

First Sunday in Advent

November 27, 2022



Pastor's Corner for November 27-December 3

A "Different" Donkey for Christmas (Matthew 21:1-11)

One of the most famous animals associated with every Nativity Play is... the donkey. The lowly donkey was the beast of burden, led by Joseph, that carried the expecting Mary roughly 100 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem, right? I mean, once Joseph, Mary, and the baby are discovered by shepherds on that first Christmas night it seems only logical that the donkey from Nazareth would have been happy to bury his muzzle in some of the hay Mary used to make Jesus' first bed. No Christmas creche would be complete without that donkey in the background. And of course, when the Holy Family travels to Egypt to escape the bloodthirsty King

Herod, there we can expect to see Jesus, Mary, Joseph and... you guessed it... the donkey somewhere in the picture! It is entirely possible— perhaps even likely— that a donkey would have had a major part to play in the swirl of events taking place in connection with the first Christmas. But you won't find a donkey mentioned anywhere in the parts of the Bible that tell us the story of the first Christmas. Not before Jesus was born... not at His birth... not in conjunction with the trip to Egypt. Nowhere.

Still, there IS a donkey we get for Christmas, every year: the donkey in the story we usually associate with Palm Sunday. The gospel reading for every first Sunday in the season of Advent is, in fact, the story of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem before his arrest, trial, and crucifixion. This lowly donkey was the sign that the promised King and Savior of Israel had arrived: "Look, your King is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey" (Zech. 9:9; Matt. 21:5). Jesus did not wear a king's crown, ride on an impressive stallion, or live in a fancy castle. An ordinary donkey was the only sign needed to demonstrate the One entering Jerusalem to die for the sins of the world would be the promised king...a king who would reign in the hearts of His people! His sacrificial love and perfect sacrifice for us give us reason to have hope for the future. Our celebration of Christmas begins not with the manger, but with the cross.

As we begin this season of Advent, we focus again on our need for the sort of Savior who aligns Himself not with the ordinary trappings of power, but with the lowly donkey. We pray again, in 2022: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Thank You for Sharing Your Pledges!

Thanks to the involvement of so many of you, I'm happy to report that in association with our Stewardship Weekend earlier this month we received pledges from a total of 110 households in 2022 (compared to a total of 67 in 2021). If you would still like to take part in submitting an anonymous pledge to RLC for 2023, we invite you to continue to do so electronically by submitting a brief form online here (scroll down on that linked page to the "Pledge Form"). The purpose of your pledge is not for our own church budgeting or fundraising efforts. It is for your own Christian walk. We thank God for all of you as we serve our amazing God together.

Peace and joy in Him,
Pastor Jonathan

Happy Thanksgiving!

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25. On November 27, no Sunday School for children and adults.

Prayers of the Church



Thanksgiving
S E R V I C E

Wednesday, November 23 at 7:00 pm

We gather for worship on the eve of this national Day of Thanksgiving with joyful hearts, and we raise our hymns and prayers in gratitude to God for an abundance of blessings. God, in His Grace, has given us all that we need for body and soul. We respond with thanksgiving, recognizing that all we have is from His Grace.

Join us in the Sanctuary for Worship and Holy Communion!

We will be collecting food donations for Western Wake Crisis Ministry.

View the live stream on [our YouTube channel](#).

There will be no other Wednesday night activities held.

Christmas Store

There are many families who do not have adequate resources to purchase gifts for their children at Christmastime. They find themselves struggling just to make ends meet for the necessities of life. Following instructions of Jesus, the Christmas Store is designed to help families in the towns and cities of southern Wake County who are in need during the holidays.

Families are referred to the Christmas Store by Western Wake Crisis Ministry, Dorcas Ministries, Fuquay Varina Emergency Food Pantry, and Holly Springs Food Cupboard. Throughout the year, these organizations work with people who are in crisis situations resulting from a lack of resources. They refer clients with children 14 years of age or younger to register for the Christmas Store. Once items are received and ready, clients are able to “shop” for 3 gifts for each child registered.

