

GOOD FRIDAY

April 2, 2021



*the struggle*  
PSALMS FOR LENT

THE STRUGGLE:  
FORSAKEN BY GOD



# Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. We are happy that you are here!

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

**New to Our Savior?** We are excited that you have joined us for worship today. Our message is as old as God's Word to mankind: Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to take away our sins. If you need assistance during the service, an usher located in the back will be able to assist you.

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card—if you would prefer to fill it out online, scan the code with your phone, or go to [OurSaviorBirmingham.com/Connect](https://OurSaviorBirmingham.com/Connect). You can put the Connect Card in the offering plate or give it to an usher as you leave.



**Families with kids:** We think it is important for families to worship together regularly. We know that occasionally, kids are going to have a rough morning. If your little one needs a moment, there is a speaker and window in our entryway that will allow you to see and hear the service.

**Children's Activity Sheets** give activities and lessons pertaining to the Scripture lessons for today's service. Ask an usher at the door into the sanctuary.

**An offering** will be gathered during our worship service today. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated or compelled to participate. If you would like to give an offering that supports the ministry work at Our Savior, there are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution: (1) place your offering into the offering plate as you exit, (2) you can scan this QR code to take you to our secure, online giving site where you can give via credit card or ACH transfer.



**Hand Sanitizer and Masks** are available in the entryway for your convenience.

**Bathrooms** are located at the far end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary. There is a changing station located in Room 3 (Nursery).

**Free WIFI** is available if you use an online Bible or Bible app on your phone or tablet. Look for the "OSLC-Guest" connection to get online!

**An automated electronic defibrillator (AED)** is located in the fellowship hall, in the corner nearest the front door.

**Looking for more information?** If you would like to learn more about Our Savior Lutheran Church, You can stay up to date and in the know by connecting with Our Savior online.

 [OurSaviorBirmingham.com](https://OurSaviorBirmingham.com) | Sermons archives, podcasts, calendar of events, and more!

 [@OurSaviorBham](https://twitter.com/OurSaviorBham) | Weekly sermon videos and upcoming events

 [OurSaviorBham](https://www.facebook.com/OurSaviorBham) | Weekly sermon videos and upcoming events

 [OurSaviorBham](https://www.instagram.com/OurSaviorBham) | Event pictures and church pictures

 [OurSaviorBham](https://www.youtube.com/OurSaviorBham) | Weekly sermon videos

 [Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com) | Pastor Kratz's email

While most of the world marks the passage of time from January through December, Christians have kept their own calendar of events for centuries. This Christian year is a way of remembering key events in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Service of Darkness developed from the early morning monastic prayer services of Matins and Lauds but has come to be used as an evening service on Good Friday. The service centers on a series of lessons, psalms, and liturgical texts that reflect on the Lord's crucifixion and our repentance. As the service progresses, the candles of a special sevenfold candelabrum are extinguished until only one remains. This candle is not extinguished but is removed from the chancel, leaving the church in darkness. The service is closed by a loud noise (known as the strepitus) that foreshadows the rending of Jesus' tomb on Easter. After the strepitus, the last candle, still burning, is returned to the chancel.

## The Struggle: Forsaken by God

The road to the cross was a struggle. Jesus would be rejected by his people and betrayed by his disciple. Satan tempted him to give up, but he pressed on to the cross for you. The Christian life is a struggle. The struggle is real. Faith in Christ doesn't make us exempt from difficulties. But faith in Christ does give us the strength to press on. In the midst of our spiritual, emotional, physical, health, and all the other struggles we may encounter in life, it doesn't take much for us to feel alone. When the struggles become too much to bear, it feels like God has abandoned us and is ignoring our prayers. Today, however, we see what abandonment looks like as God forsakes his only Son because of our sins. We can be certain that God will never forsake us because of our sins. We are never alone because our crucified, resurrected Savior is with us.

