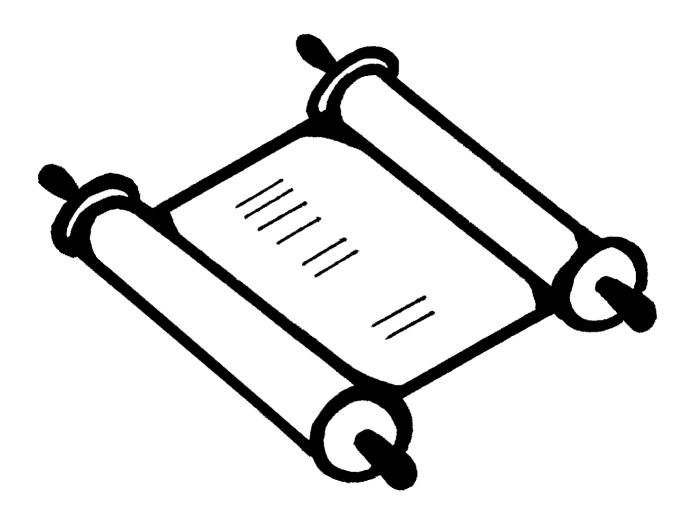
RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



First Sunday of Christmas December 29, 2024 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME!

Welcome to Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church, we are glad you are here!

If you are a visitor, we invite you to introduce yourself to our pastor and feel at home among us. In this bulletin, words in bold print are spoken by the assembly, non-bolded words are spoken by a leader. Two abbreviations used for hymns and service elements: ELW stands for Evangelical Lutheran Worship, which is the red hymnal in the book holder attached to the pew in front of you, and ACS is All Creation Sings, which is the blue songbook.

Following the worship service, please consider joining us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall, downstairs. An usher can direct you to the elevator.

COMMEMORATION IN THE WIDER CHURCH

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Name of Jesus

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

Thursday, January 2, 2025

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872

Loehe was a pastor in nineteenth-century Germany. Loehe's chief concern was that a congregation find its life in the holy communion, and from that source evangelism and social ministries would flow. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and Ukraine.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Introduction to the day

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING VOLUNTARY

At the ringing of a bell, the assembly is invited to stand and face the font.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

God-with-us,

we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty.

We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.

We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging.

Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.

Turn us from our ways to your ways.

Grant us the grace to begin again.

Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.

Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,

H forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

Amen.



GREETING (ELW p. 156)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: Angels We Have Heard on High (ELW 289)



PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p.102)

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.

A reading from 1 Samuel.

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the loan that she made to the LORD," and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 148

The psalm is sung responsively by the whole verse.





- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens; praise God | in the heights.
- ² Praise the LORD, | all you angels; sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.
- ³ Praise the LORD, ¹ sun and moon; sing praise, all you ¹ shining stars.
- ⁴ Praise the LORD, heav-| en of heavens, and you waters a-| bove the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the name | of the LORD, who commanded, and they | were created,
- ⁶ who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever, giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R
- ⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth, you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- * fire and hail, 'snow and fog, tempestuous wind, do-'ing God's will;
- 9 mountains | and all hills, fruit trees | and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ wild beasts | and all cattle, creeping things and | flying birds;
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth ¹ and all peoples, princes and all rulers ¹ of the world;
- 12 young | men and maidens, old and | young together. R
- ¹³ Let them praise the name | of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴ The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah! R

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17

Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with new garments upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.

A reading from Colossians.

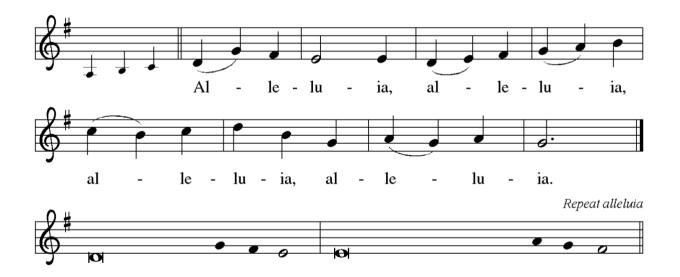
¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, the Father, through him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

The assembly is invited to stand to welcome the gospel. All sing the Alleluias, the cantor sings the verse, the Alleluias are repeated.



