# Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost November 12, 2023



Pastor's Corner for November 12-18

# The Day of the Lord Is Near (Zephania 1:7-16)

There are times when you hear a Bible reading in church and you can't help but wonder why that one was read. It might be confusing, scary, intimidating, cause people to wonder or doubt the faith, or illicit anger. Well, this Sunday you will hear one such Bible passage read in church. Zephania 1:7-16 (stop reading this and read that!) is far from the gospel-filled Bible passages that we all enjoy, but it will be read aloud for all to hear.

Why read such Bible passages if there seems to be no good news? For starters, it is still God's Word, even if we don't want to hear it. All of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, is the never-ending (Matthew 24:35), always working (Isaiah 55:10-11) Word from the very mouth of God (Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 1:16), even the parts that we would rather avoid. So, what do we do with a passage like ours from Amos?

We remember that we read passages such as these through the lens the cross, in the scope of the whole Scripture. Just because this reading is in the Old Testament, doesn't mean that the New Testament doesn't apply. We are God's Easter People (which doesn't negate the Old Testament) and the empty, Easter tomb matters in everything, especially in uncomfortable passages like this.

"The sound of the day of the Lord is bitter... a day of wrath is that day." Amos warns. But why, we may ask, is the day of Jesus' return bitter? Our Epistle reading (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11) calls us to encourage one another toward the day of Jesus' return. Which is it? Look toward it with fear and trembling or with encouragement and hope?

Remember, you are Easter people! We do look forward for the return of Christ because our works do not determine our place in eternity. If we were dependent upon our works for our eternal home, then we would absolutely fear the day of the Lord. No one who depends on their own works for eternity should desire the day of the Lord. Instead, we look to the One who has won for us our place in eternity. The One who was silent before the Father, a prepared sacrifice, endured darkness, and took upon Himself the wrath of God (Zeph. 1:7, 15). Jesus Christ is the One who went to the cross, enduring the dark night that overshadowed the whole land (Luke 23:44) and was abandoned by God (Mark 15:34) all so that we might be with Him for all eternity.

Remember, you are Easter people! Christ has conquered the darkness that would separate us from the Father. Christ has killed our sin that would damn us for all eternity. Christ has destroyed the devil and all his lies that seek to pull us from God's Kingdom. When we read these words from Zephania, yes, we certainly mourn over the judgement that those without faith may face, but we are also spurred on to spread the Good News of a God who died and rose from the grave

for them. We are thankful for the Lord who has claimed us as His own and we are bold to stand before the Father because of the death and resurrection of the Son.

Your brother in Christ, Pastor Zach Sarrault

# **Prayers of the Church**



Fall is typically a time that churches focus on topics related to Christian stewardship... and November is a month we give thanks to God for the rich abundance we receive from His hand. I invite you to reflect on these topics and consider where God is leading you to give in 2024 by filling out and returning your "pledge" in preparation for our **Stewardship Weekend on November 11-12**.

If you are attending service in person, please bring your pledge card with you or fill out extra copies made available when you worship that day.

To submit your pledge online, please complete the form here.

There is no need to include your name... this is a pledge that is between you and your loving Savior, alone.

## **Staff Anniversaries for 2023**

Join us as we celebrate the staff anniversaries occurring this year at all services this weekend! There will be a cookie reception between the Sunday services in their honor.

This year, we celebrate **Linda Merrill and Jenny Piontek** for their 5 years of service and **Rosie Creasy** for her 20 years.

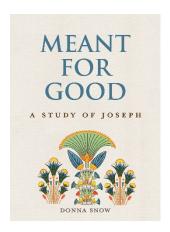


**Last Class!**Sunday Adult Christian Education

Join us on **Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall from September 10-November 12!

## Meant for Good: A Study of Joseph

A devotional journey through the life of Joseph, Genesis 30-50.



