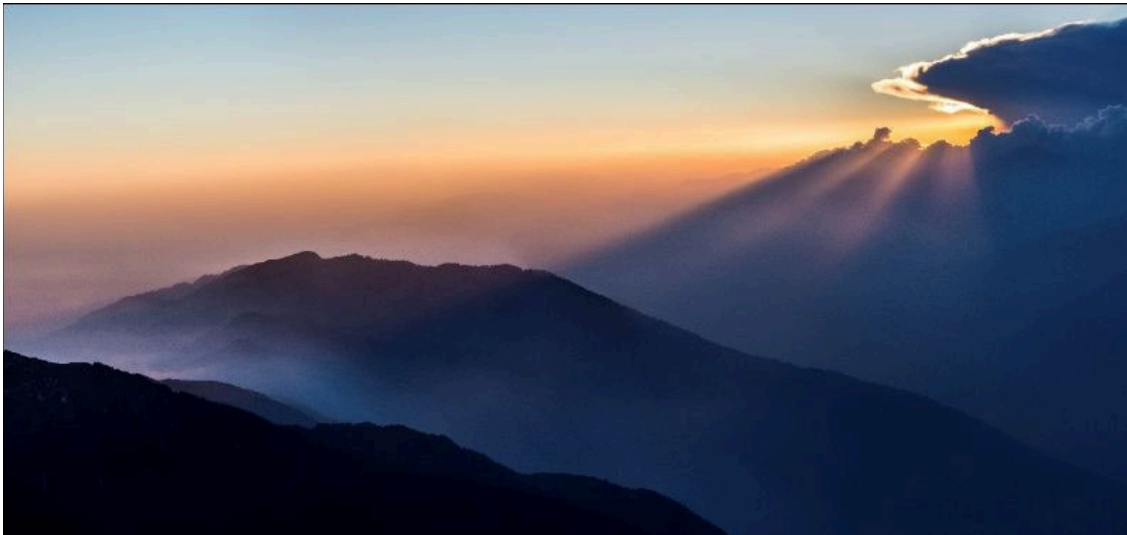


Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 14, 2024



Pastor's Corner for July 14-20, 2024

Before the Foundation of the Cosmos (Ephesians 1:3-14)

Today I heard something on the news as I drove to work about a marvel of God's creation I still don't fully understand. It's something called a "goldilocks black hole." Apparently, it was discovered a few years ago and just a few days ago was identified by the Hubble telescope in a star cluster some 17,000 light years away. This black hole is said to be of the "goldilocks" variety because it's neither the huge kind found at the center of galaxies, nor the small type formed by big stars that collapse in on themselves. It is just the right size to tantalize scientists who spend time envisioning how galaxies might have formed over time into what we know and experience today. It's estimated that something like 46,000 intermediate black holes exist in the vicinity of our Milky Way galaxy, alone. That's a lot to think about as I drive to church and prepare for one day of life lived on this speck of a planet spinning around one of 200 billion trillion stars we know exist in our "observable"

universe. I'm not sure I even want to try to think about how small we are when you add the "unobservable" reaches of space to that number!

Which is why it was good today to read God's promise in the opening verses of Ephesians 1 — our Epistle reading this weekend. As Paul writes his letter to the Ephesians, he takes a moment to reassure them. Our status as beloved children of God is not some accident. It did not originate with a divine afterthought. And it was certainly not the result of our own efforts! No, we were chosen, Paul writes, "before the foundation of the cosmos," that we might be holy and blameless before God. In LOVE God predestined us for adoption to himself through Christ Jesus. Imagine that. Before the spinning galaxies even started to whirl God had you and me in mind! That's how precious we are in God's eyes! It is also good to notice what St. Paul DOESN'T say. He doesn't say (or even imply) that God chooses some and rejects others. Humanity has always had the freedom and ability to do the wrong thing and walk away from its Creator and Redeemer. But the doctrine of predestination reassures us and astounds us when we wonder about what matters most to our God. The answer? You and me. It's as simple — it's as personal — as that.

So, no matter what your week looks like, no matter how small and insignificant your efforts today and tomorrow might appear to you... don't forget what happened before the foundation of the cosmos: God chose you! It all points to the faithfulness of our God who brought His own dear Son into our world and then brought Jesus to us, by His Spirit. It was all a part of the plan. It was all so that we, declared holy and blameless through Jesus, might reflect in some small measure the light of life the world still needs to see.

How will your ordinary day today look a little more extraordinary as a result?

In peace and joy,
Pastor Jonathan

Prayers of the Church

Mites for Missions

We will be collecting Mites for Missions at all services this weekend, **July 13 and 14**. Please place your gifts in the large purple Mite Box in the Narthex near Sanctuary Worship.