So let's help stock the Christmas Store! Here at Resurrection Lutheran Church, we place Christmas trees with gift tags in the Narthex and Family Life Center. Please pick up a tag (or two!), purchase the items, then place the unwrapped toy with tag attached back under the tree.

Another way to help is by purchasing toys online at your favorite retailer and have them delivered directly to United Church, 820 East Williams Street, Apex NC 27502. For gift idea lists by age and gender, [visit their Amazon page here](#).

All toy donations are due by Sunday, November 27.

For more information, visit the Christmas Store's website at ChristmasStoreNC.com or Facebook page at [TheChristmasStore](https://www.facebook.com/TheChristmasStore).



Meeting Notice

Voter's Meeting

Sunday, December 11 at 1:00 pm
Family Life Center Gym

Agenda Includes 2022-23 Council Members Elections

Final Call for DCE Candidate Submissions

Members of the DCE Call Committee (Dan Shaltanis - Chair, Jamee Thieme, Angela York, Jamie Measmer, Scott Ferguson) met on November 15th to determine which method to pursue a DCE for our congregation. The group decided to focus on calling an experienced DCE. With this in mind, the committee is seeking names for which we can add to our growing list of candidates. If you know someone or know of someone able to fill this call, please send the name to any committee member by November 29th.



She will bear a son,
and you shall call
his name Jesus.

for he will save his people
from their sins.

Matthew 1:21

Advent Worship Services

November 27 ~ 1st Sunday in Advent

November 30 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm

Hanging of the Greens in Sanctuary (children and family focused service)

December 4 ~ 2nd Sunday in Advent

featuring St. Francis Brass Band in Sanctuary at 9:30 am service only

December 7 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm

Holden Evening Prayer Service in Sanctuary

December 11 ~ 3rd Sunday in Advent

December 14 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm

featuring Old North State Brass in Sanctuary

December 18 ~ 4th Sunday in Advent

Christmas Music Festival, *What Sweeter Music*, in Sanctuary
featuring Festival Chorus accompanied by a full orchestra
at the 8:00 am and 9:30 am services

December 21 ~ Wednesday, 6:00 pm
Christmas Carol Celebration in Circle Entrance (family friendly)

Worship Times, unless noted:

Saturday 6:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and Praise 11:00 am

Advent devotions are available in the Narthex and Family Life Center lobby.

Please note change in schedule on Wednesdays during Advent, mid-week worship
in the Sanctuary starts at 6:00 pm and all classes will run from 6:45-7:30 pm.

Women's Bible Study ~ Advent of the Savior
Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm from November 14-December 19

Join us for this six-session LifeGuide® Bible Study which will introduce you to the
circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus, remind you of God's faithfulness and
power to fulfill his promises, and draw you more deeply into the love that brought
Christ to earth.

We will meet in person and have a Zoom option available. Books are available
through Amazon and christianbook.com. A digital version is also available through
Amazon. For more information, contact Jamee Thieme through RCB.

Bagel Bunch

With the cooler weather, the Bagel Bunch has moved inside to the back room of IHOP (1301 Kildaire Farm Road, Cary). Join the men of RLC for breakfast and fellowship on **Tuesdays, 7:30-8:45 am!** Questions? Contact Lyle Malotky.

Pizza Night

Join us *one* Wednesday night per month in the Family Life Center for pizza!



Everyone is invited. Pizza Night will be on **December 7 from 5:30-6:00 pm**. Cost is \$2 per slice. You can pay at the door but must have order placed by Tuesday, December 6. Click [HERE](#) to make your reservation.

Please note change in schedule on Wednesdays during Advent, mid-week worship in the Sanctuary starts at 6:00 pm and all classes will run from 6:45-7:30 pm.

Thank You!

We would like to say thank you to everyone who helps with our Food and Fellowship for the Blind events. We appreciate our dedicated kitchen volunteers and drivers who make these special dinners possible. Our guests are grateful for the opportunity to spend time with us and one another.