Everyone remembers Joseph from Sunday School days! But how often have you stopped to think about Joseph's life as a kind of "spiritual boot camp" that parallels your own? As author Donna Snow writes, "The amazing truth about God's spiritual boot camp (basically, our whole life) is that He never leaves us. Ever. Team led by Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault.





Help decorate the church for Christmas, order a poinsettia!

Pick up an order form at the Information Tables in the Narthex and Family Life Center lobby. Cost is \$15 per plant with a choice of red or white flowers. **Orders** are due by November 12.

Place your completed order form and check made payable to RLC in the office mailbox of Linda Merrill or mail to 100 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary NC 27518.

You may take home a plant after the 10:00 am worship service on Christmas Day. Plants not claimed by January 7 will be donated.

# **November Game Night for Grownups**

Sunday, November 12

Looking for a night of fun and fellowship? Like to play board/card games? We have some new ones!

Join us the **2nd Sunday of the month from 5:00-9:30 pm** for Game Night for Grownups in Room 240, Family Life Center! We'll bring a variety of games but feel free to bring your favorite.

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

## **Weekly Bible Study Opportunities**

## Monday Night Women's Bible Study

Join us in person at church on **Mondays**, **7:00-8:00 pm** in Room 151, Family Life Center, from September 11-Mid-November. There is a Zoom group available at the same time. Contact: Jamee Thieme

An eight-week Bible study, *God's Provision in a Wilderness World* by Lindsay Hausch, explores sections of the Book of Exodus and applies them to the here and now, for readers on their own journey through their own wilderness.

## Men's Weekly

Join us for the Men's Weekly on **Mondays**, **7:00-8:15 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center, for fellowship and study. Contact: Tom Gebbia

This eight-week study of *The Chosen*, *Season 3*, runs from October 16-December 4 and led by Ron Bostick. Discover what it means to belong to and be blessed by God. We all have to choose: the wide road that leads to destruction or the narrow path that leads to life. The third season of the groundbreaking television show, *The Chosen*, picks up with how Jesus' followers apply His teaching to their lives.

## **Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship**

This ongoing study meets **Tuesdays**, **10:30-11:30** am in the Fellowship Hall and is led by Pastors Jonathan and Zach.

God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. The Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope. We will study the lessons for the following Sunday, and as we do, we expect that this Word will enrich and edify our community prayer, faith, and servant life in Christ.

## Mama Bear Apologetics... Also for Papa Bears

Join us for this ongoing book study! There are two identical sessions each week
- Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00 pm or Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm in Room 240, Family Life
Center. Contacts: Pastor Zach Sarrault, Erika Hulse

Learn how to raise kids who think critically, love Biblically, and stand firm against the cultural tide. This book study will equip you to teach your kids how to affirm Biblical beliefs about what is true and what is false. Through transparent life stories and clear, practical applications —including prayer strategies— these Mama Bears offer you tools to train yourself, so you can turn around and train your kids.

#### **Christ and Culture**

Join us for a study of *Christ and Culture* on **Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm** from October 25-December 13 in the Fellowship Hall. Contact: Pastor Jonathan Blanke

This 7-week guided conversation on the relationship between Christ and Culture, introduced by Dr. Jon Diefenthaler, former LCMS Southeastern District President and Concordia Seminary scholar, of H. Richard Niebuhr and his classic book. We will discuss: How has the Christian church understood the relationship between Christ and culture historically? How do we understand that relationship today? What does all of this mean as we strive to live out the Gospel of Christ and serve our God who is King of both the "secular" realm as well as the realm of the Church? We will probe these questions using the context of current events.

## Men with Kids

Join us for a study of *The Book of Romans: Part 2* on **Wednesdays, 6:30 pm** in Room 247, Family Life Center. Contact: Tom Gebbia

The Book of Romans is considered by many to be one of the most important books ever written on the Christian faith. Writing to Christians, the apostle Paul defines the gospel, explores its depths, and discusses its significance and implications for the Christian life.

<u>Christian education information, including detailed class descriptions, can be found</u> here.

