



Pastor Ben Kratz

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Those who serve:

Music / Sound: Mrs. Rhoda Holbrook, Mr. Roger

Benz

Ushers: Mr. Bob Holbrook, Mr. Shannon Sikes

NOVEMBER 18. 2012

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

W

elcome! 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 Welcome card found in our entryway. You can place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor or an usher as you leave.

- Some Restrooms are located at the end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary.
- So Your children are always welcome at Our Savior, no matter how much noise they might make. If your little one is having a difficult morning, please feel free to take them into the entrance hallway.

TODAY'S THEME:



Thanks Be to God!

On this national day of thanksgiving, it is appropriate for us to offer our thanks and praise to God for the many physical and especially spiritual blessings he has showered on us. Chief among these gracious blessings is the forgiveness and new life that is ours through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord—our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter—we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word. We pray that you open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness.



## WELCOME FROM PASTOR KRATZ

PLEASE STAND

## **OPENING DIALOGUE**

(L)eader: We worship today in the name of the Father our Creator, the Son our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Sanctifier.

### (C)ongregation: Amen.

- L: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.
- C: The world and all who live in it.
- L: He has created us to be a people for himself.
- C: Who are eager to do what is good.
- L: It is good and right to give thanks to our God at all times and in all places.
- C: For his faithfulness and mercy is new unto us everyday.
- L: Come, worship and bow down before the Lord of all the earth!
- C: To his great name be glory, for his loving-kindness never fails!

HYMN: #610 Now Thank We All Our God (verses 1-2)

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

- L: Dear Lord God, we come to you this morning to thank you for all the gifts that you have given us over the last year. As we take time to look back, forgive us for the gifts that went unnoticed, for prayers of thanks that were never offered, and for hearts that didn't appreciate what they had been given.
- C: Dear Lord, you have given us far more that we could ever ask or imagine. We have responded by not giving you the thanks that you deserve. We admit that we get caught up in our own lives and in the gifts that you have given us. Our lives are spent looking forward to more gifts rather than thanking you for the ones we have. Please forgive me for not giving you the thanks and praise you deserve!



- L: The greatest gift the Lord has ever given us is his Son, Jesus Christ. In Christ, he has given us the forgiveness of sins, the ability to live a new life in him, and a certain home in heaven. This is truly a time to be thankful!
- C: Jesus Christ is the one gift that makes all the other gifts in our life worthwhile. Thank you for the forgiveness I have in Christ. Thank you for the new life I have in him. Thank you for a certain home in heaven!
- L: In the peace of forgiveness, let's give thanks to the Lord in song!

HYMN: #610 Now Thank We All Our God (verse 3)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray:

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience. We pray this and all things through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED





## FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 8:10-18 (Pg. 287)

Do not forget to praise God for your blessings

<sup>10</sup>When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. <sup>11</sup>Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. <sup>12</sup>Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, <sup>13</sup> and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, <sup>14</sup>then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>15</sup>He led you through the vast and dreadful desert, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. <sup>16</sup>He gave you manna to eat in the desert, something your fathers had never known, to humble and to test you so that in the end it might go well with you. <sup>17</sup>You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." <sup>18</sup>But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

Hymn: #612 Praise to God Immortal Praise (verse 1)

## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 100

- Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.
- Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.
- <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

- Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.
- For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

**Hymn:** #612 Praise to God Immortal Praise (verse 2)

## SECOND LESSON: Philippians 4:10-20 (Pg. 1830)

Give thanks to God in all circumstances

<sup>10</sup>I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. <sup>11</sup>I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. <sup>12</sup>I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup>I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

<sup>14</sup>Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. <sup>15</sup>Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; <sup>16</sup> for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need. <sup>17</sup>Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account. <sup>18</sup>I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup>And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

HYMN: #612 Praise to God Immortal Praise (verse 3)

## PSALM OF THANKSGIVING: Psalm 136

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

His love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods.

