



October 11, 2020

**\*Video Instructions**

*This morning's liturgy will work in tandem with a pre-recorded video. Please visit [www.reslifenc.org](http://www.reslifenc.org) to find the YouTube link and listen to the opening video instructions from Pastor Mark.*

*\*Please return to the video for all items marked with an asterisk*

**Opening Scripture Reading** *Group leaders please read aloud*

**Psalm 92**

- It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
2 to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
3 to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.  
4 For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.  
5 How great are your works, O Lord!  
Your thoughts are very deep!  
6 The stupid man cannot know;  
the fool cannot understand this:  
7 that though the wicked sprout like grass  
and all evildoers flourish,  
they are doomed to destruction forever;  
8 but you, O Lord, are on high forever.  
9 For behold, your enemies, O Lord,  
for behold, your enemies shall perish;  
all evildoers shall be scattered.  
10 But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox;  
you have poured over me[a] fresh oil.  
11 My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;  
my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.  
12 The righteous flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
13 They are planted in the house of the Lord;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.  
14 They still bear fruit in old age;  
they are ever full of sap and green,

15 to declare that the Lord is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

### **\*Praise To The Lord The Almighty**

#### **Confession & Prayer Time**

##### **Ephesians 2**

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

##### **Prayer of Confession**

**Leader:** God, you placed us in the world to be its salt. We are afraid of committing ourselves, afraid of being stained by the world. We do not want to hear what “they” might have to say, and our salt dissolves as if in water.

**All:** Forgive us, Jesus.

**Leader:** God, you placed us in the world to be its light. We are afraid of the shadows, afraid of poverty. We do not want to know other people’s struggles, and our light slowly fades away.

**All:** Forgive us, Jesus.

**Leader:** God, you placed us in the world to live in community. Thus you taught us to love, to share in life, to struggle for bread and justice, your truth incarnate in our life.

**All:** So be it, Jesus. Amen.

### **\*Step By Step**

**\*Children's Message:** A coloring page and song for the children is available at [www.reslifenc.org](http://www.reslifenc.org)

### **\*Before The Throne Of God Above**

#### **\*Matthew 5:1-12**

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### **\*Sermon: Flourishing Within God's Kingdom**

### **\*We Will Feast In The House of Zion**

**Discussion Questions** *Group leaders please lead in discussion and prayer time*

1. Any general thoughts or questions about the sermon?
2. Kids: Pastor Joel and Hailey Altena are missionaries in Lithuania. Do any of you know where that is?
3. According to the passage Pastor Joel preached from, what does Kingdom flourishing look like and would you consider yourself flourishing within that Kingdom?

### **Closing Prayer**

Please take time to bring up any prayer requests. Delegate someone from your group to email requests to [admin@reslifenc.org](mailto:admin@reslifenc.org). We will be sending all prayer requests out in the Monday night email.