

IT IS EASIER TO AVOID PROBLEMS



Today's Worship

Our Savior Lutheran Church

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word. If you are a guest, please fill out a Connection card found in our entryway. You can place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor or an usher as you leave.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Music: Brent Nolte

Ushers: Caleb and Micah Roberson

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

You are being lied to. By you. The truth is, no one lies to you more than you do. And when you believe your own lies, you get hurt emotionally and, worse yet, spiritually. Don't believe it? Maybe some of these sound familiar: "I need everyone to like me...I have to succeed at everything that I do...I have no worth apart from my performance...life should be easy." You guessed it. Lies, lies - from the father of lies. In this sermon series, we will look at just a few of these lies that we believe and learn not just to replace them with the truth, but with our Savior, who has freed us from lies with his perfect life and perfect teachings.

BEFORE WORSHIP

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

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FOR FAMILIES 3

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.

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 Church is a special place for younger children to hear a Bible story, sing some songs, learn a prayer, and do a craft. You can escort your child to our children's church just before the sermon as noted in the service folder. Children's Church is located in Room 3 and will be on your right as you exit the sanctuary.

INFORMATION

Bathrooms are located at the end of the end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary.

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 | Online calendar, listen to sermons, upcoming events, and more!
- OurSaviorBham | Daily Bible passage, Daily Bible reading, Luther Quotes, and upcoming events
- **Governmental Description** | Daily Bible passage, Devotions, Daily Bible reading, and upcoming events
- OurSaviorBham | Daily Bible passage, event pictures, and church pictures
- Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com | Pastor Kratz's email

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!

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 all fifty of the United States, as well as Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world mission work.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN | #496 Clorious in Majesty

~Please stand

GREETING

Leader: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

The use of the keys (the power to forgive sins) is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners (See John 20:21-23).

- We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

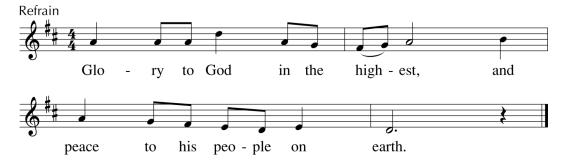
Silence for personal confession and reflection

- God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- G Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD | Gloria in Excelsis

Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



Verses

- 1. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.
- 2. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you, we praise you for your glory.
- 3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive, receive our prayer.
- 4. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship.

- The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- Let us pray:

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you. We pray this and all things through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

~Please be seated



THE WORD

LESSON | 2 Samuel 19:1-8 (pg. 502)

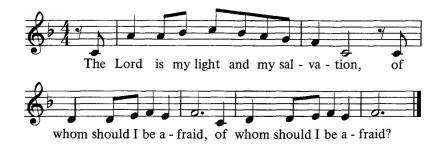
David avoided the problem of Absalom. His avoidance ended in Absalom's death and great sadness for David

Joab was told, "The king is weeping and mourning for Absalom." ² And for the whole army the victory that day was turned into mourning, because on that day the troops heard it said, "The king is grieving for his son." ³The men stole into the city that day as men steal in who are ashamed when they flee from battle. ⁴The king covered his face and cried aloud, "O my son Absalom! O Absalom, my son, my son!"

⁵Then Joab went into the house to the king and said, "Today you have humiliated all your men, who have just saved your life and the lives of your sons and daughters and the lives of your wives and concubines. ⁶You love those who hate you and hate those who love you. You have made it clear today that the commanders and their men mean nothing to you. I see that you would be pleased if Absalom were alive today and all of us were dead. ⁷ Now go out and encourage your men. I swear by the LORD that if you don't go out, not a man will be left with you by nightfall. This will be worse for you than all the calamities that have come upon you from your youth till now."

⁸ So the king got up and took his seat in the gateway. When the men were told, "The king is sitting in the gateway," they all came before him.

Meanwhile, the Israelites had fled to their homes.



