



COMPANY'S
COMING

Resurrection
LUTHERAN CHURCH



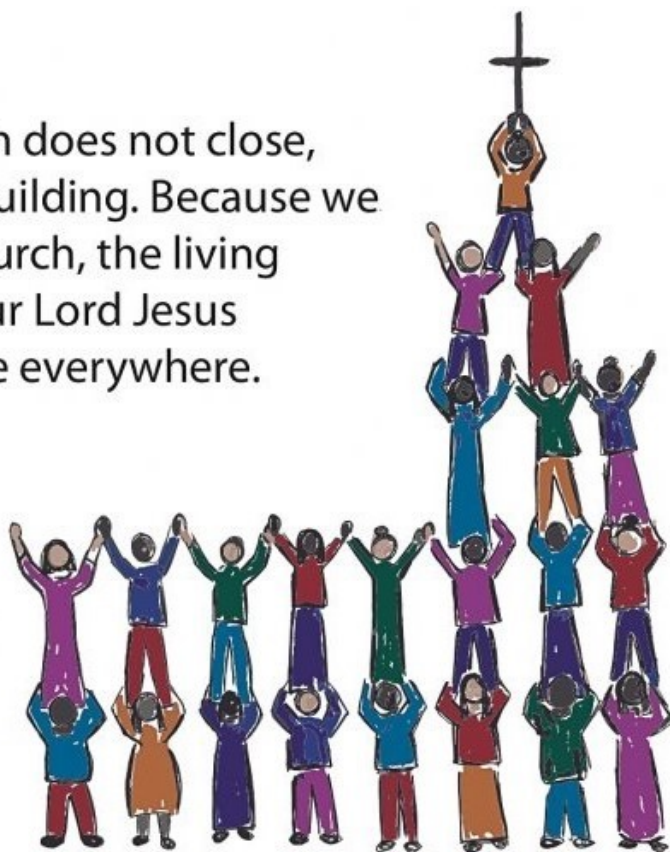
Clean-Up Crew

Mark 1:1-8

- December 6, 2020 -

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule
10:00 am– Streaming Worship Service

The church does not close,
only the building. Because we
are the church, the living
body of our Lord Jesus
and we are everywhere.



Office Hours: By Appointment Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm
Email: secretary@resurrection-lcms.org

December 6, 2020

10:00 am Service

PRELUDE

“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist Cries”; “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”;
“The Advent of Our King”; “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P: We worship in the name of the Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“The Advent of Our King” *LSB 331 verses 1, 2, 5, 6*

The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant’s form puts on
To set His servants free.

Before the dawning day
Let sin’s dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

CANDLE LIGHTING

P: Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, to restore the love, and to prepare for the company that will come.

C: The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." When God comes in, then healing is to be found, but we need to make the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

P: So, we light this candle as a sign of our love that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us and love us. We light this candle in love, and in faith that company is coming.

(Light the Candle of Love)

P: Prepare the way with love!

C: Company's coming!

RESPONSIVE VERSE

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" LBW 55 verse 2

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God,

C: How many John the Baptists, how many prophets of Your light, have we ignored because they were not what we were looking for? How many times have we ignored voices crying in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord?" How many times have we breathed a sigh of relief, and turned our backs on Your messengers, because they did not speak the message we expected to hear? Help us hear anew, the cry of those who would lead us to Christ. Help us see Your clean-up crew and forgive us for all the times we have been stained by sin.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: May the God of peace and love sanctify and cleanse you completely. Go forth forgiven all your sins in the name of the Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit! With company coming go to be a part of His forgiven clean-up crew!

C: Amen!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-10

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

INSTRUMENTAL HYMN

“And the Glory of the Lord” (from “Messiah”) – G.F. Handel

GOSPEL READING

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

SERMON HYMN

“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptists’ Cry” LSB 344 verses 1, 2, 4, 5

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

Continued on next page

Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free.
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

SERMON

Clean-Up Crew

Mark 1:1-8

Pastor Matthew Mantey

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

*You can mail an offering or donate via the
"Give to RLC" button at resurrection-lcms.org*

PRAISE SONG

"Better Is One Day"

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

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere

One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place
Your glory dwells

Chorus

Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out for You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You to You

Pre-Chorus

Better is one day,
Better is one day
Better is one day
Than thousands elsewhere

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere

“All Who Are Thirsty”

All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep
(We sing)

Chorus 1 (Repeat)

Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come

Chorus 2 (Repeat)

Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come

Ending

As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep we sing

PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

(After each portion of the prayers)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen!

CLOSING SONG

“Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?”

Did you feel the mountains tremble
Did you hear the oceans roar
When the people rose to sing of
Jesus Christ the risen One

Did you feel the people tremble
Did you hear the singers roar
When the lost began to sing of
Jesus Christ the saving One

Pre-Chorus

And we can see that God You're moving
A mighty river through the nations
And young and old will turn to Jesus
Fling wide you heavenly gates
Prepare the way of the risen Lord

Chorus

Open up the doors and let the music play
Let the streets resound with singing
Songs that bring Your hope
Songs that bring Your joy
Dancers who dance upon injustice

Do you feel the darkness tremble
When all the saints join in one song
And all the streams flow as one river
To wash away our brokenness

Pre-Chorus 2

And here we see that God You're moving
A time of jubilee is coming
When young and old return to Jesus
Fling wide you heavenly gates
Prepare the way of the risen Lord

Chorus (Repeat)

