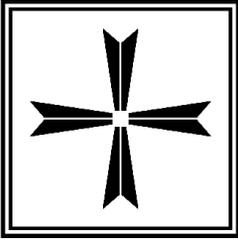


I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 19, 2014*



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

JANUARY 19, 2014 - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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

Sound / Music: Roger Benz

Ushers: Roger Benz, Bob Holbrook

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



What did Jesus really stand for? What is Christianity really all about? In contrast to the constant confusion we hear, Jesus gives us straight talk straight from the source. Today Jesus' words keep us from two false extremes: self-righteous judging and sin-approving tolerance. Jesus' words expose our sinful deeds and at the same time draw our attention to God's unconditional pardon. To those walking in darkness Jesus says: I am the light of the world.

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, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; we pray this and all things through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FOR THE CHILDREN

Children's Activity Sheets give activities and lessons pertaining to the Scripture lessons for the day. 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.

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, 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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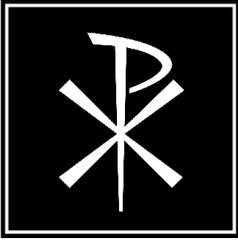
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SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

#90

THE PEOPLE THAT IN DARKNESS SAT

GREETING

~PLEASE STAND

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

(C)ongregation: 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).

L: 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.

C: 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.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

GLORY TO GOD ~ "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS"

L: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

Refrain

The musical notation is for a refrain in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the words 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and'. The second staff continues the melody for 'peace to his peo - ple on earth.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes.

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.

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

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship.

L: Let us pray:

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; we pray this and all things through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

~PLEASE BE SEATED



*The light dawns on
those living in
darkness and death.*

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 8:19-9:2 (PG. 1072)

¹⁹When men tell you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. ²¹Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. ²²Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.

9 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan—

² The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.

Ἐγώ εἰμι
τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT

This hymn is a
paraphrase of Psalm
27.

Refrain

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion. The Lord is the
strong - hold of my life. Since the Lord is my light, my
strength and my all, Whom then shall I fear?

Verses

1 There is one thing I ask of the Lord:
2 Do not hide your face, O Lord,
3 Teach me, Lord, and keep me on your paths;

To dwell in his house for - ev - er,
Ev - 'ry day I will seek your face.
Guide me, Lord, a - long a lev - el way.

To gaze on the beau - ty of the Lord
Though my fa - ther and moth - er may for - sake me,
I will gaze on the good - ness of the Lord

To Refrain

All the days of my life.
The Lord will re - ceive me.
In the land of all the liv - ing.

SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 2:9-12 (PG. 1888)

God has called us from darkness to light; he calls us to walk in the light.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.



VERSE OF THE DAY

JOHN 8:12

REFRAIN

Al-le-lu-ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu-ia, al -
le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu-ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

L: Refrain.

C: Refrain

L: I am the light of the world.

C: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

L: My followers have the light of life.

C: Al-le-lu-ia, al - le - lu - ia!

C: Refrain.

GOSPEL

JOHN 8:2-12 (PG. 1661)

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

A woman in darkness and near death meets the light and receives life.

~PLEASE STAND

² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹ "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

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 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 OF THE DAY

#353

PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

SERMON

JOHN 8:2-12

HYMN

#750

CHRIST, THE WORD OF GOD INCARNATE

~PLEASE STAND

Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of

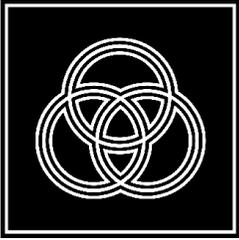
A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,

Per - fect God, the great I Am; Christ, the Light, you

shine un - van - quished, Light and life you bring to all;

Light our path with your own pre - sence, Grant us grace to

heed your call.



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

APOSTLES CREED

C: 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.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

~PLEASE STAND

L: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

L: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

L: Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

L: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

(Special prayers and intercessions may follow.)

L: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

(Silent prayer.)

L: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

~PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN

#569

*O CHRIST, OUR TRUE AND ONLY LIGHT
VERSES 1, 2*

PRAYER

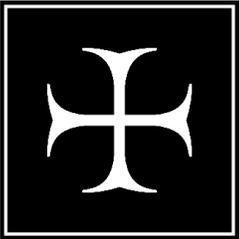
~PLEASE STAND

L: 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.

C: Amen.

L: The Lord has refreshed us with His Word. Let us head into this new week equipped for lives of service.

C: 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

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

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).

CLOSING HYMN

#471

RENEW ME, O ETERNAL LIGHT





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