*As you prepare to worship your Lord today, spend a few quiet moments in prayer before the service. Review the Scripture readings, the service notes, and pray this prayer:*

We remember today, the pain and suffering of the cross, and all that Jesus was willing to endure, so we could be set free. He paid the price, such a great sacrifice, to give us the gift of eternal life. Remind us when we feel alone of your gift of love on our behalf so that we can be sure that you will never abandon us. Amen.

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Pastor's Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: [Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com)

**Our Savior Lutheran Church** is a member of a group of more than twelve hundred churches called Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church body with congregations serving the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world missions.



# Service of Darkness - *Tenebrae*

---

PLEASE STAND

## GOSPEL: John 19:17-30

*Jesus offers himself; declares that it is finished.*

<sup>17</sup> Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).

<sup>18</sup> There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

<sup>19</sup> Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. <sup>20</sup> Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. <sup>21</sup> The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”

<sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

<sup>23</sup> When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

<sup>24</sup> “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.”

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

“They divided my clothes among them  
and cast lots for my garment.”

So this is what the soldiers did.

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” <sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

<sup>28</sup> Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” <sup>29</sup> A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. <sup>30</sup> When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

PLEASE BE SEATED

## PSALM 2

*God preserved Israel so that through the offspring of one of David's descendants, Mary, the Savior of humankind was born. Those who "take refuge in Him"—i.e., trust in Him for their salvation—are truly blessed.*

- <sup>1</sup> Why do the nations conspire  
and the peoples plot in vain?
- <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth rise up  
and the rulers band together  
against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,
- <sup>3</sup> "Let us break their chains  
and throw off their shackles."
- <sup>4</sup> The One enthroned in heaven laughs;  
the Lord scoffs at them.
- <sup>5</sup> He rebukes them in his anger  
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,
- <sup>6</sup> "I have installed my king  
on Zion, my holy mountain."
- <sup>7</sup> I will proclaim the LORD's decree:  
He said to me, "You are my son;  
today I have become your father.
- <sup>8</sup> Ask me,  
and I will make the nations your inheritance,  
the ends of the earth your possession.
- <sup>9</sup> You will break them with a rod of iron;  
you will dash them to pieces like pottery."
- <sup>10</sup> Therefore, you kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers of the earth.
- <sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear  
and celebrate his rule with trembling.
- <sup>12</sup> Kiss his son, or he will be angry  
and your way will lead to your destruction,  
for his wrath can flare up in a moment.  
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

**The first candle is extinguished.**

**Silence for meditation**

## PSALM 22

*Facing great opposition, the psalmist initially feels that God has forsaken him and is ignoring his prayers. After remembering God's faithfulness and deliverance, he believes that God will deliver him and commits himself to telling that message to others. We, too, may feel alone and forsaken by God. Truly we deserve to be forsaken by Him because of our sinfulness. But, as this psalm foretells, God Himself came to be our Redeemer. While many human beings have shared these feelings, this psalm finds its greatest fulfillment in Jesus Christ, who spoke it from the cross (Mt 27:46). Christ truly was forsaken by His Father and died alone so that we could be reconciled to our God. We are never alone because our crucified, resurrected Savior is with us.*

- <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from saving me,  
so far from my cries of anguish?
- <sup>2</sup> My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,  
by night, but I find no rest.
- <sup>3</sup> Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;  
you are the one Israel praises.
- <sup>4</sup> In you our ancestors put their trust;  
they trusted and you delivered them.
- <sup>5</sup> To you they cried out and were saved;  
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup> But I am a worm and not a man,  
scorned by everyone, despised by the people.
- <sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me;  
they hurl insults, shaking their heads.
- <sup>8</sup> "He trusts in the LORD," they say,  
"let the LORD rescue him."  
Let him deliver him,  
since he delights in him."
- <sup>9</sup> Yet you brought me out of the womb;  
you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.
- <sup>10</sup> From birth I was cast on you;  
from my mother's womb you have been my God.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.
- <sup>12</sup> Many bulls surround me;  
strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- <sup>13</sup> Roaring lions that tear their prey  
open their mouths wide against me.
- <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint.  
My heart has turned to wax;  
it has melted within me.

