



“A farmer went out to sow his seed”

Matthew 13:3

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 May, Resurrection celebrated 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, in the church parking lot, or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

The Lessons and Liturgy Today

Our gracious God sends His Word into our hearts. Although at times we allow temptations and the cares of this world speak louder to us than the Gospel, He continues to come to us. God, our Welcoming Father, receives us as His children in Jesus Christ. As we are saints and sinners at the same time, we need God's Help to respond to His Word and His Love for us. Our Baptism assures us of the promise that our Heavenly Father will listen whenever we call out, "Abba, Father!"

THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 12, 2020, 9:00 A.M.

+ PREPARATION +

PRELUDE

Slane - P. Manz

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 God's Word "shall not return to [Him] empty," but "the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches [can] choke the Word, and it proves unfruitful.

C **But we "did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but . . . have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by Whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'"**
(Isaiah 55:11; Matthew 13:22; Romans 8:15)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us then confess our sins to God, our Heavenly Father.

C **We confess, Heavenly Father, that we have failed to study the truth of Your Word, thereby enabling Satan to easily snatch It from our conscious thinking and daily living. Forgive us.**
We confess, Heavenly Father, that we have let difficulties and conflict compete with Your Word, thereby keeping It from growing deep within us. Forgive us.
We confess, Heavenly Father, that we have worried about our future and ignored Your promises. Forgive us.
Open our hearts and minds so that we may again receive the joyful news of Your Forgiveness for Jesus' Sake.

P Through the death and resurrection of His Only-Begotten Son, our Heavenly Father has fulfilled His Promise that His Word shall always be effective. He has removed the power of everything that would keep you from receiving His Love and Forgiveness; by the Grace of God you are good soil! 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

LSB 901 vs. 1, 3-4

1. **Open now thy gates of beauty;
 Zion, let me enter there,
 Where my soul in joyful duty
 Waits for Him who answers prayer.
 Oh, how blessed is this place,
 Filled with solace, light, and grace!**

3. **Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;
 Here Thy seed is duly sown.
 Let my soul, where it is planted,
 Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
 So that all I hear may be
 Fruitful unto life in me.**

4. Thou my faith increase and quicken;
Let me keep Thy gift divine,
Howsoe'er temptations thicken;
May Thy Word still o'er me shine
As my guiding star through life,
As my comfort in all strife.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank You for planting in us the seed of Your Word.

C **By Your Holy Spirit help us receive It with joy, live according to It, and grow into the full maturity of Christ, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO PAT SMITH ENTERING RETIREMENT

P Beloved in the Lord, Pat Smith is retiring as a teacher at Resurrection Lutheran School. At this time of farewell and Godspeed, let us hear the Word of the Lord.

L I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 1:3-8*)

P Let us pray.

Lord God, Heavenly Father, we give thanks for all the blessings You have bestowed on this congregation through the faithful service of Pat Smith, teacher at Resurrection Lutheran School. Grant that her example of faithful devotion to Your Word, and loving service to others, may, by Your Grace, be a blessing and encouragement to many.

P Your Mercy support and strengthen her in her retirement, and grant her Your Peace and blessedness now and forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 55:10-13

(God's Word will always be effective.)

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is My Word that goes out from My Mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent It.

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow.

This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 65:1-13

(A prophet is truly from the Lord if their predictions of peace come true.)

L Praise awaits You, O God, in Zion; to You our vows will be fulfilled.

C **O You Who hear prayer, to You all men will come.**

L When we were overwhelmed by sins,

C **You forgave our transgressions.**

L Blessed are those You choose and bring near to live in Your Courts!

C **We are filled with the good things of Your House, of Your Holy Temple.**

L You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior,

C **the Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,**

L Who formed the mountains by Your Power, having armed Yourself with strength,
C **Who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.**

L Those living far away fear Your Wonders; where morning dawns and evening fades
You call forth songs of joy.
C **You care for the land and water it; You enrich it abundantly.**

L The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so
You have ordained it.
C **You drench its furrows and level its ridges; You soften it with showers and bless its crops.**

L You crown the year with Your Bounty, and Your carts overflow with abundance.
C **The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness.**

L The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain;
C **they shout for joy and sing.**
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.

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12–17

(By virtue of our Baptism we can call out to God, “Abba, Father!”)

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship.

And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father."

The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's Children.

Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His Sufferings in order that we may also share in His Glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Isaiah 40:8

C Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

(The Power of God's Word)

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around Him that He got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then He told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. He who has ears, let him hear.

Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the Message about the Kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the Word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the Word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke It, making It unfruitful. But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the Word and understands It. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE MaryAnn Unger, Co-Director of Children and Family Ministry

HYMN

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

LSB 577

1. Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

3. Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.

2. Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

4. So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

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SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

God's Generous Sowing...Our Fruit

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

See Sermon Outline on page 13

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,
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.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

LSB 738

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4. **Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Gracious God, we give You glory and thanksgiving for all Your Gifts, but especially for Your Gift of Salvation through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Whose Blood has set us free to be people of God.

Give to Your whole Church in Heaven and on earth Your Light and Joy.

