RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 16, 2025 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

Tuesday, February 18, 2025, Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546
Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed ares" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Houston" (I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light)

Wayne L. Wold

At the ringing of a bell, the assembly stands and faces the font.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

The assembly stands. 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, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

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

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)



Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

GREETING (ELW p. 98)

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: (ELW 99)





PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p.102)

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

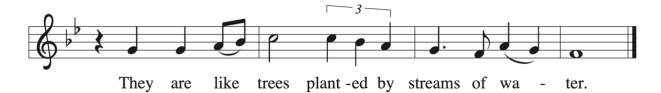
A reading from Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD:
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.
They shall be like a shrub in the desert and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

- Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.
 They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.
 It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.
- The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—
 who can understand it?
 I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 1





- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!
- ² Their delight is in the law of the LORD,

and they meditate on God's teaching | day and night. R

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither;

everything they | do shall prosper.

- ⁴ It is not so | with the wicked;
 - they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.
- ⁶ For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that God raised Christ—whom God did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

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



Rejoice, and | leap for joy,* for surely your reward is | great in heaven.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then Jesus looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the dominion of God.

²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son-of-Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

25 "Woe to you who are full now,

for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

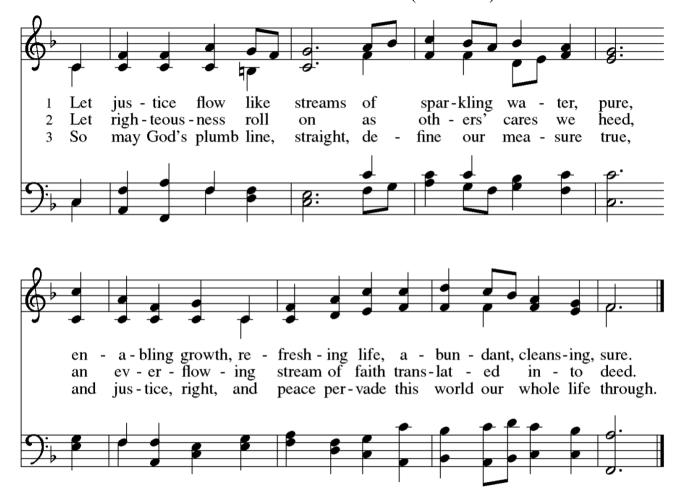
YOUTH MESSAGE

Pastor Harry Therwanger

SERMON

Pastor Harry Therwanger

HYMN OF THE DAY: Let Justice Flow Like Streams (ELW 717)



Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776

Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press.

Apostles' Creed (ELW p. 105)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (ELW p. 105)

Assembly, please stand.

The response for today's intercessions is "bless us, we pray."

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 is seated.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Have You Heard God's Voice? Frederick Chatfield

Susanna Jacobson, soloist

OFFERING AND SETTING THE TABLE

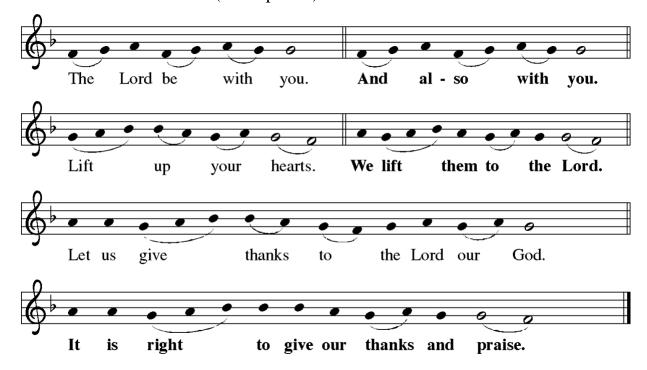
Members of the assembly may bring their offering forward when ushers invite them. Baskets are available to receive your gift at the front of the sanctuary. Communion ministers will sanitize and cleanse their hands prior to handling the gifts of bread and wine.