Any questions can be directed to the church office at <a href="mailto:office@rlcary.org">office@rlcary.org</a> or 919-851-7248.

# Wednesday Night Workshop Schedule

5:00-6:00 pm

Dinner, FLC Gym

5:00-5:30 pm

Jubilee Bells, Sanctuary

5:30-6:00 pm

Rainbow Choir, Sanctuary
Sonshine Singers, Choir Room

6:00-7:00 pm

Kidz Live, RM 151, FLC Ignite, The Warehouse Mama Bear Apologetics, RM 240 6:30-7:30 pm

Heavenly Handbells, Sanctuary

6:30-8:00 pm Adult Christian Ed

Christ and Culture, Fellowship Hall Men with Kids (Romans), RM 247

7:00-8:15 pm

Confirmation, RM 240, FLC

7:30-8:45 pm

Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary

# Wednesday Night Dinners

Our dinners are thoughtfully prepared, catering to all ages with a kid friendly, buffet-style setup. We will have a fantastic vegetarian option available upon request. Plus, a delectable dessert to satisfy your sweet tooth. An excellent opportunity to bond with family and friends over a sit-down meal!

Wednesday Night Dinner 5:00-6:00 pm in the Family Life Center Gym

### All are welcome!

Suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Cash, check, or card payable at door.

## Please register for current week by Sunday evening here.

### Menu for November 15:

Pizza, Salad, Fruit, and Dessert

# Interested in volunteering to help with set up, serving, and cleaning? Sign up here.

If there are any individuals or groups that would like to contribute to preparing a WNW dinner, we would love to have you!

Questions? Contact Kim Simpson through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

# Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for the Visually Impaired meets

# Friday, November 17

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

For more information or to volunteer, contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

# Kids Against Hunger Saturday, November 18 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Family Life Center Gym

Want to have fun and help kids who are hungry?
All families are invited to join in a food packaging event. The mission of Kids
Against Hunger is to feed families around the world who are hungry.

How does it work?

Participants make an assembly line on two sides of a 10-foot table. Using a funnel between the first four people, each of the four will add a scoop of their ingredient (rice, beans, spices, etc.), then pass the bag to the next person in the assembly line for sealing and labeling of the bag. Finally, bags are packed in cardboard boxes for shipping. All supplies are provided! Check out this video!

Parents and children of all ages are invited to participate.

- Children, age 7 and older with their parent or responsible adult, may help bag the food in an assembly line that ends with a sealed bag of dry food.
- Children younger than 7 years old will decorate the boxes that hold the bags of packaged food. There will be adult supervision for this age group of children.

**Sign Up:** <a href="https://bit.ly/450hGDw">https://bit.ly/450hGDw</a>
Or you may pick up a paper form from the Info Tables.

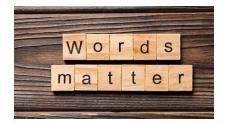


Questions? Contact Dara Linn through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

## **Sunday Adult Christian Education**

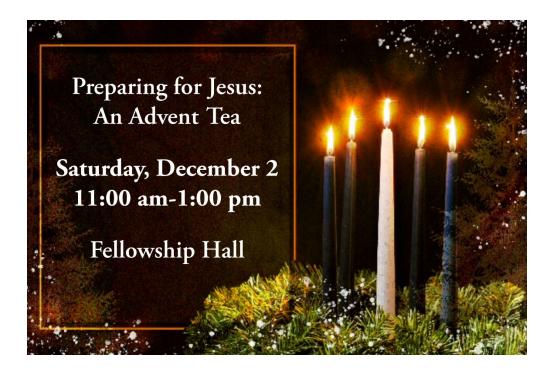
Words Matter

Pastor Alan Shaw will be leading this one-time session on **Sunday, November 19** from 9:30-10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.



How careful should a person be when driving a car or operating heavy machinery? Can a helpful tool become a destructive force if it is used wrongly or inattentively? This class explores our opportunities and responsibilities when using one of the most powerful instrumentalities available to peacemakers, parties, and all people made in God's image: our words.

