

RESURRECTION: A restoration from mortal death to a state of immortality. In a theological sense, this is what is usually meant by “resurrection.” It is to be distinguished from temporary resuscitation [e.g., Jesus raising Jairus’ daughter, the son of the widow of Nain, and Lazarus]. Resurrection in this more profound sense implies that the persons brought back from the dead will never die again. Indeed, they will have spiritual bodies that no longer suffer the limitations of mortal flesh (1 Cor. 15:35–55). [...]

This concept of resurrection is to be distinguished from the Greek concept of the immortality of the soul. Belief in resurrection implies that a person who was truly dead is brought back to life; belief in immortality of the soul implies that the person’s true self (soul) does not die, which obviates the need for resurrection. Thus the doctrine of resurrection assumes that death is total—the whole person (body, mind, soul, spirit) dies, and no part of that person remains alive. God then brings the whole person (body, mind, soul, spirit) back to life. Biblical materials, however, do evince degrees of acceptance of the notion of immortality. The concept of Sheol in the Bible allowed for some sort of continued existence of the dead, albeit in a shadowy state (Pss. 6:5; 30:9; 88:1–12; 115:17). The widespread belief in ghosts, even in the NT period (Matt. 14:26; Luke 24:37–39; cf. Deut. 8:19; 18:11; 19:3) also indicates that belief in the absolute finality of death may have been somewhat compromised.

Nevertheless, Paul presents the most extensive biblical teaching on resurrection in 1 Cor. 15 and does so in a way that distinguishes the concept from both the Greek idea of immortality of the soul and the traditional Hebrew notion of extended mortal life. Resurrection, for Paul, denotes a complete transformation of the person into a being that now has eternal life (1 Cor. 15:35–55). Just how this happens is unclear, but Paul seems to liken future resurrection to a reenactment of creation. Just as God created the person initially, so God will re-create that person, with a body that is no longer made of flesh (1 Cor. 15:35–55). This thinking may also be reflected in Jesus’s comment that, in the resurrection, people will be like angels (Mark 12:25).

“Resurrection,” in The HarperCollins Bible Dictionary, 2011



Sixth Sunday After The Epiphany



Today the flowers are offered to the glory of God by Chuck and Martha Lumia in celebration of 16 years of wedded bliss.



Collect BCP 216

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Jeremiah 17:5-10 NRSV

The prophet urges each individual to trust solely in the Lord, who alone can search out human motivations.

⁵ Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. ⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. ⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. ⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? ¹⁰ I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1 BCP 585

Read Responsively by half verse: Lector/People

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * **nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, * **and they meditate on his law day and night.**
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * **everything they do shall prosper.**
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; * **they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * **nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, * **but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

1 Corinthians 15:12-20 NRSV

Paul insists that belief in resurrection from death is basic to the faith that Jesus was raised, which, in turn, is vital to all Christian hope and experience.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God**
Sequence Hymn

Luke 6:17-26 NRSV

Jesus heals many of their illnesses and teaches his disciples that the values of the kingdom of God are quite different from worldly standards.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke..
Glory to you, O Christ.

¹⁷ Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

The Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.