

PROVE IT!

FIND OUT HOW JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF
AS YOUR SAVIOR AND KING

DO YOU HAVE
THE RIGHT MESSAGE?

JANUARY 24, 2021



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 excited that you have joined us for worship today. Our message is as old as God's Word to mankind: Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to take away our sins. If you need assistance during the service, an usher located in the back will be able to assist you.



SCAN ME

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 OurSaviorBirmingham.com/Connect. You can put the Connect Card in the offering plate or give it to an usher as you leave.

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. Ask an usher at the door into the sanctuary.

An offering will be gathered 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 as you exit, (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.



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).

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.

 OurSaviorBirmingham.com | Sermons archives, podcasts, calendar of events, and more!

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 Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com | Pastor Kratz's email

While most of the world marks the passage of time from January through December, Christians have kept their own calendar of events for centuries. This Christian year is a way of remembering key events in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Each part of the Church Year has something new to offer, some new piece of the story to tell. The tools the Church uses to tell us the story and draw us into it in the Divine Service are many: Scripture readings, specific colors, various prayers, songs and customs.

Today, we are in the season of "Epiphany." The word "**epiphany**" comes from the Greek and means "*appearance*" or "*revelation*" referring to the appearance of Christ as the Savior (see Titus 3:4). Epiphany is one of the oldest seasons in the Christian church year, second only to the Easter season.

During the season of Epiphany, the Scripture readings focus on the ministry of Jesus, with a particular emphasis on how they show Jesus *revealing* himself as the Savior God had promised to send for all people.

Prove it! Do You Have the Right Message?

Find out how Jesus reveals himself as your Savior and King! This Epiphany season, we are reminded that Jesus is everything we need.

We are bombarded with messages each day - what we should buy, where we should eat, why our side is good and the other side is bad,... and so many more. All claim to be right and all clamor to be the most important in your life. In today's worship, however, our Savior helps us to realize that he has the only message that the world, and you and I, need to hear. He is the world's Savior, and there is nothing more important than being called to follow him and to share that message with others.

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:

Dear Jesus, this epiphany our Father shows us how you are everything we need. Today, help us to realize that only you have the message that this world needs to hear, and so nothing is more important than being called to follow you and share that message. Bless my worship, Amen.

Singer: Pastor Ben Kratz

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Pastor's Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com

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 the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world missions.





Divine Service

OPENING HYMN: *O Church, Arise*



1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mor on; hear the
 2. Our call to war: to love the cap - tive soul, but to
 3. Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
 4. So Spi - rit come, put strength in ev 'ry stride, give —



call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lie crushed be -
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en. With shield of
 wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val - or. When faced with
 neath His feet, for the Con - quer - er has ris - en! And as the
 win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful. As saints of



faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a - gainst the dev - il's
 trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the out - come is se -
 stone is rolled a - way and Christ e - mer - ges from the
 old still line the way, re - tell - ing tri - umphs of His



lies; An ar - my bold, whose bat - tle cry is love, reach - ing
 cure, and Christ will have the prize for which He died: an in -
 grave, this vic - tory march con - tin - ues till the day ev - 'ry
 grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger for the day when with



out her - to those in dark - ness.
 eye - it - ance of na - tions.
 Christ and we heart shall see Him.
 stand in glo - ry.

INVOCATION

This comes from the latin "invoco" which describes the act of calling upon or asking for help or support. As we begin our worship, we call on the name of the triune God, who is our ever-present help and strength and in whose name we were baptized. The sign of the cross then reminds worshippers of their baptisms.

PLEASE STAND

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

Congregation: Amen.

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.

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me for Jesus' sake.

Silence for personal confession and reflection

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie, Eleison*

The expression "Lord have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church. It is also known by its Greek name, "Kyrie, eleison." "Kyrie" is the Greek word for "Lord," "eleison" for "have mercy."