<sup>15</sup> My mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
you lay me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup> Dogs surround me,  
a pack of villains encircles me;  
they pierce my hands and my feet.

<sup>17</sup> All my bones are on display;  
people stare and gloat over me.

<sup>18</sup> They divide my clothes among them  
and cast lots for my garment.

<sup>19</sup> But you, LORD, do not be far from me.  
You are my strength; come quickly to help me.

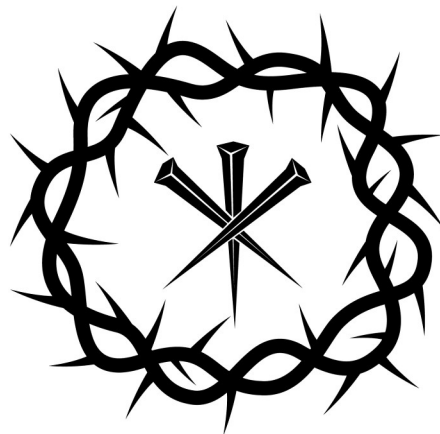
<sup>20</sup> Deliver me from the sword,  
my precious life from the power of the dogs.

<sup>21</sup> Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;  
save me from the horns of the wild oxen.

**The second candle is extinguished.**

**Silence for meditation**

## SERMON



## PSALM 27

*David recognizes that when the Lord is on his side, he has nothing to fear. Human beings are prone to fearful responses. We worry about problems in this life, acting as if we face them alone. Yet God is our light and our salvation. Since He has redeemed us, we have nothing to fear. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31).*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation—  
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life—  
of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup>When the wicked advance against me  
to devour me,  
it is my enemies and my foes  
who will stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup>Though an army besiege me,  
my heart will not fear;  
though war break out against me,  
even then I will be confident.

<sup>4</sup>One thing I ask from the LORD,  
this only do I seek:  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD  
and to seek him in his temple.

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble  
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;  
he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent  
and set me high upon a rock.

<sup>6</sup>Then my head will be exalted  
above the enemies who surround me;  
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice when I call, LORD;  
be merciful to me and answer me.

<sup>8</sup>My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"  
Your face, LORD, I will seek.

<sup>9</sup>Do not hide your face from me,  
do not turn your servant away in anger;  
you have been my helper.  
Do not reject me or forsake me,  
God my Savior.

<sup>10</sup>Though my father and mother forsake me,  
the LORD will receive me.



<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, LORD;  
lead me in a straight path  
because of my oppressors.

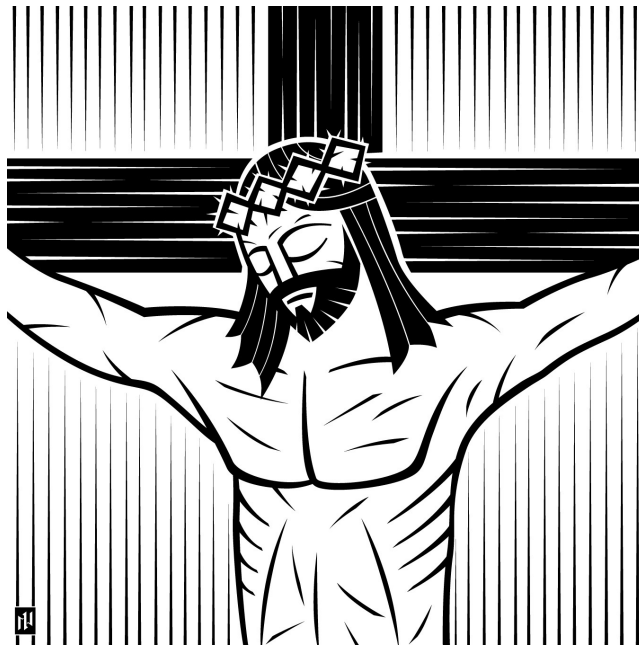
<sup>12</sup>Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,  
for false witnesses rise up against me,  
spouting malicious accusations.

