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**Welcome to**

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

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**January 1, 2023 First Sunday of Christmas**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the “holy innocents” of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.*

**Texts for Sunday, January 8,2023**

**Baptism of Our Lord/Lectionary 1A**

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 29

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

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

**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,

A picture containing diagram

Description automatically generatedand your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: Once In Royal David’s City**

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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.*

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**Hymn of Praise: Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory**



**Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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 63:7-9**

*God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God’s own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God’s gracious deeds. God trusts that God’s people will not act falsely.*

A reading from Isaiah.

**A picture containing icon

Description automatically generated** 7I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,  
  the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,  
 because of all that the Lord has done for us,  
  and the great favor to the house of Israel  
 that he has shown them according to his mercy,  
  according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
 8For he said, “Surely they are my people,  
  children who will not deal falsely”;  
 and he became their savior  
  9in all their distress.  
 It was no messenger or angel  
  but his presence that saved them;  
 in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;  
  he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 148**

*The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven.*(Ps. 148:13)

1Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;

  praise him in the heights.

2**Praise him, all you angels of his;**

**praise him, all his host.**

3Praise him, sun and moon;

  praise him, all you shining stars.

4**Praise him, heaven of heavens,**

**and you waters above the heavens.**

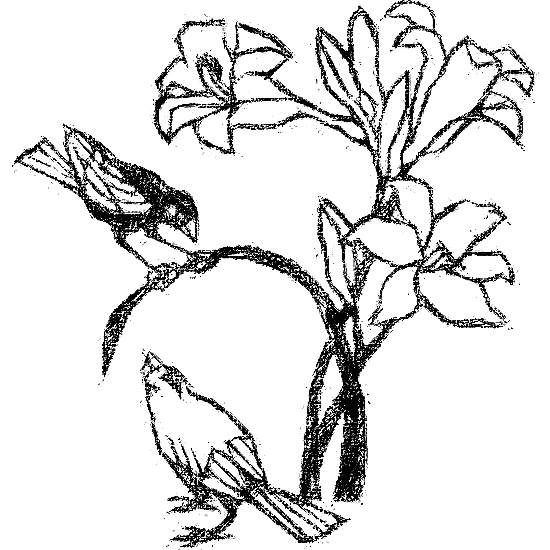
5Let them praise the name of the Lord;

  for he commanded, and they were created.

6**He made them stand fast forever and ever;**

**he gave them a law which shall not pass away.** R

7Praise the Lord from the earth,

  you sea monsters and all deeps;

8**fire and hail, snow and fog,**

**tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

9mountains and all hills,

  fruit trees and all cedars;

10**wild beasts and all cattle,**

**creeping things and winged birds;**

11kings of the earth and all peoples,

  princes and all rulers of the world;

12**young men and maidens,**

**old and young together.** R

13Let them praise the name of the Lord,

  for his name only is exalted,

his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14**He has raised up strength for his people**

**and praise for all his loyal servants,**

**the children of Israel, a people who are near him.**

**Hallelujah!** R

**Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18**

*Through Jesus’ suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.*

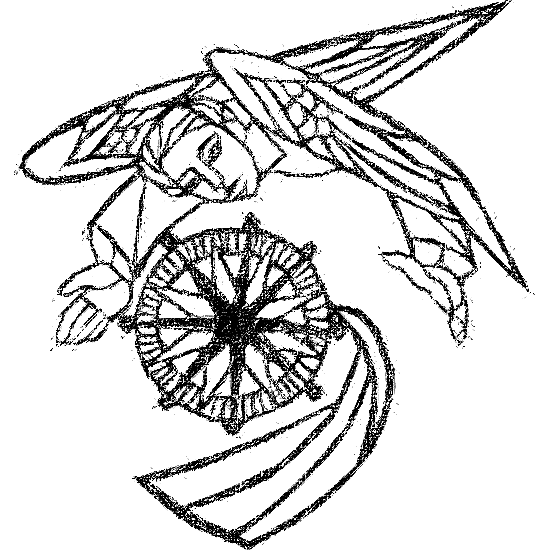
A reading from Hebrews.

10It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, 12saying,   
 “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
  in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”  
13And again,   
 “I will put my trust in him.”  
And again,   
 “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.”  
 14Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 17Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. 18Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Children’s Time** Amanda Beebe-Bay

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**Gospel Acclamation:  Gospel Acclamation (Taizé)**

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**Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23**

*In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

13Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” 14Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, 15and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

16When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. 17Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:  
 18“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
  wailing and loud lamentation,  
 Rachel weeping for her children;  
  she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”  
 19When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 20“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” 21Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. 22But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. 23There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon** Pastor Karen Perkins

**Hymn of the Day: A Voice Was Heard in Ramah**

By Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

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How great the dev - as - ta - tion that fear and an - ger bring!

How great the la - men - ta - tion when fear and an - ger meet!

But help us la - bor for them to bring a bet - ter day.

How great the cel - e - bra - tion when peace and jus - tice meet!

For He - rod ruled the. na - tion, yet feared the In - fant King.

In ev - ‘ry trou - bled na - tion, on ev - ‘ry vio - lent street,

So may we not ig - nore them, nor turn. our eyes a - way,

To love each fear - filled na - tion, to. serve each trou - bled street.

As Ra - chel wept for chil - dren she could no lon - ger hold.

For ma - ny still are dy - ing in con - flicts and in wars —

Yet, Je - sus, as we serve them, we're al - so ser - ving you.

May we be brave to prac - tice your peace in. ev ‘ry place —

1 A voice was heard in Ra - mah that could not be con - soled,

2 O God, we hear the cry - ing for lit - tle ones of yours;

3 When - e - ver one is wee - ping, the whole world suf - fers, too.

4 O Prince of Peace, you lead us in ways of truth and grace.

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**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**

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**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.

A picture containing table, furniture, dining table

Description automatically generated**OFFERING**

**Presentation of the Gifts**

*Repeat three times.*

**A picture containing box and whisker chart

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**Offering Prayer**

God of abundance,

receive and bless these gifts we have offered.

Join our hearts with the song of the angels,

and gather us at your table of celebration.

Strengthen us to share with all the world

the abundance of your grace upon grace,

poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

**Amen.**

Icon

Description automatically generated**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,

through Christ our Lord.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh

you have opened the eyes of faith

to a new and radiant vision of your glory;

that, beholding the God made visible,

we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with the Church on earth

and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name

and join their unending hymn:

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**Sanctus: You Are Holy**





**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.

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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.*



**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.*

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**Post-Communion Prayer**

God our redeemer,

you have fed us at this table

with gifts of grace, truth, and life.

As you have gathered us in joy,

send us forth as messengers of your peace.

Make us shine with the good news of your glory,

born to us 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 bless you and keep you,

☩ Jesus grant you grace and truth,

and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

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**Sending Hymn: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**



**Dismissal**

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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