



# Resurrection Lutheran Church

*To Live & Share the Love of Christ*

Pastor Melissa Pagel

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

*Congregational responses are printed in **Bold Type**.*

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## *To Live & Share the Love of Christ*

Welcome to Resurrection Lutheran Church where different people come together for the shared purpose of worshiping God and encouraging each other through the inclusive love of Jesus. Whether you are our guest, looking for a church home, or already a member, we want you to feel welcomed by our congregation and inspired by our worship service.

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## **Call to Worship**

Welcome to the weary and the worn.

**Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.**

Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

**Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.**

Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

**Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.**

Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

**This is God's house.**

You can make yourself at home here.

**Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!**

***Gathering Hymn Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
ELW 886***

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,  
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,  
4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!  
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,                      6 To God all glory, praise, and love  
O fallen human race!                                      be now and ever giv'n  
Look and be saved through faith alone,              by saints below and saints above,  
be justified by grace!                                      the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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### **Register now for Crossways Camps**

Our Early Bird Discount is available for all Youth Camp Programs. Discount cannot be combined with First-Time Camper Discount.

Register now at: <https://www.crosswayscamps.org> and enter the code below:

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.**

### **Call to Confession**

Jesus once said to a crowd, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone.”

Friends, none of us are without sin.

None of us get it right *all* the time.

None of us can get by without God’s grace.

In the Prayer of Confession, we acknowledge this truth.

We put down our stones and we turn to God for forgiveness.

Join me in this act of transformation.

Let us pray:

### **Prayer of Confession**

Holy God,

**we love to live our lives by the rules.**

**We love clear answers.**

**We love right and wrong.**

**We love swift justice.**

**We love to pick up stones,**

**but you show us another way.**

**You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation.**

**You prioritize mercy over legality.**

**You prioritize people over tradition.**

**You prioritize love over everything.**

**Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters.  
Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or  
to you.  
Forgive us. Soften our hearts.  
Root us in mercy, justice, and love.  
With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.**

### **Words of Forgiveness**

Church family,  
Jesus saw a crowd ready to throw stones and invited them to  
choose another way.  
Jesus offered them grace, mercy, and compassion,  
and the same can be said for us. So hear and believe the good  
news of the gospel:

**Our God is a God of mercy.  
Our God is a God of compassion.  
Our God is a God of grace.  
We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way.  
Thanks be to God for yet another second chance. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Holy One, when you speak, we don't want to miss it.  
When you bend down and write in the dirt, when you move  
through the trees, when you wake with the dawn, when you tug  
on our heart, or whisper into our dreams,  
we don't want to miss it. So today we pray, clear out the  
cobwebs in our ears. Quiet the steady stream of thoughts  
marching through our minds. Open up space in our hearts so  
that we can receive your word for us today. With hope we pray.  
**Amen.**

First lecture is 2:30-4:30 PM, entitled, "*Understanding Jesus  
Means Understand Judaism: How not to introduce antisemitism  
into your preaching and teaching*".

The cost is \$30 for the afternoon. \$35 if staying for the supper  
and evening session. RSVP required if staying for supper.

The second lecture will be 6:00-7:30 PM, entitled, "*How and  
Why Jews and Christians Read the Same Bible Stories  
Differently*".

For information and to RSVP: Call 920-682-6311

### **Continued Book Study**

Please join us for an ongoing bible study on the book, "Life  
Together" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer on Tuesday, March 24 at 6  
PM. The remaining dates are April 7 and April 21.

### **Lincoln School Drive**

We will be accepting donations for Lincoln School as noted  
below.

If you prefer a donation of cash for us to purchase items, just  
specify on the envelope and place in the offering  
plate. Envelopes and flyers will be available in the Narthex.  
This ministry will be supported all year long.