## **Resurrection Women's Ministries**



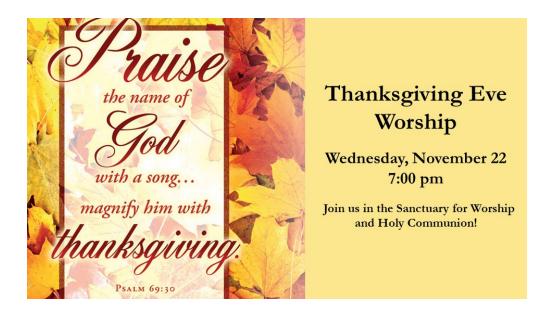
For Women of RLC and Their Guests,

Join your fellow sisters-in-Christ for a time of fellowship, encouragement, and faith building as we prepare our hearts and minds for this upcoming Advent season.

Tickets are \$10 each (any excess funds will go towards LWML Mites for Missions) with support from Thrivent Financial. Please bring your own teacup or mug.

To RSVP, complete the form found in your church mailbox or at the Information Tables and place it in Donna Krupcale's mailbox with cash or check payable to RLC (memo - RLW Advent Tea) by Sunday, November 19.

Interested in volunteering? There are opportunities for set up on Friday, and food prep and kitchen duties on Saturday. Sign Up: <a href="https://bit.ly/46yC2lw">https://bit.ly/46yC2lw</a>



We gather for worship on the eve of this national Day of Thanksgiving with joyful hearts, and we raise our hymns and prayers in gratitude to God for an abundance of blessings. God, in His Grace, has given us all that we need for body and soul. We respond with thanksgiving, recognizing that all we have is from His Grace.

Join us in the Sanctuary for Worship and Holy Communion or view service online @ResurrectionLutheranCary!

There will be no other Wednesday night activities held.

# The Christmas Store Toys for Children

We are excited again to partner with The Christmas Store Toys For Children and our trees are up!

The Christmas Store exists to provide the gift of new toys at Christmas to children in low-income families by engaging volunteers in meaningful community service. Following the instructions of Jesus, The Christmas Store is designed to help

families in the towns and cities of southern Wake County who are in need during the holidays.

Please take a tag (or 2!), purchase your item(s), and return them unwrapped with their tags **by December 3**. Gifts can be placed under the trees in the Narthex and Family Life Center.

For gift idea lists by age and gender, visit <u>The Christmas Store's Amazon page</u>. Gifts can also be purchased through Amazon and sent directly to the store.

You can volunteer to assist on the days of the store (December 8, 9, and 11). To volunteer, sign up through their website.

For more information, visit The Christmas Store - christmasstorenc.com.



# **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Prayer Shawl Participants, Rebecca Melland-Kuo will be dropping off hats and scarves for the Neighbor to Neighbor group in mid-December. Please have your donations turned in **by Sunday, December 10**.

Have you thought about joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry? Did you know that we make more than just prayer shawls? We also make hats from preemie to adult sized, scarves for kids to adults, and blankets!

Interested, but don't know how to knit or crochet? We will teach you! We even have supplies you can borrow to learn on. We meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month from 4:00-5:30 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center.

Do you know someone who needs a prayer shawl? Contact Betsy Moll to arrange a time to meet.

### **Car Donation**

At Resurrection, there are many families that we help behind the scenes for a variety of reasons. Through the Love Fund, we are blessed with opportunities to serve with God's love, giving aid to those in need. We have been walking alongside a particular family who continues to make progress in their situation, but now find themselves in need of a vehicle to travel to work, bring kids to school, etc.

Our RLC funds do not allow us to purchase a car for this family, so we reach out to the body of Christ at RLC asking if anyone has a car that they could donate to a family in need. If the Spirit is leading you to make such a donation or if you have questions about the situation, please contact the church office at office@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248.