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found Jesus in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard Jesus were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." ⁴⁹ Jesus said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. Harry Therwanger



NICENE CREED (ELW p. 104)

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (ELW p. 105)

The assembly is invited to stand.

The response for today's intercessions is "give your strength to the people."

The presiding minister concludes the prayers:

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 106)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly may greet one another with a sign of Christ's Peace by bowing, waving, or offering another appropriate gesture and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The assembly may be seated.

OFFERTORY HYMN It Came upon the Midnight Clear (ELW 282)



OFFERING AND SETTING THE TABLE

Members of the assembly may bring their offering forward when ushers invite them. Baskets are available to receive your gift at the front of the sanctuary. Communion ministers will sanitize and cleanse their hands prior to handling the gifts of bread and wine.

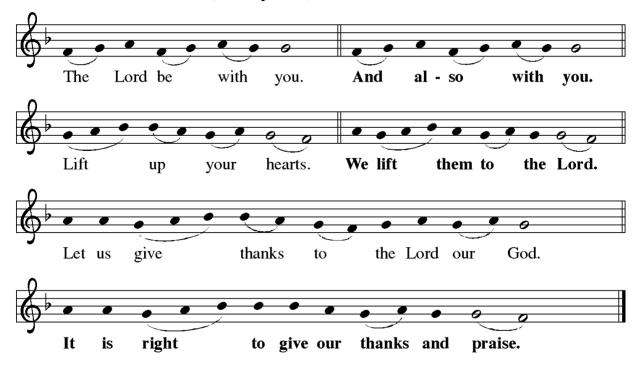
OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 107)

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

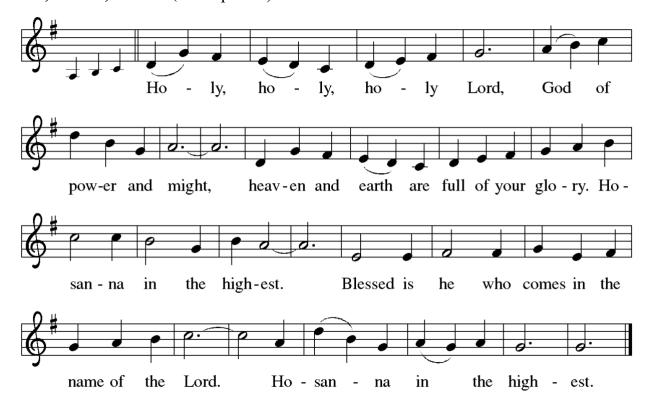
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING: (ELW p. 107)



The Thanksgiving continues with the Preface for the day; the assembly responds:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 108)

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER (p. 112)

And now, we pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated. At the direction of ushers, baptized and communing members wishing to commune will proceed to the front of the nave, maintaining appropriate physical distance. To receive the bread, place your hands palms up. To receive the wine, hold a small cup firmly, the assisting minister will pour wine from the common cup. Please do not dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free hosts are also available. Return to your seats by the side aisles. You may elect to commune by receiving the bread only or you may elect to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION

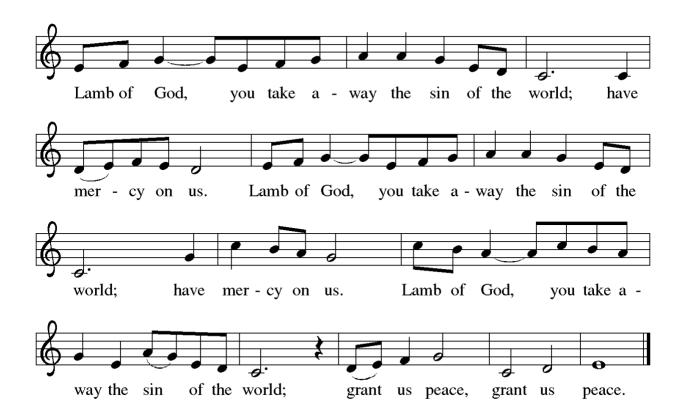
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

"The body of Christ, given for you," and "the blood of Christ, shed for you."