His love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

His love endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> to him who alone does great wonders,

His love endures forever.

who by his understanding made the heavens,

His love endures forever.

6 who spread out the earth upon the waters,

His love endures forever.

7 who made the great lights—

His love endures forever.

8 the sun to govern the day,

His love endures forever.

<sup>9</sup> the moon and stars to govern the night;

His love endures forever.

to the One who remembered us in our low estate

His love endures forever.

<sup>24</sup> and freed us from our enemies,

His love endures forever.

25 and who gives food to every creature.

His love endures forever.

<sup>26</sup> Give thanks to the God of heaven.

His love endures forever.

HYMN: #612 Praise to God Immortal Praise (verse 4)

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL: Luke 17:11-19 (Pg. 1627)

Jesus heals the ten lepers, but only one returns to thank him

<sup>11</sup> Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

<sup>14</sup>When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

<sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup>He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

<sup>17</sup>Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? <sup>18</sup>Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup>Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

After the Gospel, the congregation responds:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

PLEASE BE SEATED

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: #615 We Thank You for Your Blessings

SERMON:



#### PLEASE STAND

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

- L: I believe that God our Father made me and every creature.
- C: And that he gave me my body and soul, eyes and ears, my mind, my talents, and all my abilities.
- L: I believe that God our Creator still preserves me as I live in this world.
- C: He richly and daily provides clothing and shoes, house and home, family, food, and money. He provides everything I need to keep my body and life.
- L: I believe that God my Creator also defends and protects me.
- C: Through his angels he watches over my life.
- L: We are not worthy to receive such great blessings from God.
- C: Yet since we do, it is our privilege to thank and praise him for his tender care.
- L: I believe that Jesus Christ our Lord is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity.
- C: He is at the same time also true man, born of the Virgin Mary.
- L: He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature.
- C: He has purchased me with his holy blood, and won me from sin, death, and the power of the devil.
- L: He redeemed me that I should be his own.
- C: And serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.
- L: Through his resurrection, he has made us to be his kingdom and priests.
- C: To serve our God and Father day and night in his temple.
- L: I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him.
- C: But the Holy Spirit has brought us to faith through the gospel.
- L: He has sanctified us, and enlightened us to know the truth.
- C: He has made known to us the path of life.
- L: He has filled us with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
- C: We lack no spiritual gift with which to serve God and his people as we wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus.
- L: He has worked through the Word and sacraments to keep us in the Christian faith.
- C: And he will raise us up on the Last Day to live forever with the Lord.

#### PLEASE BE SEATED

## THE OFFERING

The members of Our Savior Lutheran Congregation have joined together to the Lord's word in this community and around the world. If you are a guest today, you need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- L: Give thanks to the Lord who is good.
- C: God's love is everlasting.
- L: Come, let us praise God joyfully.
- C: Let us come to God with thanksgiving.
- L: For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For work to do and strength to work; for the comradeship of labor; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For family; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For children and the youth; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies, for their high hopes; for their candid criticism; for their search for freedom:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; for time made precious by its passing:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for preserving us in temptation and danger:
- C: We thank you, O God.
- L: For the Church into which we have been called; for the good news we receive by Word and sacrament; for our life together in the Lord:
- C: We praise you, O God.
- L: For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love, who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship:
- C: We praise you, O God.
- L: Above all, O God, for your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him:
- C: We thank and praise you, eternal God, for all your goodness to us.

## Special prayers and intercessions may follow

L: Hear us, Lord, as we thank you for our personal blessings.

#### Silent prayer

- L: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.
- C: God's love is everlasting. Amen.

## THE LORD'S BLESSING

L: 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

**CLOSING HYMN: #611** For the Fruit of His Creation

#### PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Good Shepherd, I was glad to be here, gathered with your flock to worship you. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in paths of righteousness, that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. Amen.

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## About Our Savior...

Our Savior Lutheran Church is a growing church that serves the southern neighborhoods of Birmingham. We are a Christian church that is looking forward to serving people with God's Word.

