

The Kingdom of Heaven is like  
treasure hidden in a field.



# **RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**100 W. Lochmere Drive Cary, NC 27518**

**919-851-7248 [WWW.RLCARY.ORG](http://WWW.RLCARY.ORG)**

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May 2020, 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 or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

## **The Lessons and Liturgy Today**

We come together to hear God's Word of assurance – that, in Christ He values us; His Promises have been kept; and that the circumstances of our lives do not change His Unwavering Grace and Mercy. No matter how severe the setbacks or vocal the opposition, nothing can separate us from His Love. We have a calling to proclaim the Love of God in Christ through our words and actions to those around us so that they may know His Love, Care, Mercy, and Peace.

## **THE ORDER OF THE SERVICE OF THE WORD**

### **EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 26, 2020 — 9:00 A.M.**

## **PREPARING TO COME INTO GOD'S PRESENCE**

### **PRELUDE**

*Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling* – Thompson/arr. C.A. Reed

### **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 The Lord will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge.

C **the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure.** (*Isaiah 33:6*)

P The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought the field.

(*Matthew 13:44*)

C **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** (*Luke 12:34*)

## CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS

P God has given us the treasure of His Word and the Gospel of Salvation in Jesus Christ. It is so easy for us to bury that treasure and allow the trinkets of this world, and their values, to distract us from the message of the Gospel. Let us call to mind our sin – which hides the treasure of the Gospel in our lives; and confess our sinfulness before God and one another.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Most Merciful God,

C **We confess to You, and before one another, that we have sinned against You and one another in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You with our whole heart; nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have allowed the treasures of this world to get in the way of our living as Your children. We also confess the sins of which we are not aware to You; and ask for Your forgiveness for the Sake of Jesus Christ.**

P Almighty God in His Mercy has heard our prayer, and even before we were aware of our need for forgiveness, sent His Son into the world, wrapped in our flesh and blood, and gave Him as a sacrifice for our sin. Therefore, as a Called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His Authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*I Love Your Kingdom, Lord*

LSB 651

1. I love Your kingdom, Lord,  
The place of Your abode,  
The Church our blest Redeemer saved  
With His own precious blood.

2. Beyond my highest joy  
I prize its heav'nly ways,  
Its sweet communion, solemn vows,  
Its hymns of love and praise.

3. I love Your Church, O God,  
Your saints in ev'ry land,  
Dear as the apple of Your eye  
And graven on Your hand.

4. For them my tears shall fall;  
For them my prayers ascend;  
For them my cares and toils be giv'n  
Till toils and cares shall end.

5. Sure as Your truth shall last,  
To Zion shall be giv'n  
The brightest glories earth can yield  
And brighter bliss of heav'n.

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## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace in areas of the world where war rages and destroys life, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace in the Church of Jesus Christ, that where there are divisions they may be healed in accordance with God's Will, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace within our families, that forgiveness and love may prevail, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace within our congregation and in this place, that our worship may be joyful and may bring honor to God, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and direct us, Gracious Lord:

C **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love,

C **that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

(God keeps His promises.)

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be His People, His Treasured Possession.

The LORD did not set His Affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples.

But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath He swore to your forefathers that He brought you out with a Mighty Hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; He is the Faithful God, keeping His Covenant of Love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His Commands.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM HYMN

*Entrust Your Days and Burdens*

Psalm 125

LSB 754, vs. 1, 4, 6 (Tune: LSB 527)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Entrust your days and burdens<br/>    To God's most loving hand;<br/>He cares for you while ruling<br/>    The sky, the sea, the land.<br/>For He who guides the tempests<br/>    Along their thund'rous ways<br/>Will find for you a pathway<br/>    And guide you all your days.</p> <p>6. Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen;<br/>    With joy our spirits bless<br/>Until we see the ending<br/>    Of all our life's distress.</p> | <p>4. Leave all to His direction;<br/>    His wisdom rules for you<br/>In ways to rouse your wonder<br/>    At all His love can do.<br/>Soon He, His promise keeping,<br/>    With wonder-working pow'rs<br/>Will banish from your spirit<br/>    What gave you troubled hours.</p> <p>And so throughout our lifetime<br/>    Keep us within Your care<br/>And at our end then bring us<br/>    To heav'n to praise You there.</p> |
|---|--|

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## EPISTLE READING

*Romans 8:28–39*

(Nothing can separate us from God's Love in Christ Jesus.)

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His Purpose.  
For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers.  
And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.  
What, then, shall we say in response to this?  
If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His Own Son, but gave Him up for us all—

how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?  
Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen?  
It is God Who justifies.  
Who is He that condemns?  
Christ Jesus, Who died--more than that, Who was raised to Life--is at the Right Hand of God and is also interceding for us.  
Who shall separate us from the Love of Christ?  
Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?  
As it is written:

"For Your sake we face death all day long;  
we are considered as sheep to be  
slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than  
conquerors through Him Who loved us.  
For I am convinced that neither death nor  
life, neither angels nor demons,

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

neither the present nor the future, nor any  
powers, neither height nor depth, nor  
anything else in all creation, will be able to  
separate us from the Love of God that is  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## ALLELUIA VERSE

C **Alleluia. "I will open My Mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since  
the creation of the world." Alleluia.** (*Matthew 13:35b*)

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44–52

(Jesus teaches us with the parables of the hidden treasure, the pearl of great value and a large catch of fish.)