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 107)

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

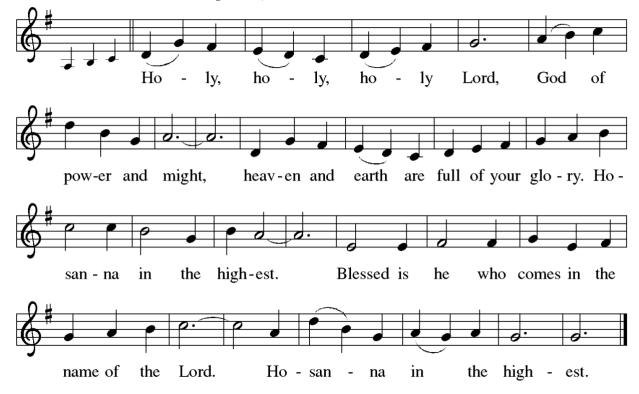
Amen.

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)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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

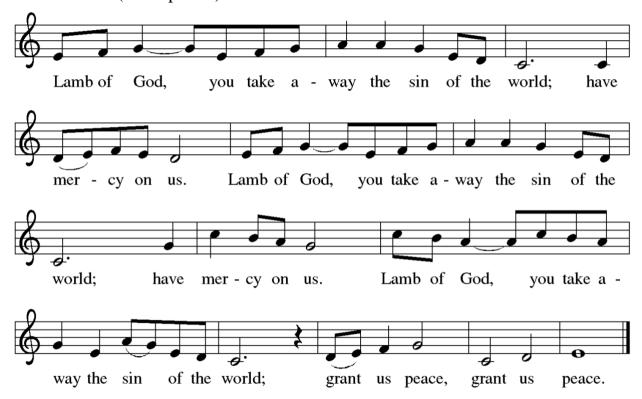
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

"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: We Come to the Hungry Feast (ELW 479)



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 114)

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

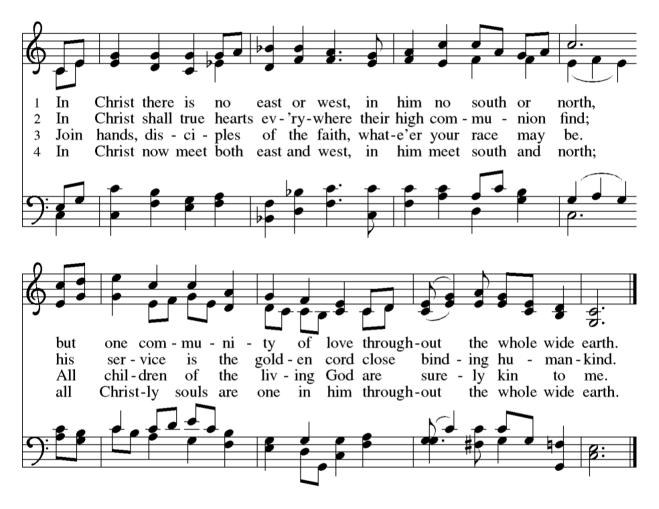
BLESSING (ELW p. 114)

The Spirit of the triune God

+ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: In Christ There is No East or West (ELW 650)



DISMISSAL (ELW p. 115)

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postlude on "RATISBON" from Epiphany Suite

Charles Callahan

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

An usher can direct you to the elevator.



Readings for February 23

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal (ELW):

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Notes on the music for today

HYMN OF THE DAY: Let Justice Flow Like Streams ELW 717

Text: Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008)

Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams (1731-1776)

Jane Parker Huber was born in China but grew up in Hanover, Indiana where her parents, Albert & Katharine, were the college president and first lady for 29 years. She married her Hanover born childhood sweetheart, Bill Huber, who was founding pastor at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis where they lived for 33 years before retiring in 1988 to Hanover.

Her hymn writing began in 1975 when planning a United Presbyterian Women's gathering at Purdue. Starting in 1976, Huber wrote new hymn texts, mostly set to familiar hymn tunes. Two books with over 125 of her hymns were published in 1987 and 1996. Eleven hymns made their way into the Presbyterian hymnal published in 1990. She wrote about 200 hymns, for special celebrations & conferences, to update with more inclusive language, and to fill in gaps in the hymnody about Pentecost and baptism or provide more emphasis on God's beautiful creation, the equality of God's people, and our peacemaking mission as Christians.