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD *Gloria in Excelsis*

Purified of our sin, we respond with a song of praise, based on the angel's song at Jesus' birth. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

Glo - ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the
high-est and peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We wor-ship
you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est and
 peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the
 Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat - ed at the right hand of God the Fa - ther: re -
rit.
 ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.
a tempo

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est and
 peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est and
 peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

THE WORD

SALUTATION

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word and the Sacrament sections of the service.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Following an ancient outline, the prayer of the day asks for one specific blessing. This prayer changes each Sunday, according to the Bible readings for that Sunday.

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; through 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: Jonah 3:1-5,10

The LORD calls a reluctant prophet.

The First Reading is typically taken from the Old Testament and occasionally from the Book of Acts. In it we learn of God's mighty words and deeds with the Old Testament Church, the people of Israel.

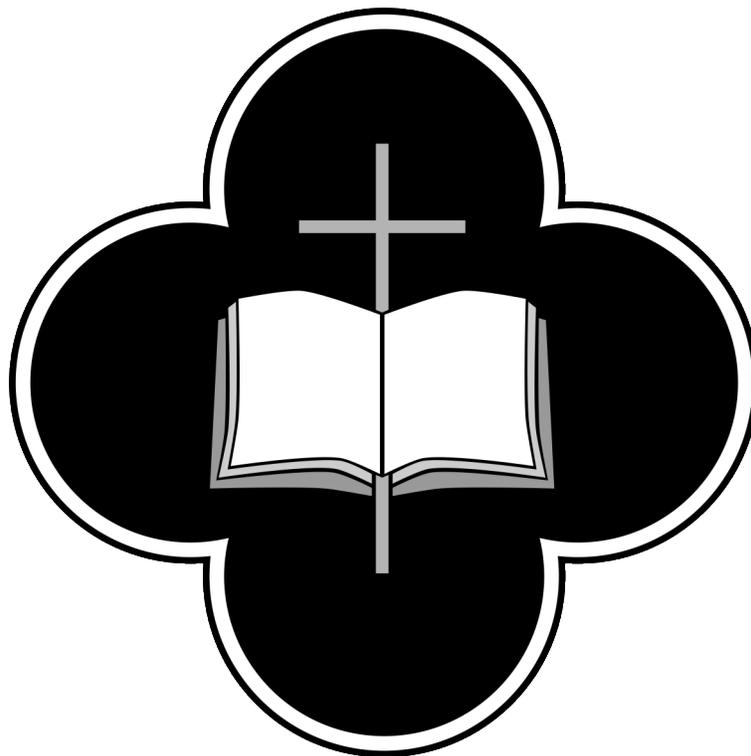
³Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

³Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” ⁵The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 62

Psalm 62 expresses the believer's conviction that God alone can satisfy the desires of our heart.

The Psalm is the most ancient part of our worship service. While most of our liturgy is 1,800 years old, Jews have been singing Psalms in worship for 3,000 years.

In God a - lone is my soul at rest, the
God who is my help. The
Lord is my rock, my strength and my hope; my
for - tress, my God.

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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.

Refrain.

Refrain.

Only in God is my soul at rest, from my God comes my salvation.

God is my rock, the salvation of my life. I shall not be shaken, for the Lord is my strength!

Refrain.

Only in God is my soul at rest, from my God comes my hope.

God is my rock, may salvation and my hope. I will rest in the Lord, I will not be afraid.

Refrain.

Glory and safety, God is my joy, God is my rock and my strength.

God is my refuge, I trust with all my strength. Pour out your hearts, before the Lord!

Refrain.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

The world's reconciliation is accomplished by Jesus and announced by his ambassadors.

The Second Reading of Scripture 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.