Gifts can also be made by check, payable to RLC, and mailed directly to Donna Krupcale, % Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518. The large Mite Box is always available at the Welcome table in the Narthex for gifts anytime during the month.



Thank you for supporting the mission grants of Lutheran Women in Mission!



July Adult Game Night

July 14, 5:00-9:30 pm

Looking for a night of fun and fellowship?
Like to play board/card games?

Join us the 2nd Sunday of the month from 5:00-9:30 pm for Adult Game Night in Room 240, Family Life Center!

We'll bring a variety of games but feel free to bring your favorite. Snacks and food are welcome, too!

For more information or to sign up, contact Sandy Wuori or Ben Wuori through RCB or the church office at 919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org.



Christmas in July is here! The Christmas trees are located in the Narthex of the Sanctuary and the Lobby of the Family Life Center from **July 1-31**.

Each tree has numerous ornament "tags". Take a tag and return it to the tree with the requested item next time you are at church. No need to wrap them!

This year, our gifts will benefit Green Chair Project (thegreenchair.org), Families Together (famielstogethernc.org), and Safe Families for Children (raleigh.safe-families.org).

**Lutheran Women in Mission
6th Biennial Convention**

September 20-21, 2024
Resurrection Lutheran Church



Theme: "Be Still and Know"

Everyone is invited to attend this Convention Opening Worship, led by our Southeastern District President Rev. Dr. William Harmon, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Saturday's activities will be held in the Family Life Center. Christian author, Deb Burma, will be the Keynote Speaker in two sessions based on Psalm 46. After lunch, hear about the Mission Projects to be funded by our Mite Boxes in the coming year. Come and meet Lutheran Women from both North and South Carolinas!

There are several ways to help Resurrection Lutheran Women host this event – greeters, ushers, bakers, food servers, dishwashers, set-up and clean-up, etc. If you are willing to serve, plan to attend an information meeting on **Wednesday, July 17 at 7:00 pm** in Room 151 (*note room change).

Contact Carol Bostick through RCB or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).

Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for
the Visually Impaired meets

Friday, July 26

5:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy to learn more and for volunteer needs or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

• YOUNG FAMILIES • *gathering*



All families with kids (5th grade and younger) are invited
to a Young Families Gathering for food and fun!

Sunday, July 28 at 4:00 pm

at the home of Elliot and Holly Canupp
1404 Leanne Ct., Raleigh

RSVP to Pastor Zach, Elliot and Holly Canupp,
or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

RLC Worship Servants and Training

There is always a need for more volunteers to assist in all of our worship services. Please consider being a greeter or usher, a worship assistant or lay reader, a slide tech or live stream team member. Feel free to reach out directly to the following for more information:

- Saturday, 6:00 pm - Lori Jannings
- Sunday, 8:00 am - Brenda Peterson
- Sunday, 9:30 am - Dara Linn
- Sunday, 11:00 am - Suzi Heffner

You may also contact the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248) for assistance.





Questions? Contact Erika Hulse, Children and Family Ministry Director
erika.hulse@rlcary.org.

Youth Ministry

Middle School and High School

Eight amazing youth spent the last week of June on a Staycation Mission Trip. What is a Staycation Mission Trip? A week spent in service right here in the Cary area.

Our schedule looked something like this: serve at VBS, eat lunch, devotion time, serve the community/partner with other RLC groups, make dinner, and last but not least have some fun!

Philippians 4:9, *"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."*



Congrats to the Team and THANK YOU!

Ben, Fiona, Garrett, Grant, Jonah, Josh, Logan, and Wyatt

In a week where we set out to bless the community, we found ourselves constantly blessed by God who always helped us rise above the challenges.

Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director
jenny.piontek@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248, ext. 24.

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Enrolling for the 2024-25 preschool year!

We offer classes for children, 2-years-old through 5-years-old.

Our program provides a balance of social and academic opportunities by means of 'learning through play' in a loving Christian atmosphere.

rlpcary.org | 919-851-7270 | office@rlpcary.org

Resurrection Lutheran School



rlscary.org

Junior Kindergarten-8th Grade

rlscary.org | 919-851-7271 | contact@rlscary.org

Latest Lion's Tale



For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC
or through our website at
rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

This Week's Visual Faith Sheet

Weekly Attendance

In-Person Worship Attendance

Saturday, July 6
6:00 pm - 43

Sunday, July 7

8:00 am - 62

9:30 am - 141

11:00 am - 100

Total In-Person Worship: 346

Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, July 7

8:00 am - 110

11:00 am - 53

Total Online Views: 163 views

Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

rlcary.org

919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org