Last Friday was our last Blind Ministry event for the year. We will resume again in January. If interested in joining us, contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy.

The Coffeehouse Thank You!

Thank you to all of our volunteers who made our Coffeehouses so special this year! We were able to have 9 of them and we were so happy to do so. Our special needs guests love to come, and we need lots of volunteers to make them feel special and loved. Also, thank you to *Reign!* for your great music.

Our next Coffeehouse will be on Friday, January 20, 2023. Please mark your calendars. Thanks again! Any questions can be directed to Brenda Peterson.



Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children's Ministry Director,
at erika.hulse@rlcary.org.

Student Ministry

Middle School and High School



Questions? Contact Jenny Piontek, Youth Director, at jenny.piontek@rlcary.org.

Resurrection Lutheran PRESCHOOL
Invites you to
Transitional-Kindergarten (T-K) Informational Sessions

We are pleased to offer the following sessions for families to learn more about RLP's T-K program. Attendance is totally optional and not required in order to register for T-K. Sessions on Tues. 11/29 & Th. 1/5 will have the same information.

T-K from a PARENT's PERSPECTIVE

Tuesday, November 29th @7:00 pm

T-K Room #112

- Hear first-hand benefits and reasons for 'gifting an extra year' to your child (including down the road- 3rd grade, middle/high school, college).
 - Conversation with former T-K parents for families "weighing options" and "on-the-fence" regarding sending a child to T-K vs. kindergarten.
 - Wake County Kindergarten teacher shares expectations of students & a typical 'day in the life of a kindergartner.'
 - Opportunity for conversation with RLP's T-K teachers about our program.
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T-K TEACHERS Session

Thursday, January 5th @12:30 pm

T-K Room #112

Opportunity for conversation about our program with our T-K teachers in their classroom.

T-K from a PARENT's PERSPECTIVE

Thursday, January 5th @7:00 pm

T-K Room #112

- Hear first-hand benefits and reasons for 'gifting an extra year' to your child (including down the road- 3rd grade, middle/high school, college).
 - Conversation with former T-K parents for families "weighing options" and "on-the-fence" regarding sending a child to T-K vs. kindergarten.
 - Wake County Kindergarten teacher shares expectations of students & a typical 'day in the life of a kindergartner.'
 - Opportunity for conversation with RLP's T-K teachers about our program.
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Is My Child Ready for Kindergarten?

Tuesday, January 10th @7:00 pm

Fellowship Hall at RLP

Wake Co. Kindergarten teachers share expectations of students & a typical 'day in the life of a kindergartner.'

office@rlpcary.org

919.851.7270

Resurrection Lutheran School

The Holiday Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way! We are so excited to offer this fun event for our students and families during the Christmas season! Students will have the opportunity to shop with their classes during the school day, and parents and family are welcome to come and shop for their kids, friends, and family anytime during the hours below. And remember, all sales benefit our school and students by earning rewards for RLS classroom book purchases.

Monday, November 28 - Friday, December 2

8:30-11:30 am and 2:00-4:00 pm

Room 151, Family Life Center



Resurrection Lutheran School | 919-851-7271 | rlscary.org

Latest Lion's Tale

WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional Worship
in Sanctuary
Saturday, 6:00 pm
Sunday, *8:00 & 9:30 am

Praise Worship
in Family Life Center
Sunday, *11:00 am

**Services Live Streamed to YouTube*

Online Worship Bulletins

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC
or through our website at
rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

Visual Faith for November 23

Visual Faith for November 27

Attendance and Giving

Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

rlcary.org

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

Prayers of the Church – November 27, 2022

*Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.
Hebrews 4:16*

We lift the following prayer requests this week:

Ongoing Prayers

*Diane Cuper, *Eve Sommers, *David Brooks, *Anne Altieri, *Charlotte Raines, *Eric Hammergren, *Anita Moore, *John Shaeffer, *Vern Ebert, *Aaron, Marcus, *Malcolm, *Sandy Nigg, Henry Otten, Michael Flannery, *Helen Campbell, *Lena Licciardi, Paul Batt, Peter and Esther Kuo, *Geoffrey Wiggins, Marc and Elizabeth Langefeld's Baby Adoption, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai, Beverly Kunitsky, Mattie Corbett

