



Repent!

Resurrection Lutheran Church

6705 Wesner Rd
Verona, WI 53593
(608) 848-4965
www.rlcverona.org

1603 16th Ave
Monroe, WI 53566
(608) 328-8130
www.rlcmonroe.org



Pastor Nathan Strutz - Pastor Andrew Ewings - Vicar Jon Fleischmann
608.515.4334 608.535.6531 507.440.6840

Welcome to Resurrection!

We extend a warm welcome to each one present. As we unite together in worship, may we experience together the grace and mercy of our God through his life-giving Word and sacraments. Guests, below is some information that may help us host you well in the Lord's house. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way.



**Second Sunday in Advent
December 6, 2020**

Visitor Information

Worship at Resurrection Lutheran Church follows the historic liturgy of the Church. Our worship service is designed to give our Savior thanks for the salvation He won for us. Lutheran worship is really a conversation between God and his people. He speaks to us in His Word; we praise Him and respond to Him in song. We confess our sins and needs; He provides the forgiveness Jesus accomplished at the cross, and helps us with our individual needs.

Worship will follow the service folder, guiding us in our dialogue with the Lord. Feel free to participate at whatever level you are comfortable. Whenever the words are printed in bold, the congregation is welcome to join in responding or singing. May God bless us as we place Him at the center of our worship.

Preacher: Pastor Nathan Strutz
Leader: Pastor Nathan Strutz
Pianist: Kathy Delikat
Cantor: Kathi Appelt

❖ WELCOME ❖

OPENING HYMN: 702 “Prepare the Royal Highway”



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It



King of kings is near! Let ev - 'ry hill and
own e - ter - nal King! Palm branch - es strew be -
greet your prom - ised King! Your King, yet ev - 'ry
comes from heav'n a - bove. His rule is peace and



val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall
All lands, bow down be - fore him! All na - tions,
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness



sa - cred sto - ry:
doubt as - sail you! Ho - san - na to the
now a - dore him!
so a - bound - ing:



Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

This hymn reminds us that Advent is a season of preparation, as King Jesus comes to rule in our hearts and lives and leads us to his heavenly kingdom.

Text: F. M. Franzen, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*; admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN (76 76 77 and Refrain) Swedish folk tune, 17th century

INVOCATION

Leader: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

Leader: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

All: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

Leader: Friend, your sins are forgiven. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, God has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Leader: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
(with a short introduction)

People:

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ THE WORD ✠

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 40:1-11

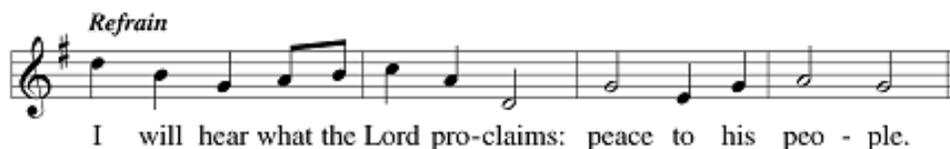
NIV

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. ³A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷the grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

⁹You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

PSALM 85 - *The cantor will sing the verses and the first refrain, the congregation will sing the remaining refrains and the bolded Doxology.*



Refrain

You showed favor to your land, O LORD;*
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your people*
and covered all their sins.
Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,*
and grant us your salvation.

Refrain

I will listen to what God the LORD will say;*
he promises peace to his people, his saints.
Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,*
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Love and faithfulness meet together;*
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON & SERMON TEXT: 2 PETER 3:8-12A

ESV

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!.

GOSPEL VERSE

Leader: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia. (*Luke 3:4,6*)

GOSPEL: MARK 1:1-8

NIV

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way - ³ a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

CONFESSON OF FAITH - Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: 16 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad -



es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
 nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
 uge and our great re - ward. With - out your grace we
 us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on
 vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings,
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.
 Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

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 Psalm 85 Refrain Tune: From The Psalmody for the Day, Series C. © 1976 Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress...

## Repent!

### Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. What's a good and long definition of the word repent?
2. Who are you?
3. What fact can't we overlook?
4. What's the idea of the word, "patient"?
5. Why is God so patient?
6. What happens when a person is baptized?
7. What works do you want to be exposed? Really?
8. What sort of people ought you to be?
9. What is repentance?
10. What can you do to hasten the day of God's coming? (three things)

### For Vine and Branches, further discussion:

1. Talk about the sentences, "Jesus loves you just the way you are. And he loves you too much to let you stay just as you are."
2. Discuss God's patience. Does it comfort, annoy, something else?
3. Talk about what you will do to "hasten the day of the coming of God."