C **We pray especially for Your Holy Church on earth, all Your people who gather around Your Word and Sacraments. Keep all of us from despair as we turn to You for help. Save us from sinful conflict. Teach us the joyful hymn of all creation that rejoices in Your Deliverance, Peace, and Life.**

P Among the nations, O God, inspire the rule of justice and the ways of peace in those entrusted with positions of leadership. May all in authority bow in obedient praise, ascribing to You all power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory.

C **This is the Feast of Victory to which Your Son has invited us to receive the forgiveness, life, and salvation of Eternal Life through His Body and Blood. Hear our prayers for help and make us worthy to receive Your Gifts.**

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 O Lord Jesus Christ, in giving us Your Body to eat and Your Blood to drink, You lead us to remember Your Holy Birth, Your Life of Teaching and Healing, Your Passion, Death, and Resurrection, and Your Promise to return. So 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.

DISMISSAL BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body
and soul to Life Everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
C Amen.

PRAYER

P O God the Father, Source of Life and Sustainer of all living things, Who sent Your
Son, the Word, into the flesh, we thank You that for His Sake You have
strengthened our faith through this Sacrament so that we may hear Your Word over
the voices of the devil, the world, and our sinful selves.
C By Your Holy Spirit, enable us to constantly call out to You, “Abba, Father,”
opening our hearts and minds to the seed of Your Word, which shall not
return to You without accomplishing that for which You sent it;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.

HYMN

On What Has Now Been Sown

LSB 921

1. On what has now been sown

Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
The pow'r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow.
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!

2. To Thee our wants are known,

From Thee are all our pow'rs;
Accept what is Thine own
And pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
And to Thy Word a blessing give.

3. O grant that each of us,

Now met before Thee here,
May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

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P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

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

POSTLUDE

Slane - C. Ore

Acknowledgments

Portions of the liturgy from *CREATIVE WORSHIP for the Lutheran Parish*® Concordia Publishing House. UBP

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Servants in Worship

Preacher – Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke

Liturgist – Vicar Alan Shaw

Lector – Tim LaCroix

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

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

Vocalists – Ilea Kuo, Rebecca Melland-Kuo

God's Generous Sowing...Our Fruit Proper 10 (Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23)

Today we embark on a brief look, over three Sundays, at Jesus' parables. We begin with the parable of the sower. The seed of God's Word, sown + the gift of good soil worked by the Holy Spirit = our bearing of fruit. The fruit we bear will be different, depending on the person, but the fact of our bearing fruit is the result of God's "over-the-top" generosity!

- I. What is a parable of Jesus, and why does it matter? Jesus' parables are stories or images that say something about _____ among us.
 - a. When the Scriptures speak about God's kingdom ("Thy kingdom come," etc.) they are speaking not about a place, but an *action* of God.
 - b. What is this action? To send God's Son Jesus to deliver us from the power of the Adversary and to bring us to Himself (*LC*, "Lord's Prayer," 51).
- II. The Parable of the Generous Farmer Part 1 (13:1-9): The One sowing seed is _____ in the _____!
 - a. Jesus' listeners and first followers were likely familiar with the organic imagery in the Scriptures detailing God's promise through Isaiah the prophet that "[God's] Word...will accomplish whatever [God] wants" (Isaiah 55:10-11).
 - b. The parable emphasizes God's ridiculous generosity in sowing His Word even where it was unlikely to produce any fruit at all.
- III. The Parable of the Generous Farmer Part 2, Explanation (13:18-23): God's generosity results in His Word bearing fruit in _____-nourished _____!
 - a. The Adversary or "evil one" attempts to discourage the bearing of fruit by taking or "snatching" away God's Word.
 - b. A momentary or short-term tuning into God's Word opens up the listener to the risk of "falling away" when times of trial inevitably come.
 - c. Anxiety "crowds out" the promises and peace that God's Word brings.
 - d. But Jesus has overcome the evil one! Jesus endures in us when our attention on God's Word falters! Jesus brings peace with which no measure of "positivity" can compare! His victory is ours through the gift of His Spirit!
- IV. God's generosity resulted in the gift of Jesus...the _____ that _____ in bad soil...yet bears much _____ (John 12:24)!
 - a. How might you be generous with God's Word and God's mercy even when it appears your efforts are "wasted"?

How will the generosity of One who, though He wants our hearts to be good soil, will nevertheless spread the gift of His Word on the sun-baked, thorny, dead soil of our hearts impact you this week?

IGNITE - Middle School Youth

Food Drive

July 1st - July 15th

We need
Your Help!

Benefitting Western Wake Crisis Ministry & NC Food Bank



IGNITE - Middle School Youth Group has individually been collecting non-perishable items during the past couple of months for the local food banks, but the need is great so we could use your help.

How to help....

Donate non-perishable food items or monetary donation (attn: IGNITE Food Drive)

Drop off in buckets outside church office

on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (9:30-3:00)

or we can schedule a pickup on your porch (no contact pickup)

Please contact LeAnn Trautman for question or pickup. leann.trautman@rlcary.org

Baking products (flour, sugar, oil)
Canned beans
Canned fruit
Canned pasta (Chef Boyardee)
Canned protein (tuna, chicken)
Canned vegetables

Cereal
Dried beans
Dried pasta
Macaroni and cheese
Pasta sauce (Ragu, Hunts)
Peanut butter




Ramen noodles
Rice
Soup
Tomato products
(diced, whole, sauce)
Toilet paper



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

Social Media

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