Ongoing Cancer Treatments

*Mike Allen, Anne Price, *Gary Ferro, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Roseanne Candiello, Jackie, Linda H., Kathy Siemon, Scott Brinkley, *Bill Xenakis, Linda, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Glenn Wagner, Pamm Haley, Judy Dean, Bryan Reilly, Bob, Cheryl Schlage

For Expectant Moms

Linka, Laura Bembick

Those Prayed for on November 13, 2022

Thanking God Today

- Safe Travels
- Our RLC Family
- Family Celebrations and Time Together, Anniversaries, Birthdays
- Jackson Buser, Recovery of Health
- *Bill Xenakis, Good Results from Recent Treatment
- Our Many Blessings

For Healing

- *Becky Berger
- *Kim Goss
- *Paul Shaw, Recovery and Rehab
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID
- Blind Ministry Guests - Maria Barker, Judy Dean, Sheila McNair
- Deaconess Sally Hiller, Recovery and Restoration
- *Brendan Nigg
- Terry Park

- *Marty Stephani, Knee Treatment
- *Suzi Heffner, Recovery
- Randi, Bill, Bernice, Patti, Ted, Alice, Richard, Paul, Denis, Bill, Stuart, Shelby, Ellen, Julian, Lisa, Kay, Ken, Donald, Roy, Virginia, Eric, Mara, Connie, Sue, Pastor Teklu, Frank, Evelyn, Bowe

For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- People of Ukraine, And All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- Persecuted Christians
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- Resurrection Lutheran School Principal Candidates and Ongoing Call Process
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Call Committee for DCE
- *Randi and Barry Munns
- Annie Ruth Ford, *Dennis Ford's Mother
- *Eric and *Jill Hammergren
- *Pam Dickson
- *Bruce and *Annette Kennedy
- *Jan and Paul Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- *Walter and *Francis Staehle
- *Doug and *Cheri Spitz
- Stuart and Sue Sanders, and the *Boyer Family
- Our RLC Uganda Team Preparing for February 2023 Mission Trip, Discernment Regarding Travel
- Safe Travels
- Raleigh Christmas Parade Accident Victims

For the Lord's Wisdom, Guidance, Strength for the Health and Well-Being of the People They Serve

- Pastor Jonathan and Juli, Associate Pastor Zack and Kelsey, Assistant Pastor Alan and Faith, and Their Families
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff
- Area Pastors and School Staff

For Our Missionaries

- *Mark and *Megan Mantey, Uganda
- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia
- Shauen and Krista Trump, Kenya

*Lord Jesus, thank You for Your abiding Presence and saving grace. All is in Your Hands.
We trust You are working all things according to Your good plan and purposes,
and with that trust and confidence, we release these prayers to You. In Your Holy Name, Amen.*

Attendance and Giving – November 27, 2022

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, November 19

6:00 pm - 51

Sunday, November 20

8:00 am - 84; 9:30 am - 110; 11:00 am - 209

Total In-Person Worship: 454

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, November 19

8:00 am - 114; 11:00 am - 41

Total Online Views: 165 views

General Fund Giving and Spending - October 2022

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Receipts	\$ 102,909.98	\$ 403,555.22
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 113,708.91</u>	<u>\$ 413,211.60</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ -10,798.93	\$ -9,656.38

Last Week's Offerings: n/a

Average Weekly Giving for 2022/23: \$22,419.73

Average Weekly Giving Budgeted for 2022/23: \$26,908.65

We are grateful for all who are able to maintain financial contributions to our congregation!

There are four ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the in-person worship service
- Mail to Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary, NC 27518
- Online Giving through our church website at rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- Download the Vanco Mobile app, search for Resurrection Lutheran Church, transfer funds from your checking or savings account to RLC

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

Updated 11/22/22