<sup>13</sup>I remain confident of this:  
I will see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living.

<sup>14</sup>Wait for the LORD;  
be strong and take heart  
and wait for the LORD.

**The third candle is extinguished.**

**Silence for meditation**



## SEEK THE LORD - *QUAERITE DOMINUM*

Seek the Lord while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near.  
Let the wicked forsake his way  
and the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him,  
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.  
“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.  
“As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
As the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return to it without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,  
so is my word that goes out from my mouth:  
It will not return to me empty;  
but will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”

**The fourth candle is extinguished.**

**Silence for meditation**

# HYMN: #122 *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

PLEASE STAND



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle;  
2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness  
3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished,  
4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph,  
5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry;



Sing the end - ing of the fray. Now a -  
Of th' ap - point - ed time was come, He, the  
He went forth from Naz - a - reth, Des - tined,  
Be for all the no - blest tree; None in  
To the Fa - ther and the Son, To th' e -



bove the cross, the tro - phy, Sound the loud tri -  
Word, was born of wom - an, Left for us his  
ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing, Did his work and  
fo - liage, none in blos - som, None in fruit your  
ter - nal Spir - it hon - or Now and ev - er -



um - phant lay. Tell how Christ, the world's Re -  
Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of true o -  
met his death; Like a lamb he hum - bly  
e - qual be, Sym - bol of the world's re -  
more be done— Praise and glo - ry in the



deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.  
be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.  
yield - ed On the cross his dy - ing breath.  
demp - tion, For your bur - den makes us free.  
high - est While the time - less a - ges run.

Text: Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.  
Tune: FORTUNATUS NEW (87 87 87) Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929. © 1967 Concordia Publishing House.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PLEASE BE SEATED

## LESSON: Lamentations 1:1-5

*The lessons from Lamentations are an ancient element of the service. In them, God calls his people to repentance for sin and unbelief. Christians should hear these words as a strong call to repentance addressed to them.*

A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet:

How deserted lies the city,  
    once so full of people!  
How like a widow is she,  
    who once was great among the nations!  
She who was queen among the provinces  
    has now become a slave.

<sup>2</sup>Bitterly she weeps at night,  
    tears are on her cheeks.  
Among all her lovers  
    there is no one to comfort her.  
All her friends have betrayed her;  
    they have become her enemies.

<sup>3</sup>After affliction and harsh labor,  
    Judah has gone into exile.  
She dwells among the nations;  
    she finds no resting place.  
All who pursue her have overtaken her  
    in the midst of her distress.

<sup>4</sup>The roads to Zion mourn,  
    for no one comes to her appointed festivals.  
All her gateways are desolate,  
    her priests groan,  
her young women grieve,  
    and she is in bitter anguish.

<sup>5</sup>Her foes have become her masters;  
    her enemies are at ease.  
The LORD has brought her grief  
    because of her many sins.  
Her children have gone into exile,  
    captive before the foe.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

## HYMN: #268 *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy* (st. 1)

Stanzas 1, 2, 3

Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross did  
suf - fer, Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly,  
Your - self to scorn did of - fer. All sins you car - ried  
for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:

1 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!  
2 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!  
3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus!

Text: Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. composite.  
Tune: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG (77 77 778) Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546.

## LESSON: Lamentations 1:6-9

A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>All the splendor has departed  
from Daughter Zion.  
Her princes are like deer  
that find no pasture;  
in weakness they have fled  
before the pursuer.

<sup>7</sup>In the days of her affliction and wandering  
Jerusalem remembers all the treasures  
that were hers in days of old.  
When her people fell into enemy hands,  
there was no one to help her.  
Her enemies looked at her  
and laughed at her destruction.

<sup>8</sup>Jerusalem has sinned greatly  
 and so has become unclean.  
 All who honored her despise her,  
 for they have all seen her naked;  
 she herself groans  
 and turns away.