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

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

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure  
hidden in a field.

When a man found it, he hid it again,  
and then in his joy went and sold all he  
had and bought that field.

"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a  
merchant looking for fine pearls.

When he found one of great value,  
he went away and sold everything he had  
and bought it.

"Once again, the Kingdom of Heaven is  
like a net that was let down into the lake  
and caught all kinds of fish.

When it was full,  
the fishermen pulled it up on the shore.

Then they sat down and collected the  
good fish in baskets, but threw the bad  
away.

This is how it will be at the end of the age.

The angels will come and separate the  
wicked from the righteous and throw  
them into the fiery furnace, where there  
will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?"  
Jesus asked.

"Yes," they replied.

He said to them,

"Therefore every teacher of the Law who  
has been instructed about the Kingdom of  
Heaven is like the owner of a house  
who brings out of his storeroom new  
treasures as well as old."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C Praise to You, Lord Christ.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Before the Throne of God Above*

LSB 574 (Tune: LSB 832)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Before the throne of God above<br>I have a strong, a perfect plea:<br>A great High Priest, whose name is Love,<br>Who ever lives and pleads for me. | 4. Because the sinless Savior died,<br>My sinful soul is counted free;<br>For God, the just, is satisfied<br>To look on Him and pardon me.           |
| 2. My name is graven on His hands,<br>My name is written on His heart;<br>I know that while in heav'n He stands<br>No tongue can bid me thence depart. | 5. Behold Him there! The risen Lamb!<br>My perfect, spotless righteousness,<br>The great unchangeable I AM,<br>The King of glory and of grace!       |
| 3. When Satan tempts me to despair,<br>And tells me of the guilt within,<br>Upward I look, and see Him there<br>Who made an end of all my sin.         | 6. At one with Him, I cannot die,<br>My soul is purchased by His blood;<br>My life is hid with Christ on high,<br>With Christ, my Savior and my God. |

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## SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

A Game-Changing Treasure

*Matthew 13:44-52*

See Sermon Outline on page 14

## 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.

## MUSICAL OFFERING

*Better Is One Day* - Matt Redman

1. How lovely is Your Dwelling Place, O LORD Almighty,  
 for my soul longs and even faints for You;  
 For here my heart is satisfied within Your Presence;  
 I sing beneath the shadow of Your Wings:

Refrain

**Better is one day in Your Courts;  
better is one day in Your House;  
better is one day in Your Courts  
than thousands elsewhere! (repeat)**

- 2. One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your Beauty,  
to find You in the place Your Glory dwells  
One thing I ask and I would seek: to see Your Beauty,  
to find You in the place Your Glory dwells**

Refrain

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## **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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word.

P O Eternal God, open the ears of Your Covenant People to hear the Good News of Salvation so that they may realize the Messiah has come.

**C Use us to bring the joy of knowing Your Limitless Love in Jesus Christ our Lord to all people.**

P O Holy Spirit, use Your Word and Sacraments to strengthen the faith of those who have not been able to connect Your Gracious Declaration of pardon and peace with the peace of mind they need each day.

**C Employ the talents You have placed within us to help those around us through stressful times; until they see that nothing can separate us from Your Love in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

P Restore those who have lost their faith as they live in the midst of this sin-filled world. Gracious God, in Your Infinite Mercy: root them again in Your Word, nourish them to face the thorny problems of their lives, and bring them at last into Your Heavenly Harvest through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C**     **Our Heavenly Father, bring courage to Your faithful Church around the world that it may constantly proclaim that Jesus is Lord. Raise up leaders who will serve our society, that the Gospel will be spread freely; and move the people of all nations to see the worth of every human being.**

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**

**P**     Lord Jesus Christ, in giving us Your Body and Blood to eat and drink, You cause us to remember Your whole work of redemption, Your Incarnation and Birth, Your Suffering and Death, Your Resurrection and Ascension, and Your Promised Return. And we ask that You remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 We give thanks to You, Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, for in Him You kept all Your Promises through all the ages.
- C **Strengthen us in the assurance that nothing shall separate us from You until we eat with You in the Heavenly Banquet. 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.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine*

LSB 815

1. All praise to Thee, for Thou, O King divine,  
Didst yield the glory that of right was Thine,  
That in our darkened hearts Thy grace might shine.  
Alleluia!
2. Thou cam'st to us in lowliness of thought;  
By Thee the outcast and the poor were sought;  
And by Thy death was God's salvation wrought.  
Alleluia!
3. Let this mind be in us which was in Thee,  
Who wast a servant that we might be free,  
Humbling Thyself to death on Calvary.  
Alleluia!
4. Wherefore, by God's eternal purpose, Thou  
Art high exalted o'er all creatures now,  
And giv'n the name to which all knees shall bow.  
Alleluia!