**New or gently used elastic waist pants, joggers, leggings,  
Youth sizes 4t-16**

**New underwear or socks, Youth sizes 4t-16**

**New or gently used sport bras**

**Individually wrapped snacks**

**Upcoming Events**

<b>Assisting with Worship</b>	<b>3/22/2026</b>	<b>3/29/2026</b>
Usher	Jim Gatske	Jim Gatske
Communion Deacon	Debbie La Plante	Kevin Wood
Counters	John & Jodi Koch	John & Jodi Koch
Lector	<b>None needed</b>	<b>Open</b>
Altar Guild	Sandy Krakow & Jean Halloran	Sandy Krakow & Jean Halloran
Fellowship	John & Jodi Koch	<b>Open</b>

**Ordering Lillies and Tulips**

If you're interested in purchasing a lily or tulip, the cost is \$10 each. Order forms and envelopes are available in the Narthex.

**Palm Sunday Brunch March 29**

Don't forget to sign up for the Palm Sunday Brunch to be held on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> following the worship service.

**Sharing Table in Narthex through 3/29/26**

If there is anything that you'd like to take for yourself or someone else, there is a Sharing Table in the Narthex with items that will be donated after March 29. .

Dr. AJ Levine will be coming to Lakeshore Church in Manitowoc for 2 lectures on April 20. Dr. Levine is a world-renowned scholar of Judaism and the New Testament.

**Word**

**The Gospels**

The Holy Gospel according to John 8:2-11 and Matthew 23:23

**Glory to you O God.**

**John 8: 2-11**

<sup>2</sup> Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and began to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and, making her stand before all of them, <sup>4</sup> they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. <sup>5</sup> Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup> They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. <sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup> And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup> When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. <sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

**Matthew 23: 23**

<sup>23</sup> “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**      **Pastor Melissa Pagel**

*Hymn of the Day*    *What Wondrous Love is This*  
*ELW 666*

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to live and share the love of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**This Week at a Glance**

<b>Monday Office Hours</b>	9:00 am-1:00 pm
Tuesday	
Quilters	9:00 am
Book Club	6:00 pm
Wednesday	
Lenten Worship Service	6:30 pm
<b>Thursday Office Hours</b>	9 am-3:30 pm
Brown Co. Hunger Coalition	7:30-9 am
Food Pantry Open	5:30-7:30 pm-
<b>Friday Office Hours</b>	9:00 am-2:00 pm
Sunday Worship Service	9:30 am

## Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell  
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## What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.  
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## **Affirmation of Faith**

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.  
It sounds like welcome and feels like home.  
It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.  
It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,  
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.  
I have seen it alive in the world. And even when my heart  
aches, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of  
reach, I remember the one who welcomed the children  
and led with nonviolence. I remember the one who  
cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him.  
I remember that the good news really is good news,  
for I have seen it alive in the world.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence,  
let us pray for the world and its needs.

**Response: Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength  
and salvation. **Amen.**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **Offering**

**Choir Lord, I know I've Been Changed Larson**

The good news of the gospel is alive in the world,  
so go forth speaking.  
For if you won't, then who will?  
Thanks be to God  
for this good, *good* news. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn Christ, Be Our Light ELW 715***

## **Welcome to the Table**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

## **Table Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **Thanksgiving Prayer**

Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **Benediction**

As you leave this place,  
when you meet anger, speak with love.  
When you meet fear, speak with hope.  
When you meet pain, speak with gentleness.  
But no matter what, speak this good news.  
For the good news of the gospel is  
love and justice for all.  
It is joy that surprises,  
and nonviolence that transforms.