<sup>9</sup>Her filthiness clung to her skirts;  
 she did not consider her future.  
 Her fall was astounding;  
 there was none to comfort her.  
 "Look, LORD, on my affliction,  
 for the enemy has triumphed."

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**HYMN: #268** *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy (st. 2)*

Stanzas 1, 2, 3  
 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross did  
 suf - fer, Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly,  
 Your - self to scorn did of - fer. All sins you car - ried  
 for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:  
 1 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!  
 2 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!  
 3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus!

Text: Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. composite.  
 Tune: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG (77 77 778) Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546.

## LESSON: Lamentations 1:10-14

A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet:

<sup>10</sup>The enemy laid hands  
on all her treasures;  
she saw pagan nations  
enter her sanctuary—  
those you had forbidden  
to enter your assembly.

<sup>11</sup>All her people groan  
as they search for bread;  
they barter their treasures for food  
to keep themselves alive.  
“Look, LORD, and consider,  
for I am despised.”

<sup>12</sup>“Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?  
Look around and see.  
Is any suffering like my suffering  
that was inflicted on me,  
that the LORD brought on me  
in the day of his fierce anger?”

<sup>13</sup>“From on high he sent fire,  
sent it down into my bones.  
He spread a net for my feet  
and turned me back.  
He made me desolate,  
faint all the day long.

<sup>14</sup>“My sins have been bound into a yoke;  
by his hands they were woven together.  
They have been hung on my neck,  
and the Lord has sapped my strength.  
He has given me into the hands  
of those I cannot withstand.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**HYMN: #268** *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy (st. 3)*

*Stanzas 1, 2, 3*

Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross did  
suf - fer, Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly,  
Your - self to scorn did of - fer. All sins you car - ried  
for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:

1 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!  
2 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus!  
3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus!

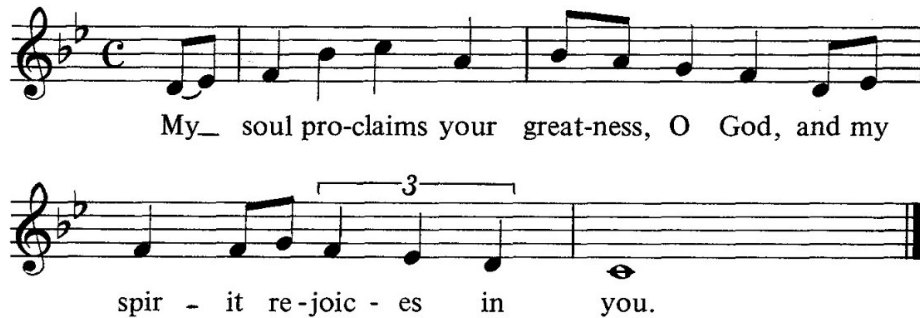
Text: Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. composite.  
Tune: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG (77 77 778) Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546.





## SONG OF MARY - MAGNIFICAT

The "Song of Mary" is sung in keeping with the use of the song as part of an evening prayer service and remembering Mary's faithfulness beside the cross of Christ. While the "Song of Mary" is often heard as a song of praise, the text is also a compelling theology of the cross at the foot of the cross. "He has shown the strength of his arm" not by a show of might but by a victory at the cross.



My\_ soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my  
spir - it re-joic - es in you.

*Refrain.*

*Refrain.*

*My being proclaims the greatness of God, my spirit finds joy in my Savior,  
For you regard me in my lowliness, and ev'ry age shall call me blest.*

*Refrain.*

*Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness evermore.  
How you favor the meek and lowly ones, humbling the proud of heart.*

*Refrain.*

*You have cast down the mighty from their thrones, raising up those of low degree,  
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and sent the rich empty away.*

*Refrain.*

*Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice, strong your love.  
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.*

*Refrain.*

**The fifth candle is extinguished.**

**Silence for meditation**

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even death on a cross.

