

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE GOSPEL OF
JOHN

2:13-25

Cleansing the Temple

153 South McKenna Avenue
Gretna, Nebraska 68028
402-332-3383
www.RELChurch.net

March 6 & 7, 2021

5:30 p.m. Saturday Worship

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship



COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE
March 6 & 7, 2021

GATHERING

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who shines in glory,
clothes us in compassion,
and bears gifts of mercy for all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, wonderful counselor,
**we confess that we have turned from your gifts
and chosen our own way.**

**We have not made room for you
in our hearts or in our world.**

**We have lived in fear;
we have not welcomed the stranger;
we desire gifts that will not endure.**

**Forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
and open us to receive the peace of Jesus
dwelling in and among us.**

Amen.

God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior.
We are saved, not by anything we have done,
but by God's mercy poured out on us richly.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

Through the Spirit living in you,
God give you faith to trust Jesus,
who is Love born for you, now and always.

Amen.

WORSHIP SONG

In the Cross of Christ I Glory, vs. 1-4



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diancance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING**Exodus 20:1-17**

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

SECOND READING**1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling

block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

The holy gospel according to St. John, beginning in the 2nd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
born of the virgin Mary.
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering. Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ

beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

SENDING

WORSHIP SONG

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
 on which the prince of glory died,
 my richest gain I count but loss
 and pour contempt on all my pride.

- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
 save in the death of Christ, my God;
 all the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them to his blood.

- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

FINAL BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Dear friends in Christ go and

Share God's word,

Show God's love,

Serve God,

Amen.

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 6 & 7, 2021 Gretna, NE 68028

Church Office: 402-332-3383 Fax: 402-332-4784

E-mail: theooffice@relchurch.net Website: www.relchurch.net

Pr. James Sells: 402-759-6347

*We welcome you to Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church!
We hope our time together will be a blessing to you!*

Visitor & Prayers Cards—Welcome to our worship. You are in the right place! Visitor and Prayer cards are available if you'd like to fill one out. Please ask an usher to get you one and return it back to them when you are finished. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

CURRENT HAPPENINGS

Sunday School Join us for in-person Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School area. Bring your children to learn about Jesus and all his wonders as we delve into another great semester together. Please wear your masks. See you then.



Current Needs: If anyone is interested in supplying some snacks for the Sunday School children, please drop them off in the church office and label them Sunday School. Thank you!

Underground to Food Bank of the Heartland The Youth Underground will be going to the Food Bank of the Heartland in Omaha on February 13th from 9:00-11:30 a.m. to help out as one of their service projects.

Lenten Holden Evening Prayer Services Join us every Wednesday during Lent for our **In-Person Holden Evening Prayer service** or on **Zoom at 7:00 p.m.** We will continue this service every Wednesday until March 24th.



Please join us at home by using the following Zoom link at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85905050384?pwd=SW9sQTNIITJAvSmQ4WnINMERBNEw4dz09>

Meeting ID: 859 0505 0384

Passcode: 1517

Lenten offering donations can be sent to:

Gretna Neighbors, PO Box 191, Gretna NE, 68028 or you can email them to make other arrangements at: GretnaNeighbors@gmail.com

Lift Up Sarpy County, 119 West Mission Ave., Bellevue, NE 68005 or you can donate online at: liftupsarpycounty.org/donate

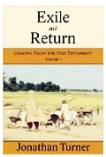
Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry, 6757 Newport Ave., #300, Omaha, NE 68152 (*NeLCM in memo line*) or you can donate online at: NELCM.com

Tabitha, 4720 Randolph Street, Lincoln, NE 68510 or you can donate online at: Tabitha.org/give/

Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, 27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, NE 68003 or you can donate online at: NLOM.org/give

Project Hope, Inc., 6201 North 60th St., Omaha, NE 68104 or you can donate online at: ProjectHopeOmaha.org

Adult Forum: Exile and Return-“The Wilderness Journey Home”



Join us for our Adult Forum as we relate the struggle of God's people in the 6th century BC, their Exile in Babylon and journey home to Jerusalem, to our struggle in the 21st century AD, as we start the journey home from our viral exile.

This study will be on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. and will continue into the Summer, so come along and join the adventure!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87953507438?pwd=WnU2dFVvcjNpbytoeStZRGZmSGdCZz09>

Meeting ID: 879 5350 7438

Passcode: 918225

Books are available for our study in the café and through a Thrivent Action Plan grant. All sessions will be uploaded to our YouTube channel if the time of the session doesn't work in your schedule or a weekend is missed! Stop by to pick yours up today.

Easter Lily Order It's that time again to get signed up for an Easter Lily to decorate our church for Easter service. Please sign up this year on our new sign-up genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a44acad29a5f58-easter1> or give the office a call and we will get you signed up. **The last day to sign up is March 22nd. Lilies are available for the price of \$6.00.** Simply write your check payable to Resurrection Church, mark it



“Easter Lily” in the memo line, and drop your check in the mail or drop it by the office. Lilies can be taken home after the late service on Easter.