## **Offering Prayer**

O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.  
Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**MEAL**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

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 God thanks and praise.**

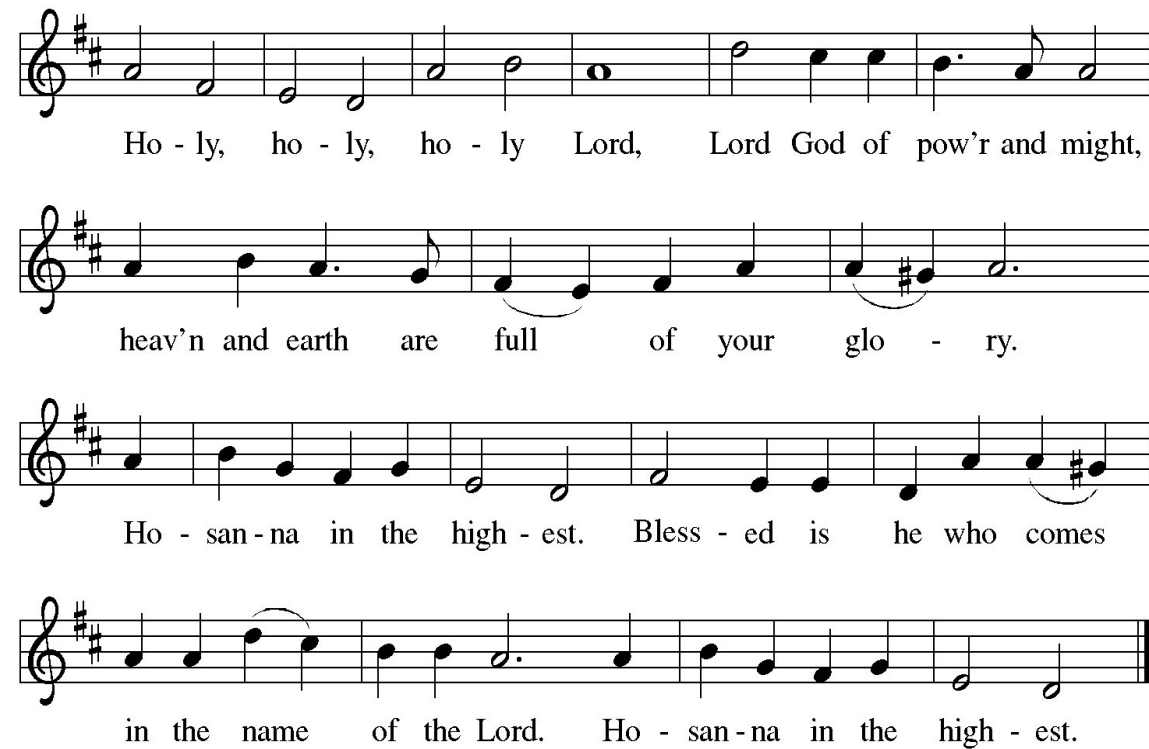
## **Preface**

It is indeed our right, our duty and our joy....

We praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy

ELW Pg. 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Words of Institution

On the night in which he was betrayed  
Which is to say, on the night before he was sentenced to death by  
those who didn't like him challenging their power and disturbing  
their status quo,

Which is to say, on the night before he was subjected to an unjust  
trial, torture and humiliation, on that night, with the heart of God  
on full display, as feet were washed, a meal was shared and  
encouragement to carry on ministry was given.

On that night, Jesus took bread and gave thanks. He broke it and  
shared it among them saying:

**Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Do this and remember me.**

In the same way after supper, which is to say, with those same  
incredibly imperfect and fallible people there, His closest friends,  
the ones who knew him the best, the ones who had watched him  
heal, heard him teach and yet would doubt, deny and betray him.  
In the same way, among those same flawed and forgiven people,  
with their fear and confusion on full display. In the same way,  
after supper, Jesus took the cup and he gave thanks. He gave it to  
his friends, (his deeply loved, fully human friends), each of them  
in turn, saying:

**Drink. This cup is poured out for you and for all people. It is the promise of God. Drink it and remember me.**

We remember Jesus' death and resurrection, our hope and our  
life. We break the bread and share the one cup.

**Thanks be to God.**

On the night...let us pray as Jesus taught us.

### The Lord's 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.**