



September 20, 2020

***Video Instructions**

This morning's liturgy will work in tandem with a pre-recorded video. Please visit 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 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

2 Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

3 Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

***Ancient of Days**

Confession & Prayer Time Group leaders please read aloud

Hebrews 12:1-12

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. 4 In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. 5 And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reprovved by him.

6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives.”

7 It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8 If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9 Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. 11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. 12 Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees.

Prayer of Confession

Father,

We begin this prayer with a time of personal prayer. We want to consider the ways in which we can “consider Jesus”. Help us in whatever circumstances we find ourselves today, and in a few moments of silent prayer, help us consider ways in which we can consider Jesus is our suffering, struggling with sin issues, relationship issues.

Help us to us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. Let us consider him who endured such opposition from sinful people, so that we will not grow weary and lose heart. Help us to believe that you only discipline those you love and that you are treating us as sons and daughters. Please strengthen us and make straight paths for our feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.

***Step By Step**

***Membership Vows- Andrew and Jessie Smith**

***Children’s Message:** *A coloring page and song for the children is available at www.reslifenc.org*

***Praise to the Lord the Almighty**

***Acts 1:12-26**

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, 16 “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. 17 For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” 18 (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels

gushed out. 19 And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) 20 “For it is written in the Book of Psalms, “May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it; and
and
“Let another take his office.’

21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us— one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

***Sermon: Preparing for Ministry**

***Jesus, Thank You**

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

1. Kids, do you remember the rhyme Pastor Mark used for the three men he talked about?
2. How can the ‘clergy’ and ‘lay’ distinctions lead to unhealthy dynamics in the church?
3. When we think about Jesus as the Leader, what examples can you think of that should guide how church leadership leads?

Closing Prayer

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