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Leader:** Eternal Father, throughout the centuries, you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

**People:** **We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

**Leader:** As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

**People:** **Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."**

**Leader:** You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

**People:** **Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

**Leader:** Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

**People:** **Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

**Leader:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

**Leader:** Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

**People:** **Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

**Leader:** We join in the Lord's Prayer:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**All:** **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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**Leader:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People:** **Amen.**

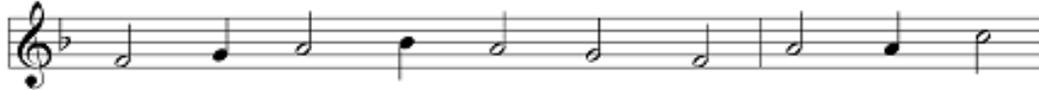
CLOSING HYMN: 11 "Comfort, Comfort All My People"



1 "Com - fort, com - fort all my peo - ple; Speak of peace,"  
 2 All their sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out  
 3 John the Bap - tist's voice is cry - ing In the des -  
 4 Straight - en out the crook - ed high - way; Make the rough -



so says our God. "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,  
 each dark mis - deed; All that well de - serve his an - ger  
 ert far and near, Call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance  
 er plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



Groan - ing from their sor - rows' load. Speak to all  
 He no more will see or heed. They have suf -  
 For the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn -  
 Read - y for his ho - ly reign. For the glo -



Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;  
 fered man - y a day; Now their griefs have passed a - way.  
 ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
 ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is spread a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er,  
 God will change their ach - ing sad - ness  
 Let the val - leys rise to meet him  
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken



That their war - fare now is o - ver."  
 In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 And the hills bow down to greet him.  
 That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611-84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
 Tune: FREU DICH SEHR (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

### **ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT**

Women of RLC: Advent by Candlelight event is quickly approaching this December 6 at 4:30. The uplifting and evangelical evening will help women and friends of our congregation prepare their hearts for Christmas. If you haven't already signed up for the event and would like to attend, you can contact Julie Krause at [jkkrause65@gmail.com](mailto:jkkrause65@gmail.com) (texts welcome) or 608-225-0372 by 11-29-20. The program will be recorded, but it will not stream live. We will post a link to the video on the church website within a few days of the event. You do not need

### **ADVENT BY BONFIRE**

Sunday, December 6, 4:30 pm in Verona. This event is geared towards men, and a great opportunity for Dad to lead his children into God's word. Held at the Meinel residence across from the Verona campus. If your wife is attending Advent by Candlelight, this is great opportunity to resonate the Advent theme throughout

### **CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS**

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests (Luke 2:14)!" As we quickly approach the Christmas season, our joy and anticipation build. One of the greatest parts of Christmas is that it is an opportunity for us to reach out to children with the greatest message that we have: a Savior is born for you, he is Christ the Lord. Christmas for Kids is a fun event that happens every year. Even though this year is a different year, our joy is not diminished. We still want children to be able to learn and spread that Christmas message.

In this year's take-home materials, there will be included a craft, materials to follow along with the reenactment of the Christmas Story, a possible recipe for snack, and a link to find the videos on YouTube to follow along with. Please register by December 12th so that we can have a rough number of how many to prepare. The videos will go live December 19th.

## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24

Verona: 3:30 pm & 6:30 pm \*  
Monroe: 3:30 pm & 7:00 pm \*

### CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25

Verona: 9:00 am  
Monroe: 10:30 am

There will be a special New Year's Eve joint service in Monroe at 7:00 pm on Thursday, December 31. Fellowship and game night will follow the service. Our plan is to have one joint worship service each year at each location. The New Year's Eve service will be in Monroe. Ascension Day service will be in Verona.

We pray members from both campuses can attend, God-willing.

*\* Both services in Verona will be the same, and both services in Monroe will be the same.*

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

We are making every attempt to continue to worship together as a church family. However, due to the ever-changing conditions with Covid19, we ask that you please monitor the website and our Facebook page for any changes. We will comply with all government mandates as they are issued & modify our gatherings accordingly.

We are posting online worship opportunities each week. You will receive notification of them via email and they will also be posted on our Facebook page, our YouTube channel (The Resurrection Channel) and the websites. Resources to follow along will be included.

Your gifts of love are still needed, and can be mailed to the main office: Attention Treasurer, 6705 Wesner Rd, Verona, WI 53593. You also may contribute through your bank's bill-pay service & they will mail the check for you. Or, you may contribute online by contacting the office to obtain the form to do so: [ministrycoordinator@rlcverona.com](mailto:ministrycoordinator@rlcverona.com).