

RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



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

April 17 & 18, 2021
5:30 p.m. Saturday Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

-  [facebook.com/RELCgretna](https://www.facebook.com/RELCgretna)
-  [@RELCgretna](https://www.instagram.com/RELCgretna)
-  [@RELCgretna](https://twitter.com/RELCgretna)
-  <https://band.us/invite/a3ad21c7g1D7f>

COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE
April 17 & 18, 2021

GATHERING

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations,
who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Loving God,

**we confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.**

Forgive us for the times

we have spoken or acted too quickly;

we have not spoken or acted at all;

we have hurt those closest to us;

we have hurt those we have yet to know;

we have thought more about ourselves than others;

we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.

Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,

so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.

Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.

God's love never runs out.

God never tires of calling us beloved children.

Hear God say to you now:

Your sins are forgiven,

for the sake of † Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing, vs. 1, 2, 5



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

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.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Help, save comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING:

Acts 3:12-19

¹²When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out[.]

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him,

for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Lord to who shall we go, you have the words of eternal life, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, beginning in the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring
our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in
steadfast love.**

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

*The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,

The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:

Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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. Alleluia.

**Offering plates will not be passed. Please place your gift in the offering plate as you leave or use our online giving options. Thank you for being a blessing to us, so that we may bless others.*

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RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 17 & 18, 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

Easter Lilies If you purchased Easter lilies for our Easter services, we invite you to stop by the church at your convenience to pick yours up and take it home with you to enjoy. Thank you for sharing it with us this Easter.

Youth For Hire Help our high school Youth Underground raise money for their upcoming mission trip to Alamosa, CO in June. Jesus said, "I did not come to be served...but to serve." Our youth are here to serve.



They are ready to help you clean, sort, garden, mow, babysit & more and will be available on Saturday the 24th of April. Free-will offering!

Call Zane Mindrup at 402-510-9044 to schedule a time for someone to come help with all your projects.

Acolyte Training & Refresh-April 18th after our 10:00 a.m. worship



Join Pr. James for a training & refresh class on acolyting after our worship service. The training will last about one hour. This class is for all 4th graders and any 5th-8th grader who wishes to have a refresher class on the procedures involved in acolyting.

VBS-Save the Date Please add July 18-22 to your calendar for our summer VBS program. The theme for this year is "Treasured-Discovering You're Priceless to God". Sign-ups will be starting soon. Watch your emails for more information in the weeks ahead.



Letter from the Benevolence & Mission Team Congregation, If you know of an organization that has a need (i.e. funding) within our community where our team might be of assistance, please leave a note in our box in the church office. We will prayerfully consider these requests quarterly along with the other requests we regularly receive. Thank you.

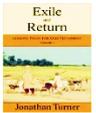
Sunday School All Pre-K-8th grade students are invited to join us for in-person Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School area. Bring your children to learn about Jesus and all his wonders as we delve into another great semester together. Please wear your masks. See you then.



Note: The last day of Sunday School will be May 2nd.

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!

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 by 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.

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.

ONGOING HAPPENINGS

New Covid-19 Protocols RELC Church Council adopted revised Covid-19 Protocols during their March 16, 2021 council meeting. The Covid-19 Protocol update will also be posted on our website and our north and south bulletin boards for you to view. Should you have any questions about the revised protocols, please feel free to contact any council member.

Phase II Worship Our worship services are available in-person and online. Overflow seating is available in the courtyard if attendance surpasses our worship spaces. **Sign up is no longer necessary to attend.** If attendance begins to grow, we will add another Sunday service.

Please watch us each week live on Zoom or later in the day on YouTube.

Join Zoom Worship

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87072801970?pwd=U0kzK3ZvSTlxMUhTVkQyNnN6cEVzdz09>

Meeting ID: 870 7280 1970

Passcode: 1517

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 and the Saturday before the second and fourth Sunday of each month.

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

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

LinkTree: linktr.ee/reलगretna (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



Altar Flowers

This year our 2021 flower 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!

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!

Food Pantry Donations Please drop off all food items in the pantry area in our south hallway by the yellow carts. 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.

- ***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. Donations are taken monthly to Project Hope.

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: 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: Erick Hill's cousin-Matthew Arnold, Doris Roberts, Shelley Schram's friend's stepdaughter-Dede, 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, Roger Ashe, Jerry Walker, Lois Nore, Denise McKay's sister-Kathy Ewert

Sympathy: Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Donna Fleck. Please keep Bruce and his family in your prayers. God bless.

Birthdays: Robert Elliott, Brad Wolverton, Liem Doan, Raelynn Milliman, Sue Bose, Scott Drews, Jordan Josoff, Tricia Prince, Rex Romano, Jessica Wegener, Brandon Behney, Anthony Falgione, Ron Liermann, Emmitt Knight, Jamison Karas, Brenda Anderson, Kaleb Schuery, Ryan Shea, James Sells

Anniversaries: Darren & Brooke Elliott, Rick & Joy Vodicka, Dennis Tresca & Raedawn Johnson-Tresca, Gary & Krista Long, John & Ianne Wolken

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.



RESURRECTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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:

April, May, June-Connie Sydzyik

Lay Readers for April

5:30 pm (Sat.)-Lona Pinkall

10:00 am-Arielle Clark

ATTENDANCE

Saturday Worship (5:30pm): 46

Sunday Worship (10:00am): 82

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



Little children,
let no one deceive you.

He who practices
righteousness

is righteous,

just as

He is righteous.

1 John 3:7