The leader will introduce the refrain and sing the verses of the song. The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain as indicated.

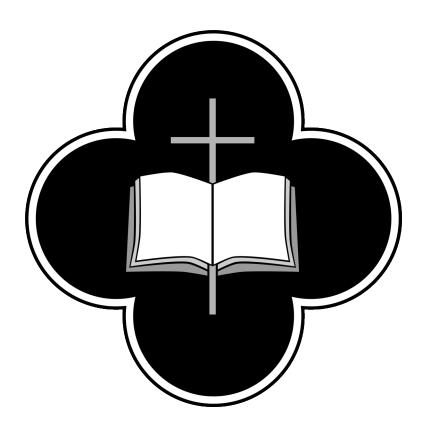
Choir: Refrain.

Congregation: Refrain.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom should I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom should I shrink? **Refrain**.

There is one thing I ask of the Lord; for this I long; to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. **Refrain**.

I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord, in the land of the living; Hope in him, and take heart, hope in the Lord! **Refrain**.



Facing our troubles results in suffering, perseverance, character, and finally in hope.

5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

VERSE OF THE DAY | *Hebrews 2:12*

Soloist: Brianna Nolte



- **C** Refrain.
- I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia.
- **G** Refrain.

GOSPEL | Matthew 18:15-20 (pg. 1527)

~Please stand

The congregation stands and speaks words of acclamation out of respect for the word of Christ, our King.

Far from counseling avoidance of confrontation, Jesus teaches that we speak with one another about sin

¹⁵ "If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. ¹⁶ But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

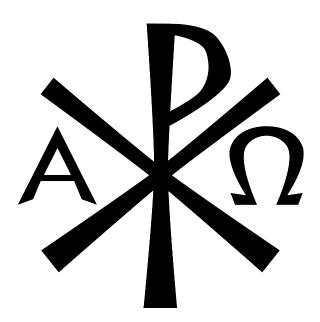
¹⁸ "I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ "Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

After the Gospel, the congregation responds:

Praise be to you, O Christ!

~Please be seated



10 **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Children are invited to assemble at the front for a children's message.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

During the singing of the hymn, parents may choose to escort their young child(ren) to our children's church, where they will hear a Bible story, sing songs, learn a prayer, and do a craft.

HYMN | #181 Come, Oh, Come, Life-Giving Spirit

The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day's Gospel.

SERMON | 2 Samuel 19:1-8



Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word.

~Please stand

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

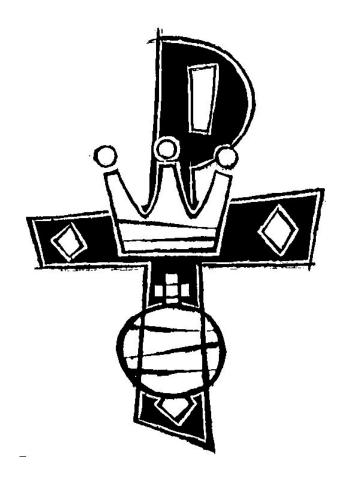
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

~Please be seated

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.



The Lord invites our prayers and asks that Christians pray for many people and circumstances.

~Please stand

- Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.
- Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.
- I Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.
- Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.
- Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.
- **G** Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.
- Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

- Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.
- Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.
- Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.
- Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

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.

PRAYER

~Please stand

- Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **G** Amen.
- The Lord has refreshed us with His Word. Let us head into this new week equipped for lives of service.
- Our mission is to worship God, to spread his Word to our community and to all nations, and to nurture all believers to prepare them for lives of Christian service.



BLESSING

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).

■ Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.

C Amen.

~Please be seated

HYMN | #732 We Are Singing (on following page)





With music based on the South African Freedom Song, this paraphrase of Psalm 27 underscores the confidence Christians have in God's deliverance from every trouble.

Text: South African, tr. and original verses by Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
Tune: SIYAHAMBA (87 86 and Refrain) Zulu melody adapted by Hal H. Hopson.
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