Lord, Keep Us Watchful for Our Triumph NOVEMBER 8, 2020



IN HIS HANDS FROM BEGINNING TO END



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 thrilled that you have joined us for worship today. 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 <u>OurSaviorBirmingham.com/Connect</u>. You can put the Connect Card in the offering plate as you leave.



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).

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. They are on the table in the entryway.

An offering will be taken 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 in the entryway as you leave, (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.

Please greet each other outside the building while still maintaining social distancing measures. We do ask that you please do not congregate in the sanctuary or welcome area before or after the service.

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.

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TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lord, Keep Us Watchful for our Triumph

Lord, keep us watchful for our triumph! Today the Church hears strains of the distant triumph song and affirms, "Blessed are they who are called to the marriage feast of the Lamb." Jesus wants us to be the waiting Church—the Church that watches for her Savior and cries, "Come, Lord Jesus!" As we journey through these latter days, however, our vigilance slips, and our hearts grow drowsy because the bridegroom seems to be taking so long. So while we wait, the Church prays, "Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven."

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

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:

God of all grace, you sent your Son Jesus to destroy the power of death, and to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives, we too shall live. Comfort us with your promise that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, shall be able to separate us from your love—which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz Church Office: (205) 677-8642 Pastor's Cell: (205) 478-6843 Email: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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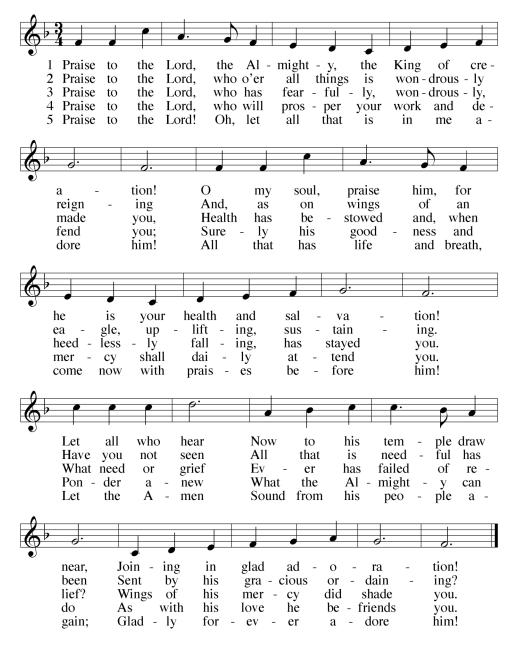




Divine Service

OPENING HYMN

#234 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-80; tr. composite.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN (14 14 478) Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt.

INVOCATION

In the words of the invocation (meaning "to call upon"), the congregation is assured that they are worshiping the true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It also reminds them of the words used in Holy Baptism—words by which they were adopted into the family of God and made members of his Church.

PLEASE STAND

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

When we approach our holy Lord in worship, it is appropriate that we confess our sins to him and seek his forgiveness. After hearing the Gospel words of forgiveness, the congregation responds with a spoken amen—the congregation verbalizes its faith and expresses agreement with this good news of forgiveness and absolution.

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his holy life and innocent death.

Trusting in him, I pray:

God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for personal confession and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie, Eleison

Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The Kyrie ("Lord, have mercy") has been used as a response by the Christian Church since ancient times. It is the first of five major liturgical songs or canticles. A canticle (coming from the Latin for "little song") is a song based on a Biblical text, but not generally coming from the Psalms

In some forms of the Divine Service, the Kyrie comes between the confession and absolution and is sung as a penitential plea for forgiveness to the Triune God. Coming after the forgiveness of sins, worshipers boldly come before God and make requests, just as believers have always called for God's help and aid. The words "Lord, have mercy" could also be expressed as "Lord, help us" or "Lord, hear our prayer."

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

SALUTATION

The words of the Salutation between the pastor and the congregation are some of the oldest responses in the liturgy. The pastor conveys his desire that God will be with the congregation and bless them as they hear the Word. By their response the congregation recognizes their pastor will be serving them by reading and preaching the Word.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

This prayer often focuses on the content of the Gospel or Second Reading, aiding in the unity of thought through the service. Many of the Prayers of the Day have deep roots in the history of the Christian Church.

Let us pray:

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:1-6

"Awake!" the prophet cries, and hear God's promise of coming triumph!

The first reading generally comes from the Old Testament (except during the Easter season, when it is from the book of Acts) and is chosen to match the emphasis of the Gospel.

Awake, awake, Zion, clothe yourself with strength! Put on your garments of splendor, Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. ² Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, Daughter Zion, now a captive. ³ For this is what the LORD says: "You were sold for nothing, and without money you will be redeemed." ⁴ For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "At first my people went down to Egypt to live; lately, Assyria has oppressed them. ⁵ "And now what do I have here?" declares the LORD. "For my people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule them mock," declares the LORD. "And all day long my name is constantly blasphemed. ⁶Therefore my people will know my name; therefore in that day they will know that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 90

Psalm 90 reminds us that our life - and everything we gain in it - will soon come to an end. Let us number our days in wisdom.

Use of the Psalms in worship dates back to the Old Testament, where the common recitation of the Psalter (book of Psalms) served to unite the Jews scattered across the lands. In singing the Psalms as God's people across the centuries, we proclaim the peace of Christ dwells in us richly.

- ¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.
- ² Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- ³You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."
- ⁴ A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.

⁵Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death they are like the new grass of the morning:

⁶ In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered.

⁷ We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.