Project Hope EASTER Collection The Local and World Service Team is inviting you to help Project Hope with some of their **critical** needs during this Lenten season. Due to Covid, we are offering two ways to help this year. One is to just go to their webpage and make a donation at Projecthopeomaha.org as they can always use the funds, especially during this time. Or, if you



would rather pick up some items they need, they have specifically requested the following items: small bottles of Laundry Detergent or dish soap, Clorox Wipes, small bottles of bleach, any type of antibacterial surface cleaners, such as Clorox, Pine Sol, Comet, etc. or cleaning tool items such as sponges, dusters or toilet bowl brushes.

Collections have begun and they will continue through **Palm Sunday, March 28th**. We will have a table set up between the Nursery Room doors for those items. We will make sure the items are delivered before Easter. Thank you so much for helping those in need this Easter season!

2021 Lenten Devotional “Awesome Mystery” A daily devotional brought to you by the alumni of Luther Seminary. Luther Seminary invites you to use the 2021 Lenten devotional, “Awesome Mystery” for your personal use throughout the Lenten season.



Stop by the red skirted table by the RELC Café to pick up a copy of our 2021 Lenten Devotional book or go to

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/lenten-devotional/> to download at home.

Everyday Pr. James will present the devotions live at 12:10 p.m. on Youtube. Go on an “Awesome Mystery” journey with Pr. James as we hear the powerful messages from Bible excerpts and pray together through this Lenten season.

40 Days of Giving 2021: Lenten Calendar Pick up this year's Lenten devotional calendar that is filled with ideas for reflection and how to participate in ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving. Begin your week with the word of God, preparing your heart and mind to learn more about what it means to hope during the season of Lent.



Read and reflect on each week's selected Bible verses on your own, with your family or with a small group, to listen to the word of God this Lent.

LSWT Meal Support and Caring Casseroles The Local & World Service Team will now organize the church's meal coordination and delivery for church families with new babies, deaths in the family, illnesses and other situations where a meal would be welcome. If you are interested in joining the meal support sub-team, please contact Lexie Frahm at lexie.frahm@gmail.com or 402-416-9113. The LSWT also invites members to utilize the Caring Casseroles stocked in the church's freezer. The casseroles are for members in need or for members to give to those in need outside our church family.



IMMEDIATE NEED: Caring Meals needed for Ken and Gwen Reier
Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A44ACAD29A5F58-caring>

ONGOING HAPPENINGS

Phase II Worship We continue in Phase II of our stage re-opening. Church is available in-person and online. Overflow seating is available in the courtyard if attendance surpasses our worship spaces. You are encouraged to sign-up using our sign-up genius. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a44acad29a5f58-worship>.

Please stay connected through the church's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/RELCgretna> and through our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjXnhZfhxipkc5ZTA6SrHUw>. Don't miss hearing God's word as Pr. James Sells shares the Gospel with us each week.

***Communion services** will be offered on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. If you will not be attending in person and would like to commune during our online worship service, please stop by the church to pick up your individually pre-packaged communion set.

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjXnhZfhxipkc5ZTA6SrHUw>

Facebook: [facebook.com/RELCgretna](https://www.facebook.com/RELCgretna)

LinkTree: linktr.ee/relicgretna (takes you to all online links during this time)

Youth Underground-Looking for Faith Leaders We need you!!! Would



you like to help in the faith formation of our High School Youth? We are currently looking for committed people of faith to shepherd the Youth Underground during their weekly meetings and activities. We would love to have you share in the ministry of our youth in a fun, creative and meaningful way. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact Pr. James at 402-759-6347.

SIGN-UP NOW!! Flowers and Bulletins 2021 This year our 2021 flower



Altar Flowers

and bulletin sign-up sheet is online. If you would like to call into the office, we'd be happy to get you signed up as well. We'd love to see fresh flowers on the altar for our worship services.

If you'd like to sign-up go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a44acad29a5f58-altar>. The suggested donation for bulletin sponsorship is \$20. You can drop a check in the mail or at the office, Mon—Fri, 8am-3pm. If you are interested in signing up for flowers, as always Town & Country Floral gives all Gretna churches altar flowers at cost. They will also deliver and set them up for you. You don't even have to leave the comfort of your own home. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

NOTE: If you have taken the brass flower liners home with your flowers, please return them at your earliest convenience. We only have a few sets, and they are needed each week to add the flower bouquets to the altar.

Personal Information Changes? Do you have a name, address, phone number or email change? If so, please contact the office by phone at 402-332-3383 or email us at theoffice@relchurch.net. If you would like us to have an emergency contact number, please include that as well.

RELC Quilting Group The RELC Quilting Group will meet at 1:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Please consider dropping off any old blankets and sheets of any size, batting and 100% cotton material (scraps are fine too, if they are large enough for quilt squares). Thank you!

Gretna Neighbors During this time, the Gretna Neighbors Food Pantry will be open during our regular hours, which are the **1st and 3rd Saturday** of each month from **9:00-11:00 a.m.** and the **2nd Wednesday** of the month from **6:00-7:00 p.m.** We are only handing out pre-bagged groceries with pre-designated amounts of non-perishable items and frozen food items.