# RLC Men's Pick-Up Basketball

Are you interested in joining a pick-up game? Come by the Family Life Center Gym on **Saturdays**, **9:00-11:00** am. Men, 18 or older, are invited to play.

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

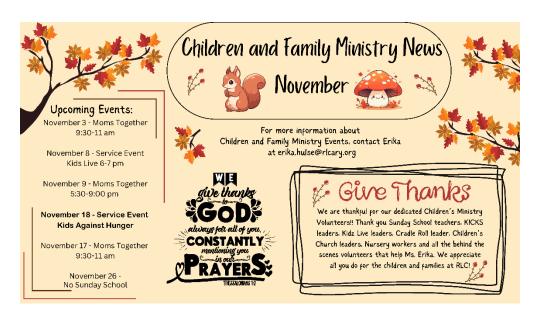
## **RLC Worship Servants**

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.

# **Children and Family Ministry**





Moms, you are invited to join other moms for a get together to socialize, share tips, make new friends & work on crafts/projects. Childcare will be available for a small fee.

For dates and to sign up: https://bit.ly/3ZVhyB8



Register here: <a href="http://bit.ly/3Q1SweN">http://bit.ly/3Q1SweN</a>

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

## **Youth Ministry**

Middle School and High School

I can't believe we have already reached November! There is so much going on and please note the many schedule changes during this month.



## Here's what's coming up:

- Connection Cafe, 9:30-10:30 am (Sunday School)
   We have officially jumped into the stories of the New Testament.
   No Sunday School on November 26 and November 19 is practice for those participating in Youth Sunday. So, November 12 will be the only Sunday School in November.
- Ignite (Middle School Youth Group) Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm
   Mark your calendars for our Christmas Party on December 10 from 2:30-4:00 pm.
- Breakaway (High School Youth Group) Sundays, 6:30-8:00 pm
   We will meet on November 12 and 19. Leadership will also meet on November 12.

All events are located in The Warehouse (Room 253), Family Life Center.

Questions? Contact Ms. Jenny, Youth Director

jenny.piontek@rlcary.org or 919-851-7248, ext. 24

## **Resurrection Lutheran Preschool**



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

## **Resurrection Lutheran School**



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

**Latest Lion's Tale** 



# **Online Worship Bulletins**

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at <a href="youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC">youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC</a>
or through our website at <a href="rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship">rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship</a>.

Visual Faith

## **Attendance and Giving**

## **In-Person Worship Attendance**

Saturday, November 46:00 pm - 64

Sunday, November 5
 8:00 am - 101; 9:30 am - 132; 11:00 am - 101

**Total In-Person Worship: 398** 

## Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

Sunday, November 5
 9:30 am - 112; 11:00 am - 42

**Total Online Views: 154 views** 

## **General Fund Giving and Spending - October 2023**

	Current Month	Year to Date
General Receipts	\$ 113,095.12	\$ 416,637.50
Total Disbursements	\$ 112,207.51	\$ 451,674.80
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ 887.61	\$ -35,037.30

This Week's Offerings: \$30,815.47

**Average Weekly Giving for 2023/24:** \$23,146.52

Average Weekly Giving Budgeted for 2023/24: \$27,761.30

We are grateful for all who are able to maintain financial contributions to our congregation! There are four ways to make your offering:

• Place in offering plate during the worship service

- Mail to Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary, NC 27518
- Online Giving through <u>rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving</u>
- Download the Vanco Mobile app, search for Resurrection Lutheran Church, transfer funds from your checking or savings account to RLC

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

**Church Calendar** 



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518
rlcary.org
919-851-7248 | office@rlcary.org

### Prayers of the Church - November 12, 2023

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4:16

#### We lift the following prayer requests this week:

#### **Ongoing Prayers**

\*Diane Cuper, \*Eve Sommers, \*Anne Altieri, \*Charlotte Raines, \*Eric Hammergren, \*Anita Moore, \*John Shaeffer, \*Vern Ebert, \*Aaron, Marcus, \*Malcolm, \*Sandy Nigg, Henry Otten, Michael Flannery, \*Helen Campbell, Paul Batt, Peter and Esther Kuo, \*Geoffrey Wiggins, Marc and Elizabeth Langefeld's Baby Adoption, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai, Alex Fernandez, \*Cheri Spitz