Each person may respond,

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (ELW p. 112)



HYMN DURING COMMUNION: Away in a Manger (ELW 277)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 114)

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING (ELW p. 114)

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: Cold December Flies Away (ELW 299)



DISMISSAL (ELW p. 115)

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

here in love's own

spreads in its heav'n - ly

hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing,

Thanks be to God.

Son

full and strong in

be - lov'd of

sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

glo - ry.

heav - en.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall, downstairs.

An usher can direct you to the elevator.

gar - den,

bright - ness

Readings for January 5

Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

Psalm 147:12-20

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (Ps. 147:12)

Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

Notes on the music for today

HYMN OF THE DAY: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice ELW 288

This is the oldest German macaronic ("mixed language," usually vernacular and Latin) hymn we know about. In this case the vernacular is a German dialect from the area of Mainz and Worms, mixed with Latin. The earliest printed source for both the text and the tune comes from around 1400 in a manuscript at Leipzig University, but it is mentioned by Heinrich Seuse (known as "Suso" [c. 1295-1366]) in his autobiography from 1328. The English version in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* is by John Mason Neale, from his *Carols for Christmastide* (London, 1853), slightly modified to make it more inclusive, as in the substitution of "friends" for "men." Thomas Helmore made a mistake transcribing the tune, and Neale had to add "News! News!" ("Joy! Joy!" and "Peace! Peace!" for the second and third stanzas) in the middle. That is corrected here, though some versions still retain the quaint addition. This hymn can be mistaken for the Easter hymn which begins with the same four words. The two form a compelling pair for Christmas and Easter.

IN DULCI JUBILO

The tune tied to this text may bear some relation to dance. That it has been used with dancing is clear, but whether it began that way is not. This is a catchy melody that bounces along in triplicate rhythms and repetitions, easily sung and danced. The fundamentally stepwise motion is at first broken only by a rising third and a downward fifth, which prepare the delightful swing of the upward fifth in the second last phrase. The melody outlines the tonic chord, if one can use that terminology in this early music, with a hint at the relative minor as the phrase with the upward leap begins.

The setting here comes from an arrangement Robert L. Pearsall (1795-1856) made in 1834 and 1836. After a stroke in 1825, Pearsall gave up law and devoted himself to history, genealogy, and other pursuits, mostly music.

An Anglican with Roman Catholic proclivities and an interest in German music and the Caecilian movement, he wrote service and hymn settings, an oratorio, a Requiem, a Te Deum, anthems, part-songs, madrigals, and instrumental pieces.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal: #267: Joy to the World, Text: Isaac Watts. Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason. Text and music: Public domain. #277: Away in a Mamger, Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray. Text and music: Public domain. #282: It Came upon the Midnight Clear, Text: Edmund H. Sears. Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis. Text and music: Public domain. #288: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale. Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall. Text and music: Public domain. #289: Angels We Have Heard on High, Text: French carol; tr. H.F.Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864. Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes. Text and music: Public domain. #299: Cold December Flies Away, Text: Catalonian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee. Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalonian carol. Text: @1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music: Public domain. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-713051. All rights reserved.-Liturgical elements from Sundays and Seasons.com, @2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS006914.

December 29, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Harry Therwanger Vicar Jessica Zurcher Dave Oaks Ron Bergman Ron Bergman and Glen Mason Barbara Bulger Verdile Bill Bergman Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Assisting Minister
Reader
Communion Assistants
Cantor
Lock-Up, starting December 29

Attendance December 22, 10:00 a.m., 93 Attendance December 24, 7:00 p.m., 166 Attendance December 25, 10:00 a.m., 19 Live Stream Views, | Views after Streaming,

Our worship service is regularly video recorded and posted online. Printed scripture readings and weekly announcements are available from the ushers.

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 6201 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22205 www.relcarlington.org 703-532-5991

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Barbara Bulger Verdile, Music Director Angie Brooke, Christian Education Coordinator Leslie Nolen, Council President Christina Cuesta, Council Secretary