If you or someone you know is in need in the Gretna school district, you are invited to stop by during these hours. We don't discriminate. You will only need to show proof of residency in the school district.

Project Hope Food Pantry Only food donations are being taken at this time. Please **do not drop off clothing or household items to the church.** Please find alternate drop off locations until further notice.

Hospital Visits Hospitals usually don't contact us when you go into the hospital due to the privacy act. If you or a family member is going into the hospital, be sure and let the office know so that we can be there for you with prayerful support.

TAGG To date, our church TAGGers have raised more than \$1700 for church projects sponsored by the Local & World Service Team. Download the app to your smartphone and choose RELC as the supported organization. You can also drop your receipts at the office. When you purchase from a TAGG business, it will donate up to 5% of your total purchase to RELC.



Followers of Christ-Prison Ministry If you are interested in becoming involved to help those incarcerated. Please contact Scott Drews at 402-670-8259 or sdrews@bhhc.com or you may contact the office for more information.

Save your Best Choice and Box Tops for Education Labels! Deposit them in the containers located at the Outreach Corner with yellow shelving.

Aluminum Can Collection! Bring your empty cans to the container outside of the west door of the church-in the alley. We please ask that you **do not crush** them. The can needs to be visible for refund purposes. The proceeds will go to Least of My Brethren.

The Following Opportunities Are Available Now

Volunteer Needs:

- Youth Underground Leaders
Contact: PastorJames@relchurch.net
- Lay Reader Coordinator & Lay Readers

Contact: theoffice@relchurch.net

- Sunday School Teachers/Substitute Teachers

Contact: theoffice@relchurch.net

**If you have questions about any of these opportunities or would like more details, please contact the church office at 402-332-3383.

PRAYERS

Be still, and know that I am God...

Our shut-in members and those in the assisted living and nursing

homes: Donna Fleck, Darlene Foged, Margie Biel, Patti Huff, Marlene Kuehl, Sharon Barkley, Keith Barkley, Carol Schlueter, Marge Warren, Jim Schram, Delores Kreifels, Jackie Mowinkel, Joan Bohling, Thelma Mowinkel, Carol Ehlers

Healing and courage: Nicole Slusher's mother-Charlene Hesser, Gene Mackey Family, Miles McMahill, Kim Mefford's friend's husband, Steve Norman, Gwen Reier, Jim Raess, Jeanne Ralston's friend-Amy LaFontaine, Alvin & JoAnn Glasshoff's daughter-Dawn Allbery, Marie Lemke, Kelli Barnhart, Jeanne Ralston's friends-Larry & Judy Peterson, Joyce McMahill's cousin-Mary Weber, Jean Schnack, Miles & Joyce McMahill's friend-Rosie, Linda Karas, Kris & Becky Wagner Family, Denise McKay, Sharon Barkley's grandson-Jeremy Eidson, Wendy Killingsworth, Linda & Kevin Karas's friend-Monica March, Roger Asche, Jerry Walker, Lois Nore, Denise McKay's sister-Kathy Ewert

Birthdays: Liz Flynn, Lauryn Hardy, Ruth Hartman, Randy Sump, Joyce Mohling, Joseph Brennan, Ainsley Buster, Trina Waller, Bradley Fleck, Matthew Layher, Chase Anderson

Anniversaries: Louis & Kathryn Essen

Concord Sister Congregation: Please pray for our sister congregation, Concordia Lutheran Church in Concord, NE.

Service Men and Women: For all those serving our country and for the families of soldiers who were killed or injured, that they be healed in body and spirit.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

*Hand sanitizers are available throughout the church for your use.

*If you are having trouble hearing the service, please ask an usher for a Sound Mate hearing device.

*For large print bulletins, please contact the office.

*Wheelchairs are available for your use in the church. Contact an usher or a council person for assistance.

*First Aid kits are located in the kitchen, church office

There is an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) located on the wall by the south bathrooms



RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

Pastor: James Sells

Church Council Members:

Bill Schwarten, Larry Rippe, Linda Biel-Karas, Becky Wagner, Lexie Frahm, Dave Schram, Rich Killingsworth, Darren Elliott, Evan Kock

Administrative Office Manager: Jeanne Ralston

Administrative Office Assistant: Sheri Feala

Financial Office Manager: Desiree Stednitz

Nursery Coordinator: Dhani Milliman

Music Director: Dr. Matt Hill

Sunday School Superintendent: Lynn Donahue

Custodial Needs: Property Team, Jeremy Reineke

Flowers & Bulletins:

January, February, March-Joyce McMahill

Lay Readers for March

5:30 pm (Sat.)-Linette Jahn

10:00 am-Erick Hill

ATTENDANCE

Saturday Worship (5:30pm): 32

Sunday Worship (10:00am): 95

Lenten Worship (7:00pm): 42

FOR THE FOOLISHNESS OF GOD IS
WISER THAN HUMAN WISDOM,
AND THE WEAKNESS OF GOD IS
STRONGER THAN
HUMAN STRENGTH.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:25