She also wrote studies for *These Days* and articles for *Horizons* magazine, and a column titled "Ask Jane" for that publication for several years.

ST. THOMAS is actually lines 5 through 8 of the sixteen-line tune HOLBORN, composed by Aaron Williams (1731-1776) and published in his *Collection* (1763, 1765) as a setting for Charles Wesley's text "Soldiers of Christ, Arise". The harmonization is by Lowell Mason. Williams was a singing teacher, music engraver, and clerk at the Scottish Church, London Wall. He published various church music collections, some intended for rural church choirs. Representative of his compilations are *The Universal Psalmodist* (1763) – published in the United States as *The American Harmony* (1769) – *The Royal Harmony* (1766), *The New Universal Psalmodist* (1770), and *Psalmody in Miniature* (1778). His *Harmonia Coelestis* (1775) included anthems by noted composers.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Have You Heard God's Voice, Frederick Chatfield (1950)

Frederick Chatfield has arranged this haunting tune and lyrics by Jacqui Jones into an anthem for our time. He has served as Director of Music and Organist of Christ United Methodist Church in Kettering, Ohio, a position he held for thirty years. Mr. Chatfield holds a Bachelor of Music in Organ from New England Conservatory in Boston and a Master of Arts in Religion (Music and Worship) cum laude from Yale University where he was named the 1985 Hugh Porter Scholar. One of his great enjoyments is his 1982 BMW R100RS motorcycle which he restored in the spring of 2006.

Have you heard God's voice; has your heart been stirred? Are you still prepared to follow? Have you made a choice to remain and serve, though the way be rough and narrow? Will you use your voice; will you not sit down when the multitudes are silent? Will you make a choice to stand your ground when the crowds are turning violent?

Will you walk the path that will cost you much and embrace God's love and sorrow?

Will you trust in One who entrusts to you the disciples of tomorrow?

Will you watch the news with the eyes of faith and believe it could be different?

Will you share your views using words of grace? Will you leave a thoughtful imprint?

In your city streets will you be God's heart? Will you listen to the voiceless? Will you stop and eat, and when friendships start, will you share your faith with the faithless? We will walk the path that will cost us much and embrace God's love and sorrow? Will you trust in One who entrusts to you the disciples of tomorrow.

OPENING VOLUNTARY: "Houston" (I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light), Wayne L. Wold (1954)

The Voluntary this week is an arrangement by Wayne Wold of Kathleen Thomerson's hymn "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light", written in the summer of 1966 during a visit to Houston, Texas, the location providing the tune name "Houston". Wayne is Director of Music at First Lutheran Church in Ellicott City, MD, and Adjunct Associate Professor of Music (organ) at Shenandoah University.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Postlude on "RATISBON" from Epiphany Suite, Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

This piece is based upon the hymn tune RATISBON (Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies). Charles Callahan was a delightful, quirky, reclusive composer living in remote Vermont with a mission to write organ music for services that was accessible for organists and meaningful to congregations.

February 16, 2025 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Harry Therwanger
Vicar Jessica Zurcher
Chris Schoen
Debbie Howell
Debbie Howell and Glen Mason
Eleanor Jacobson
Glen Mason

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Assisting Minister
Reader
Communion Assistants
Cantor
Lock-Up, starting February 16

The flowers in the chancel are given by Helen Chaale in memory of my mom, Anissi Chaale.

Attendance February 9, 10:00 a.m., 71 Live Stream Views, 15 Views after Streaming, 29

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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Vicar Jessica Zurcher, Pastoral Intern vicarjessica@relcarlington.org 301-412-8989

Barbara Bulger Verdile, Music Director Angie Brooke, Christian Education Coordinator Jack Schoen, Council President Valerie Pratt, Council Secretary