**Therefore God has exalted him to the highest place and given him the name that is above every name.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## PSALM 51

*This anguished cry of confession from the depths of guilt finds God's absolution and renewal on the certain footing of grace alone. Sin is an inheritance, born in us, ever damaging us. None of our works can ever set us free from terror, despair, or death. However, God has blotted out even the worst of our sins by Jesus' sacrifice.*

- <sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.
- <sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.
- <sup>5</sup>Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- <sup>6</sup>Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- <sup>7</sup>Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- <sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.

- <sup>10</sup>Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup>Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- <sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.
- <sup>14</sup>Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,  
you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- <sup>15</sup>Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- <sup>16</sup>You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;  
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- <sup>17</sup>My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.
- <sup>18</sup>May it please you to prosper Zion,  
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- <sup>19</sup>Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous,  
in burnt offerings offered whole;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

**The sixth candle is extinguished. The seventh candle is carried from the sanctuary.**

# PRAYER

Let us pray.

God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over into the hands of the wicked, and to suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

***Silence for meditation***

***A loud noise (strepitus) representing the rending of Christ's tomb is heard, and the seventh candle is returned to burn in the sanctuary.***

Oh, darkest woe! O tears, forth flow!  
Has earth so sad a wonder? God the Father's only Son  
Now is buried yonder.

Oh, sorrow dread! God's Son is dead!  
But by his expiation Of our guilt upon the cross  
Gained for us salvation.

Lo, stained with blood, The Lamb of God,  
The Bridegroom, lies before you, Pouring out his life that he  
May to life restore you.

**The congregation may remain for prayer and meditation before dispersing quietly.**

YOU WILL NOT  
ABANDON ME  
TO THE GRAVE  
NOR WILL YOU  
LET YOUR HOLY  
ONE SEE DECAY

## OFFERING

*Our offerings are a response to the Lord for his goodness to us, which we heard about in the readings and sermon. They are to be given on a regular basis and be the first fruits of what we receive. If you are a guest with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate.*

*If you would like to help Our Savior with this important mission, there are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution (the last three provide options for either one-time or recurring gifts):*

*Place your offering in the plate in the entryway as your leave*

*Use the "Tithe.ly" app on your phone (iOS or Android)*

*Scan the QR code on page 2 of this program to take you to our secure, online giving site where you can give via credit card or ACH transfer*

*Click on "Give" at [OurSaviorBirmingham.com](http://OurSaviorBirmingham.com) on your phone or computer*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

~ **Artwork** by Ian M. Welch and Corissa Nelson. © 2012 Ian M. Welch. © 2017 Corissa Nelson. All Rights Reserved. ([paramentics.com/corissanelsonart.com](http://paramentics.com/corissanelsonart.com))

~ **Scripture** is taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION © NIV® ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by International Bible Society. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-702194 or CCL#2455190:**

~ **Service of Darkness**. © 2004 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

~ **"Sing My Tongue, the Glorious Battle,"** Text: public domain. Tune, Setting: © 1967 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of CPH.

~ **"Seek the Lord,"** from [Christian Worship: Occasional Services](#). © 2004 Northwestern Publishing House. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

~ **"Song of Mary,"** Composer.

~ **"Oh, Darkest Woe,"** Text, Tune: public domain. Setting: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of CPH. .

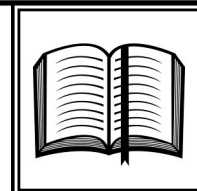


# Personal Worship Notes for Kids

What is the name of the church season or special day? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the color of the church today?  Blue  White  Purple  Red  Green

The sermon was based on these Bible verses: \_\_\_\_\_



This is in the  Old Testament  New Testament

What was the sermon about?

---

---

---

My Favorite Song was:



Did we have a sacrament today?



Baptism?

- Yes  
 No



Communion?

- Yes  
 No

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What did you learn about God today?

1) What did God tell you about himself?

---

2) What did God tell you about yourself?

---

3) What did God tell you to believe?

---

4) What did God tell you to do?

---



*OurSaviorBirmingham.com*