#### **Ongoing Cancer Treatments**

\*Mike Allen, Anne Price, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Jackie, Kathy Siemon, Scott Brinkley, \*Bill Xenakis, Linda, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Pamm Haley, Judy Dean, Bob, Michael Murphy, Greta Nelson, Marina de Moura Torres, Paul Wozniak, Carol Stano

#### **For Expectant Moms**

Katie Wozniak, Carolyn St. Laurent, Hannah Peterson, Analissa Vasquez

## Those Prayed for on November 5, 2023

#### **Thanking God Today**

- Our RLC Family
- Family Celebrations and Time Together, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Weddings, Baptisms
- Our Many Blessings
- Safe Travels
- Caring Organizations Within Our Local Communities
- Reformation Worship and All Our Music Ministry Groups
- A Successful Trunk-or-Treat on October 29
- Mike, Brother of \*Fran Xenakis, Healing and Recovery
- For Jackson's Safe Return Home from Israel

### **For Healing**

- \*Kim Goss
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID
- Blind Ministry Guests Maria Barker, Judy Dean, Sheila McNair, Linda Jones, Desiree, James
- \*Eve Sommers, Continued Recovery
- \*Greta Nelson

- Paul Wozniak, Recovery
- Julie Wozniak, Recovery
- \*Mindy Stephani, Physical Therapy for Right Leg
- Patricia Wellington, Chemo Treatments
- Miriam Beyer, Daughter-In-Law of \*Charlotte Beyer
- \*Bill Xenakis, New Treatment Plan
- \*Kim Simpson, Recovery
- Jan Bloom, Recovery
- Friend with Breast Cancer, Surgery on November 6
- Ken, Donald, Harold, Paul, Marina, Stuart, Pat, David, Don, Mary, Virginia, Alice, Pamela, Khyren, Mary, Barbara, Curt, Shannon

#### **For Comfort**

- Lewiston, Maine Community and All Victims of Gun Violence
- Friends and Family of Rachele
- Friends and Family of \*Lucas Kube, Son of \*Lutz and \*Robin Kube

### For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance

- Persecuted Christians
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- People of Ukraine, and All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- People of Maui, Morocco, Libya, Afghanistan, and All Affected by Natural Disasters
- People of Israel and the People of Gaza, Peace in the Middle East
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Annie Ruth Ford, Mother of \*Dennis Ford
- \*Eric and \*Jill Hammergren
- \*Jan and Paul Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- Stuart and Sue Sanders, and the \*Boyer Family
- \*Ginny and \*Ed Koren
- Those Enduring Marriage Struggles and Families in Turmoil
- Those Seeking Jobs and Career Changes
- Victims, Families, and Communities Suffering with Gun Violence
- \*Eve Sommers, Adjustment to New Living Situation
- Strength of Friendships, Old and New

### For the Lord's Wisdom, Guidance, Strength for the Health and Well-Being of the People They Serve

- Pastor Jonathan and Juli, Associate Pastor Zach and Kelsey, Assistant Pastor Alan and Faith, and Their Families
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff
- Area Pastors and Schools Staff
- Our Stephen Ministers

#### **For Our Missionaries**

- \*Mark and \*Megan Mantey, Kenya Click here for the Mantey's Newsletter!
- JP and Aimee Cima, Cambodia
   Click here for the Cima Family Newsletter!
- Shauen and Krista Trump, Kenya

  <u>Click here for the Trump's Newsletter!</u>

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your abiding Presence and saving grace. All is in Your Hands.

We trust You are working all things according to Your good plan and purposes,
and with that trust and confidence, we release these prayers to You. In Your Holy Name, Amen.

\*RLC Members Updated 11/10/23