The resurrection of Jesus changes our lives! Not just our life after death, but our life on earth is magnificently impacted and elevated by the resurrection of Jesus. Bible scholar N.T. Wright said that the message of resurrection is that “God’s new world has been unveiled in Jesus Christ and that you’re now invited to belong to it.”

This year we want to experience resurrection all year long. We want to look at what it means to be raised with Christ. We want God to raise us in us all that He wants to raise up. So we will begin by reflecting daily on verses that show us resurrection. Then each month following that, we will be looking at a different fruit to raise fruit in and through us.

RISE!

Daily Bible Reading Plan
Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:1-3

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
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Columbia Heights, MN 55421
www.stmatthew-ch.org
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RISE!

Known by LOVE, Live by FAITH, A Voice of HOPE

Worship Opportunities (September thru May)

Worship Opportunities (Memorial Day - Labor Day)

David’s Christian Learning Center (DCLC)
Providing a full-day program that operates year-round for infants, toddlers and preschoolers (ages 6 wks-5 yrs.)
Director, Julie Sventek 763-789-4030

Church Staff
Bill Hugo, Pastor
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Carol Blase, Music Coordinator
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Faustina Allen, Director of Teen Ministry
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Rise up, Church!
Pastor Bill Hugo and the staff of St. Matthew

September: Resurrection
We serve the God who raises the dead. Jesus’ death and resurrection make death simply no big deal—a door from earth to paradise. As you read these verses about resurrection this month, contemplate God’s power, purpose and peace in resurrection.

Sept. 9 John 11:25-26
Sept. 10 Colossians 3:1-2
Sept. 11 Philippians 3:7-11
Sept. 12 1 Peter 1:3
Sept. 13 1 Peter 3:21-22
Sept. 14 1 Corinthians 15:51-54
Sept. 15 1 Corinthians 15:55-58
Sept. 16 Romans 8:10-11
Sept. 17 John 6:39-40
Sept. 18 Romans 10:8-10
Sept. 19 2 Corinthians 4:7-10
Sept. 20 2 Corinthians 4:11-14
Sept. 21 2 Corinthians 4:15-18
Sept. 22 Colossians 2:11-13
Sept. 23 Hebrews 13:20-21
Sept. 24 Job 19:25-26
Sept. 25 Ephesians 2:4-5
Sept. 26 Ezekiel 37:11-13
Sept. 27 John 2:19
Sept. 28 2 Corinthians 5:14-16
Sept. 29 2 Corinthians 9:1
Sept. 30 Romans 7:4

October: Fruitfulness
We read on the last day of September in Romans 7:4 that we are raised in order that we might bear fruit. This month we look at the idea of fruitfulness and how God uses resurrection to raise fruit in and through us.

Oct. 1 Galatians 5:22-23
Oct. 2 John 15:1-2
Oct. 3 John 15:3-4
Oct. 4 John 15:5
Oct. 5 John 15:6-7
Oct. 6 John 15:8-9
Oct. 7 John 15:10-11
Oct. 8 John 15:12-14
Oct. 9 John 15:15-16
Oct. 10 Matthew 7:16-20
Oct. 11 Psalm 1:1-3
Oct. 12 Proverbs 11:30
Oct. 13 Colossians 1:10
Oct. 15 Psalm 128:2
Oct. 16 Genesis 1:11
Oct. 17 Genesis 1:28-29
Oct. 18 Matthew 3:8
Oct. 19 Matthew 13:23
Oct. 20 Psalm 92:12
Oct. 21 Isaiah 32:17
Oct. 22 James 3:17
Oct. 23 John 12:24
Oct. 24 Ephesians 5:8-11
Oct. 25 Isaiah 37:31
Oct. 26 Romans 6:22
Oct. 27 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
Oct. 28 Genesis 3:6
Oct. 29 Isaiah 45:8
Oct. 30 Romans 7:4
Oct. 31 Galatians 5:22-23

† www.stmatthew-ch.org
November: Love

This month we begin a look at the fruit that God raises in us. We start with love (agape). The fruit of love is a fruit that God gives us before we can give it to others. It is unreserved and unconditional. It does not depend on what we do or how we behave.

December: Joy

Joy and rejoicing are a big part of this Christmas season. They are the result of God’s love for us in Jesus. With Jesus’ perfect life and innocent death, we have received all that we need for complete joy. Our joy rests on the finished work of the Cross; not on our circumstance.

January: Peace

At Christmas, you probably opened some gifts. This month we open another one. Peace is a gift that comes only from God. It is not the absence of conflict or stress. It is trust in God’s goodness at all times, even in the midst of conflict and stress.

February: Kindness and Goodness

While kindness and goodness are listed separately in the fruits of the Spirit, they are used almost interchangeably in the Bible. Kindness is a little different in its use in that it normally comes with the idea of usefulness, while goodness is for its own sake. Our goodness and kindness flow directly from God’s own kindness and goodness. This month we want God to raise the fruits of goodness and kindness in us.

March: Patience

This month’s fruit is a challenge for many of us – Patience. In the Bible patience is a matter of trust. Patience means we are trusting God to act in His own time. Patience is trusting God’s timing above our own. This month we want God to raise up the fruit of patience in us.

April: Faithfulness

Faithfulness is a mark of God and of God’s children. Faithfulness is living out who God has placed on our lives, and of God’s children. For us, it is a matter of trust. Patience and faithfulness are two fruits of the Spirit, they are different in its use in that patience normally comes with the idea of usefulness, while goodness is for its own sake. Our goodness and kindness flow directly from God’s own kindness and goodness. This month we want God to raise the fruits of goodness and kindness in us.

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