- ⁸You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.
- ⁹All our days pass away under your wrath;

we finish our years with a moan.

- ¹⁰ Our days may come to seventy years,
 - or eighty, if our strength endures;
- yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

¹¹ If only we knew the power of your anger!

Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.

¹² Teach us to number our days,

that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

¹³ Relent, LORD! How long will it be?

Have compassion on your servants.

- ¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.
- ¹⁵ Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.

- ¹⁶ May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children.
- ¹⁷ May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us yes, establish the work of our hands.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The day of the Lord will come like a thief; stay awake and watch for his return.

The Second Reading is from the New Testament letters of the apostles or the Revelation to St. John. It stresses Christian faith and Christian living as a response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

^{5:1} Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

#206 Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

The hymn of the day is generally viewed as the "teaching" or "liturgical" hymn of the service. This hymn usually has the deepest theological text as compared to the rest of the hymns in the service. It is most closely connected to the Gospel and is specifically chosen to reinforce the congregation's understanding of the Gospel which was just read.



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: WACHET AUF (898 898 664 448) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

SERMON

The sermon has ancient historical roots. In the Jewish synagogues, commentary followed the readings. The sermon serves as the culmination of the service of the Word that began with the readings. It seeks to instill in the listeners a deeper understanding of the truths contained in God's Word.

^{25:1} "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

⁷ "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

⁹ " 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰ "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

¹¹ "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!'

¹² "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'

¹³ "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

NOTES:

As you listen to today's sermon, here are some things to listen for that connect with what we will be talking about this week in our Small Groups. (You are invited to join one of our Small Groups: go to <u>OurSaviorBirmingham.com/</u> <u>smallgroups</u>)			
LORD, KEEP US WATCHFUL FOR OUR TRIUMPH!			
Jesus tells us a story so that we will be ready for his return and our eternal home.			
the oil =			
the lack of oil =			
The foolish are those who think they are	for the Lord, but are not.		
Jesus wants me to keep watch, which means to remain s	spiritually		



NICENE CREED

After listening to the sermon, the congregation responds by confessing its faith in the triune God. The word creed comes from the Latin word "credo," which means "I believe." The creed was originally chanted, making it the third of the five major canticles.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In the prayer of the Church, we pray for those in our congregation and for the needs and struggles of God's people around the world.

Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions glorify you and serve our neighbor.

Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Take away their fear of criticism and contention and make them bold to say what you say. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to announce the forgiveness of sins as your free gift to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.

Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.

Guard and guide us as we live in a society that despises what you say about marriage. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up.

Protect us from the evil that surrounds us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide your divine compass for those who govern us by making laws and setting policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime and aggression. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to care for those who cannot care for themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. (*Pour out your special blessing on…here name the person and the cause of the petition*.) Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the dying to your love in Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. Hear our prayers, spoken and in silence, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

In this prayer, we pray to "Our Father in heaven," reminding us that we are God's chosen and dearly loved children.

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.

THE SACRAMENT

PLEASE STAND

PREFACE

The preface—words of dialogue between the pastor and the congregation—are some of the oldest in the Christian liturgy, dating back to 200 AD. They serve as a transition from the part of the service centered on the Word to the part centered on the meal that Christ instituted.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The pastor uses Christ's words to consecrate—to set apart—the bread and wine. Because they are the words of Jesus, they still accomplish today what they accomplished on Holy Thursday: effecting the real presence of Jesus body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine.

The pastor proclaims peace to the people through the Pax Domini (Latin for "peace of the Lord"). Again, the worshipers receive absolution and assurance that God's presence and peace are with them through the Sacrament.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat, this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. **Our Savior Lutheran Church asks that only members come forward to receive the sacrament.**

There is a Personal Preparation for Communion available on page 156 in the red hymnal.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

- Members of Our Savior Lutheran may come forward at the direction of the usher.
- At the discretion of the usher you may be invited forward with another couple or family. If you feel uncomfortable coming forward with another couple/family you can just indicate to the usher that you prefer to go alone.
- Each person should take one of the pre-packaged communion cups located on the table in front of the first pew on the left side. The part containing the bread will be on top.
- As you approach the altar, fill in starting on the left, maintaining an appropriate amount of distance between families.
- Open the part of the cup that holds the bread first as the pastor says, "Take and eat...". Flip the cup over and open the part containing the wine as the pastor says, "Take and drink...".
- After the blessing, exit to the right, deposit your used cup in the receptacle, and return to your seat via the side aisle.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

His mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 spoken by the pastor at the close of the service is known as the Aaronic blessing. These words were first given to Aaron and his sons (the priests) by the Lord to bless the people of Israel (Numbers 6:22-27). Just as we began the service in the name of the Triune God, so we also end the service in his name. The blessing is God's assurance that he will go with us as we leave and return to the world to serve him.

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.

CLOSING HYMN



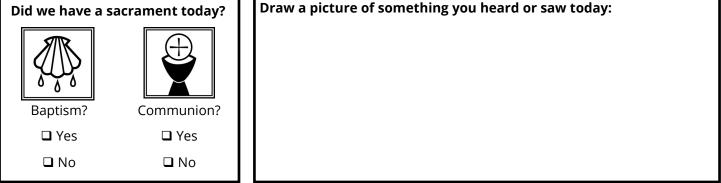
 Tune:
 MAY THE PEACE OF GOD (10 9 10 9 and Refrain)

 Text, Tune:
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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 ver This is in the D Old Testament			
What was the sermon about?			
My Favorite Song was:			
		<u> </u>	



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?



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