



CHRIST CAME TO BE OUR BROTHER

December 30, 2012 - *First Sunday after Christmas*



A Place to Belong

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DECEMBER 30, 2012

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

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 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.

- ☞ **Restrooms** are located at the end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary.
- ☞ **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:

CHRIST CAME TO BE OUR BROTHER

In the family of believers, it is our brother Jesus who changed the future for Abraham's descendants. Today we are reminded that Jesus is both the Son of God and the Son of Mary. His obedience to his earthly parents and his heavenly Father demonstrate that he is our perfect Savior. To be about the Father's will meant sharing in our humanity and destroying the power of death.

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. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

WELCOME FROM PASTOR KRATZ

OPENING HYMN: #38 *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (verses 1-4)*

PLEASE STAND

GREETING

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

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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

HYMN OF PRAISE: #41 *Let All Together Praise Our God*



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray:

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory. We pray this and all things through your Son, 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 OF GOD

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 (Pg. 421)

Samuel, a type of Christ

¹⁸ But Samuel was ministering before the LORD—a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. ²⁰ Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, “May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD.” Then they would go home.

²⁶ And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the LORD and with men.

HYMN OF PRAISE: #46 *Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We*

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 2:10-18 (Pg. 1864)

Christ comes to be our brother

¹⁰ In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. ¹² He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers;
in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises.”

¹³ And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again he says,

“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

HYMN OF PRAISE: #42 *Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising*

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52 (Pg. 1592)

The boy Jesus in the temple

⁴¹ Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”

⁴⁹ “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

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: #38 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (verses 12-15)

SERMON:

PLEASE STAND

THE 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

THANKSGIVING

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.

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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: #62 *Joy to the World (verses 1-3)*

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.

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: #62 *Joy to the World (verse 4)*

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.

This Week at Our Savior

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3	4	5	6 Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am Epiphany Festival Worship 10:15 am

Chronological Bible Reading Plan—Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7	8	9 Wednesday Night Bible Class 7:00 pm	10 Bible Class for Beginners 7:00 pm	11	12	13 Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am

Chronological Bible Reading Plan—Week 2



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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.