POSTLUDE

“Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates” – *arr. Ruth Elaine Schram*

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor:	Matthew Mantey
A/V Techs:	Dale & Suzy Lindeke
Elder:	Andy Andrew
Organist:	Karen Tiffany Burgess
Worship Team:	Chris Linderman

SERMON NOTES

Clean-up Crew—Mark 1:1-8

PRAYERS & PRAISES

Praise God:

- **That you have sent the clean-up crew of the prophets to prepare the way.** Thank you for making the path of the Gospel straight that it has taken root in our hearts and continues to grow. May continue to be part of the clean-up crew to prepare the way for others to come to know the Messiah Immanuel!
- **We thank you for this season of Advent that allows us to prepare for your coming once again.** Guide our time and our energy in those preparations that we would focus on you this season in the midst of all the chaos.
- **As we ponder the gift of your Son's love coming to us, we celebrate the gift of love you give to the couples in our church!** We especially give thanks for your love given to the Stranlunds and Rothwells as they celebrated anniversaries this past week! Continue to sustain them this year with your great joy!
- **We give thanks for all those who work in the postal service and delivery jobs this season.** Keep them safe as they travel busy roads delivering so many essential goods to people. We also pray we can build relationships with them and let them know they are appreciated and loved.

In Our Prayers:

- **We pray for all those who are stuck in messes of sin and feel as if they have no way out.** May your love surround them, let them know they are precious and not alone. As you love them, let fellow Christians be their clean-up crew to help share Gospel comfort and hope with them.
- **Resurrected Lord: Dwell in each of our hearts.** Dwell in each person who has been hospitalized, in all medical personnel, in priests and pastors, in the rulers of the nations and civic leaders, in our families at home, in our grandparents, in those who are in prison, who are afflicted, who are oppressed and mistreated, in those who do not have their daily bread, in those who have lost a loved one because of covid-19 or some other condition. May the Resurrected Christ bring us hope, strengthen our faith, fill us with love and kinship, and grant us his peace.
- **God, we come to you dismayed at our own divisions with our nation.** We have struggled to live in unity; we are divided along all the fault lines of our societies. The ruptures in our families, among friends, among nations are wide and deep. Help us to prepare the way with gentleness and respect for the sake and cause of the cross of Jesus. Help us to want the unity you share, for you are One in Three and Three in One. Help us to embrace and to live the foolishness of a life emptied of selfishness and given to service.
- **Support all people in their proper vocation, and help all those who are unemployed.** Bless our arts and culture, our science and technology. Be with all widows and widowers, and provide for all children who have lost their parents.
- **Help those who are sick and in need, and comfort those who are lonely and in trouble, in particular we uphold to you in prayer those in our hearts or names we type out...**

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS Clean-Up Crew

Discuss how this Advent and Christmas season might be different from past years.

Read Isaiah 40:1-11 and Mark 1:1-8 What was the situation of Isaiah's first hearers? How has 2020 felt somewhat similar to being in exile?

Both passages talk about preparing a highway in the desert, about valleys being made low and uneven ground being made smooth. What is this imagery trying to convey?

Isaiah's first hearers were longing for an end to exile, for justice to be done, and for a return home. But this returning home could not look like life as it was before. How is home both a place of comfort and a place of challenge? How does the church function as both a place of comfort and a place of challenge? How is the season of Advent a calling to a better version of home?

What do we learn about God from these passages? What are we called to do from these passages?

What practices can we take on this week to help prepare ourselves and others to

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Coming Up

As we continue our Advent series Company's Coming, with After finding the mess and cleaning it up, what now? Decorations! We get to have a time of joy as we deck the halls. We've got to make the place look great for those who are coming. We want our welcome to be beautiful and our hospitality to be breathtaking. So where do we start? What do we include? What does it matter? Join us on facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/rlcdesmoineswa> at 10 am to find out.

Livestream Only Services Through Dec. 13th

We just want to remind everyone that we are having livestream services through Dec. 13th. We will keep you updated on any changes for future services.

The Office Is Closed, Call to Set Up an Appointment to Stop By

Office visitations will be by appointment only. We are happy to have you come by, but we want to make sure all staff is aware of your visit ahead of time and can prepare accordingly. Rachel will still be in the office for her normal hours, and will also continue to be available via email and phone.

Zoom Bible Study Continues on Wednesday for Advent at 10 am and 7 PM

Join us on zoom this Wednesday at 10 am or 7 pm for our second Advent Bible Study! We hope to see you all there as it is a great time of fellowship. Also if you need help with zoom please let us know!

Voters' Meeting on Youtube after Service on Dec. 13th.

Because of the restrictions still in place we will be having everyone use a private link on Youtube to take part in this years Voters' Meeting to approve the 2021 budget. This will take place after service on Dec. 13th. We will send the link out via email closer to the date of the meeting.

Take the Survey for the Triannual Giving Partners

On Wednesday a survey to determine our Triannual giving partners for 2021 was sent out. Please respond with your 3 choices for our giving partners. Finally, if you are having any issues with the survey please email the office and we will work to get you a secondary ballot.

It's Not Too Late to Help with Angel Tree!

At our last meeting the Executive Council allocated \$300 from the Social Action Fund to purchase gift cards for the Angel Tree Ministry. If you had wanted to give to this ministry, but were not able to get a card, you can make a check out to Resurrection with Social Action in the memo line. This will help offset the cost of the cards and can go toward future giving in the community!