

**Welcome to
Resurrection Lutheran Church**

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INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

Texts for Sunday, December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ADVENT VERSE: Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. It concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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ADVENT WREATH: Third Sunday of Advent

Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow.
You bring water to parched ground and life out of death.
Bless us as this light grows,
and send sorrow and sighing to flee away.
Give us strength and patience,
trusting that you are true to your promises.
Transform the lives of all who suffer
with your wonders near at hand.
Amen.

REPEAT ADVENT VERSE

Three candles are lit.

REPEAT ADVENT VERSE

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins,

and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch,

a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✝ Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall




soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



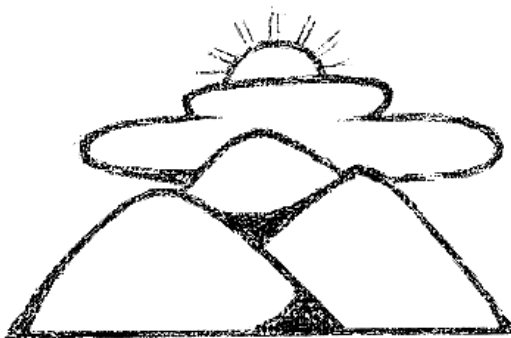
lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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GREETING

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.

KYRIE: Come and Fill Our Hearts

Repeat three times.



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community

Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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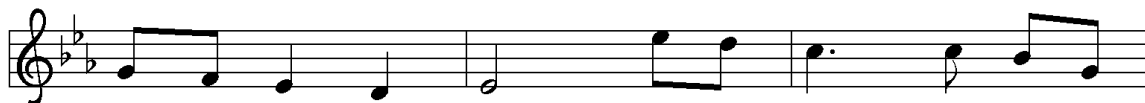
HYMN OF PRAISE: Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n-ly glo - ry, lov - ing glow of God's own
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
3 You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry danc - ing star of



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us



ev - 'ry land and race. Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -



round us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov - ing Spir - it



God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent., para. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146:4-9

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:7)

⁴Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;
⁵**who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise forever;**
⁶who gives justice to those who are oppressed,

and food to those who hunger.

**⁷The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; R**

**⁸the LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

**⁹The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah! R**

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.

A reading from James.

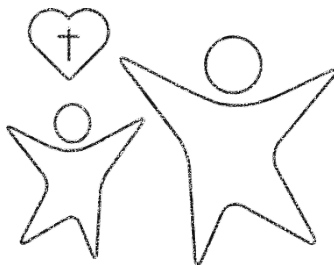
⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Amanda Beebe-Bay



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Gospel Acclamation (Taizé)



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community
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GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Karen Perkins



HYMN OF THE DAY: All Earth Is Hopeful (Toda la tierra)



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra_al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

NICENE CREED

Let us confess together:

**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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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**

LITANY AND PRAYERS

A *Repeat continuously*

(Hmmm)

B

God — of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: **A**

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:

B

Leader: **A**

2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

B

Leader: A B

3. For peace be-tween na - tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:
4. For us who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
6. For all those who gov - ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la - bor in ser-vice to oth - ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour - ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer - cy:

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Leader:

Help us, com - fort us, all of our days:

All:

Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

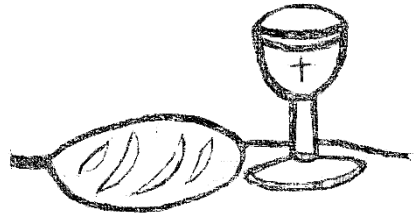
PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

We greet each other with a gesture of peace. We are conscious there are different comfort levels around social-distancing at this time. A nod, wave, phone call or email may be most appropriate for you. This greeting is a sign of the risen Christ who unites us and calls us to recognize the peace of God in one another.

OFFERING



PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Repeat three times.



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

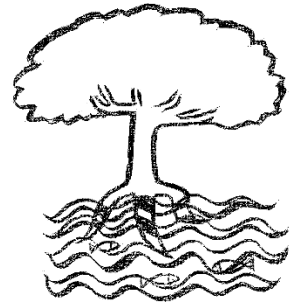
Eternal God,
you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should
at all times and in all places
offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father,
almighty and everliving God.

You comforted your people with
the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes again
to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with the Church on earth
and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name
and join their unending hymn:



SANCTUS: You Are Holy

1*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!

Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!

ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling

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GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
 our Salvation and our Hope,
 we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
 When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
 you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
 At this end of the ages
 your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
 and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

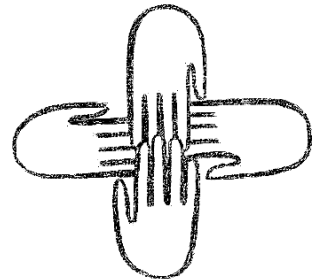
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith,
increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen



LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

COMMUNION INFORMATION

*You are welcome to the communion table! God is the host and God's love extends to all people. As we recover from the pandemic, some people continue to socially-distance and are not ready to be present at Resurrection. Nevertheless, there **are** ways for you to participate! We celebrate this holy meal as the community of peace, love and mercy.*

- We have resources on our website to help you celebrate Holy Communion at home, either along with a live broadcast or at another time.*
- Pastor Karen can bring the Eucharist to you at home. Please contact the office or Pastor Karen to make arrangements.*

We would be happy to light a candle in thankfulness, of concern, or in memory of a person at your request.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

COMMUNION HYMN: Bread of Life from Heaven

Repeat three times.

Refrain



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

The body of Christ, given for you.

Amen

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in God's grace.

Amen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: The Meal Is Over

Repeat Part I three times.

Part I
Now the meal is o - ver, peace to all who leave here.

Part II
Let us now go for - ward with strength and cour - age.

Part III
When we leave here, fed and nour - ished,

Detailed description: This block contains the first three parts of the musical score. Each part is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). Part I consists of eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. Part II consists of eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. Part III consists of eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4.

Part I
Now the meal is o - ver, peace be with you now.

Part II
Let us now go for - ward to heal a bro - ken world.

Part III
love will be our last - ing call.

Detailed description: This block contains the second three parts of the musical score. Each part is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). Part I consists of eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. Part II consists of eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. Part III consists of eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4.

Text: Paul Address, b. 1956

Music: NOW THE MEAL IS OVER, Paul Address

Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God,

in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.

As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.

Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

MISSION STATEMENT

Let us announce together,

**The mission of Resurrection Lutheran Church is to promote spiritual
growth in Christ and service to all people.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God the eternal Word,

who dwells with us in Jesus,

and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.



SENDING HYMN: Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



- 1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
- 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
- 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day,
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SŪO GÂN, Welsh melody

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

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