Our Savior's message is a wonderful message for you. Our theme is "A Place to Belong." That means that because of our Savior's love for you, you belong to him. You belong to his family. His love will always outweigh the wrongs you have done and the sadness you have had! Our loving God always loves us more.

If you are new to the area or looking for a church home, accept our invitation to meet our pastor and find out more about us. Besides weekly worship, we also offer Bible class to individuals and groups of all ages, Christian counseling, and literature. Please come and worship with us again! Think of this as your community church, and know that you are welcome to join us here anytime.

We hope you find Our Savior "A Place to Belong!"

Benjamin Kratz, Pastor

Parter Binjan KKanty

(205) 478-6843 [cell]

(205) 618-9065 [home]

# **Announcements**

• Welcome to guests and visitors! We are glad that you are here, and hope that you will join us again soon!

### Spiritual Growth Opportunities:

<u>Sunday Bible Class</u>: *Sunday mornings at 9:00 am*. Our Sunday Bible class is working through a study on the relationship between Church and State.

<u>Sunday School</u>: *Sunday mornings at 9:00 am*. Our Sunday school, which uses the award-winning Christ-Light curriculum, offers Bible lessons for children from nursery age through grade 12.

Wednesday Bible Class: Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. The Wednesday night class is taking a break until 2013.

<u>Bible Class for Beginners</u>: Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm. Don't feel like you know enough about the Bible to attend a regular Bible class? Join us for this class designed especially for you! We will be taking a look at some of the important chapters of the Bible to learn not only the truths of God's Word, but how it all fits together!

- FaithBuilders Class: People often say the Bible is hard to understand. However, if we understand the four key concepts of the Bible, things become much clearer since we realize every page of the Bible deals with one of the key concepts. Those key concepts are sin, grace, faith, and works. FaithBuilders covers these and other topics to help you gain an understanding of the central message of God's Word: Jesus Christ has saved us from sin and given us new life. FaithBuilders is for people interested in becoming members of Our Savior, or for people just looking to build their faith through the study of the basic teachings of the Bible. Classes are held every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm.
- Looking to serve? Were you greeted by a warm smile as you entered the service today? Would you like to bless someone with your smile on an upcoming Sunday, or put yourself to work in other ways make our guests feel welcome? Then why not serve as an usher or greeter next week? For most of these, just show up about 10:00 am and be ready to smile, shake someone's hand or help serve some coffee and snacks. Contact Pastor Kratz at <a href="mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com">Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com</a> or 677-8642 for more information about serving opportunities.
- Seep in Your Prayers This Week. God promises us that the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. He also tells us to pray for one another. Hearing God's powerful promises, confidently bring these requests to the throne of our heavenly Father: (If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Kratz.)

The families who care for their loved ones, as they quietly bear heavy burdens of love and concern. Those who have long been absent from hearing the Word. May God bless our efforts to call these fellow members of our family of faith- I rejoiced with those who said to me 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'.

Looking for more information or interested in exploring membership at Our Savior? If you would like to learn more about Our Savior Lutheran Church, check out our information table in the entryway, speak with Pastor Kratz after the service, send him an email at: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com, or call the church office at (205) 677-8642.

#### Acknowledgements:

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## This Week at Our Savior

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am
	FaithBuilders 7:00 pm					Worship 10:15 am

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
						Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am
	FaithBuilders 7:00 pm	Wednesday Night Bible Class 7:00 pm	Bible Class for Beginners 7:00 pm			Worship 10:15 am

### Upcoming Schedules

Flowers: 11/25: OPEN

12/2: CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS12/9: CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Cleaning: November: Family A (Benz/Copeland/DeMasi/Jones/Roberson)

Nursery / Children's Church: 11/25: Emily Kratz

12/2: Hallie Keel12/9: Yauney Sikes

Lawn Mowing: 11/19-11/25: Sikes



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