**5. Let ev'ry tongue confess with one accord,  
In heav'n and earth, that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
And God the Father be by all adored.  
Alleluia!**

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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**

*Homage to Chopin on MADRID* – F. Chopin, adptd. C.A. Reed

## **Servants in Worship**

Preacher	Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Liturgist	Vicar Alan Shaw
Lector	Mel Tolliver
Pianist/Vocalist	Christopher Anderson Reed, Praise Worship Leader
Vocalists	Rebecca Melland-Kuo, Sonja Striplin

### **Acknowledgments**

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## A Game-Changing Treasure

### Proper 12 (Matthew 13:44–52)

Give an example of a precious treasure or commodity in the world people are searching for today and would do almost anything to get. What might it illustrate about you and me as people for whom Jesus has done everything possible to claim as His very own treasure?

- I. Today is our third and final Sunday featuring parables of Jesus. Unlike the last two Sundays, today's parables come without explanation. However, the first (44) and last (52) portions of this text “\_\_\_\_\_” everything contained therein with the image of the treasure chest and what the treasure chest contains.
  - a. Consider the search for a Covid-19 vaccine today. How could we retell Jesus' parables with this modern-day treasure?
  - b. How would that vaccine and its rescue illustrate what we receive from God's reign among us? How would the sacrifice of researchers to procure a vaccine illustrate something about God and what God has done to rescue us in Jesus?
- II. Jesus' parables about a treasure chest hidden in a field (44) and a pearl of great price (45–46) are all about the \_\_\_\_\_ of “being found” by the best treasure of all: the love of God for us in Christ Jesus!
  - a. The man in the first parable seems to stub his toe on the buried treasure chest (he wasn't looking for it); the man in the second goes from level-headed seeking to all-consuming passion of having stumbled on a truly valuable pearl!
  - b. There is no “moral” about what we must do to seek the kingdom of God; Jesus emphasizes the value of God's reign for the one “found” by it.
- III. Jesus' parable about a dragnet drawing in all kinds from which God's angels will claim what is good (47-50) is all about being \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as God's treasure at the “end of time (47-50)”
  - a. There is a beginning and an end to time in the Christian world view; God's patience with human wrongdoing is not without limit.
  - b. Being claimed by God and separated out of the present evil age is the center of our hope; this is what Jesus has done for us (2<sup>nd</sup> Article, Apostles' Creed)!
- IV. Jesus' parable about the master of the house pulling out treasure that is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ enlivens in Jesus' first disciples...and in us...a game-changing treasure
  - a. Consider the OT promise (repeated in the New) that in Christ Jesus *we* are God's treasure (Deut 7:6; cf. 1 Pet 2:9, etc.).

The discovery of a Covid-19 vaccine would be a “game-changer” today; how might the notion that in Christ Jesus you have been sought after and claimed as God's treasure be a game-changer for you and others you meet this week?



## **Online Vacation Bible School with BOLT!**

From August 3-6, we'll be using BOLT VBS, designed for you to perform with your family at home. We will lead you and your kids step-by-step through each of the 3 days. You can watch the Day 2 sample video on our website. But don't let your kids see it, save the fun for later!

Register at [rlcary.org/ministries/vacation-bible-school](http://rlcary.org/ministries/vacation-bible-school).

Plan to drive through our VBS Packet Pick Up on Tuesday, July 28, 10:00 am-12:00 pm or 5:30-7:00 pm.

Join us on Monday, August 3 at 9:00 am for a live stream kick off on our YouTube channel!

**Get your family excited about BOLT.  
This is going to be SO MUCH FUN!**

Contact [lea.webb@rlcary.org](mailto:lea.webb@rlcary.org) with any questions.

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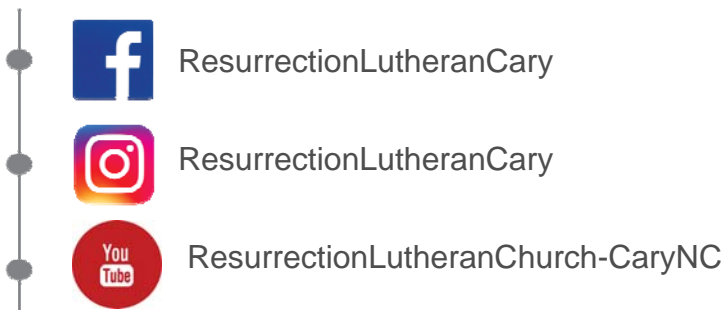


There are many opportunities to connect, serve, learn, and grow at Resurrection. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Subscribe to our YouTube channel for our worship services and other devotionals and encouraging words from Pastor Jonathan. We encourage you to join us as we reach out with the love of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

## How to Get Connected

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### Social Media



**For more information  
about Resurrection,  
Call or Email our office:  
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