the Civil Air Patrol and the Coast Guard auxiliary. Your gift will ensure they receive valuable Lutheran resources, training, support and religious-liberty protection that they desperately need during these challenging times.
- » **HELP SUSTAIN OPERATION BARNABAS** – a network of care that trains and equips LCMS congregations and individuals to assist all military-connected people within our congregations and communities in getting the support and assistance they need. Learn how you can get involved by visiting operationbamabas.org.
- » **HELP ENABLE THE MINISTRY-BY-MAIL PROGRAM TO CONTINUE** as we send Lutheran devotional materials and resources (including *Portals of Prayer*) to all Lutheran military personnel and their families stationed around the world. Please email military contact information to lcmschaps@lcms.org.
- » **HELP FUND THE TRAVEL EXPENSES** for chaplains and their wives to attend annual training seminars. These seminars allow them to reconnect, network and receive pastoral care and support from their church — things they need and deserve.
- » **HELP GROW A SPECIAL ENDOWMENT FUND** that enables our chaplains to complete a Doctor of Ministry degree to sharpen their skills.



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