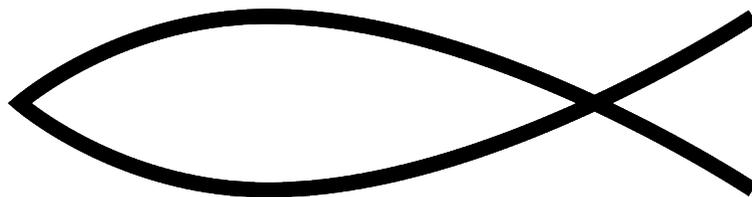
¹⁴For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

¹⁵And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

Jesus makes fishers of men to proclaim the good news

The congregation stands for the reading of the Gospel. (In the past, soldiers put down their weapons and kings removed their crowns when the Gospel was read.) Christ—his life, his words of law and Gospel, his suffering and death, his resurrection, his ascension, his assignment to the Church, his promise to return—is the center of the Gospel. The faithful have waited for this moment, this reading. They stand in reverence. After hearing the Gospel, we respond with a joyful acclamation of praise.

The Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 1.

Glory be to you, O Lord!

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵“The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

¹⁶As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ¹⁸At once they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED



HYMN OF THE DAY: #85 O God from God, O Light from Light

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



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of
2 Deep in the proph - ets' sa - cred page, Grand in the
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of
4 Sing to the Lord a might - y song; Sing to his



Peace and King of kings, To you in heav - en's
po - ets' wing - ed word, Slow - ly, in type, from
pain mid hate and scorn—These all are past, and
name, his glo - ries tell! Sing, heav'n - ly hosts, your



glo - ry bright The song of praise for - ev - er rings.
age to age The na - tions saw their com - ing Lord;
now a - bove He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
praise pro - long, And all on earth, your an - them swell!



To him who sits up - on the throne, The Lamb once
Till through the deep Ju - de - an night Rang out the
Lift up your heads, O might - y gates! So sang the
Wor - thy the Lamb for sin - ners slain! For - ev - er



slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry
song, "Good will to men!" Sung by heav'n's hosts in
an - gel hosts a - gain. Lift up your heads—your
let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb en -



he has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, A - men.
splen - dor bright, Re - ech - oed now, "Good will!" A - men.
King a - waits. We lift them up, A - men, A - men.
throned to reign; Glo - ry and pow'r! A - men, A - men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, abr., alt.

Tune: O GROSSER GOTT (LM D) *Johann Störks . . . Schlag-Gesang-Und Noten-Buch*, Stuttgart, 1744.

PLEASE STAND

NICENE CREED

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christian's composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

**The original text here reads "catholic," a word meaning "universal." The Church consists of all believers in heaven and earth, of every time in history.*

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.

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 came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus took bread and “gave thanks.” See Matthew 26:26.

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.

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.

Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

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.

PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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

This blessing has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. It is known as the Aaronic blessing because the Lord first instructed Aaron, the first High Priest of the children of Israel, to share the promise of blessing: "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).

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.

Amen.

OFFERING

Our offerings are a response to the Lord for his goodness to us, which we heard about in the readings and sermon. They are to be given on a regular basis and be the first fruits of what we receive. If you are a guest with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate.

If you would like to help Our Savior with this important mission, there are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution (the last three provide options for either one-time or recurring gifts):

Place your offering in the plate in the entryway as your leave

Use the "Tithe.ly" app on your phone (iOS or Android)

Scan the QR code on page 2 of this program to take you to our secure, online giving site where you can give via credit card or ACH transfer

Click on "Give" at OurSaviorBirmingham.com on your phone or computer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CLOSING HYMN: #560 *I Hear the Savior Calling*



1 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! The gos - pel comes to
 2 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! He leads a soul to
 3 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! He gives this charge to
 4 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! He chang - es hearts for
 5 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! His call has ur - gen -



me. My eyes once closed in blind - ness Are o - pened
 me, A soul in bit - ter an - guish, One need - ing
 me: To serve the best I'm a - ble, What - e'er the
 me. From door to door I wit - ness To share my
 cy! Each mo - ment souls are dy - ing; Soon comes e -



now to see That I my - self was help - less To
 to be free. The gift I have to of - fer Is
 call may be. Thus hand in hand with oth - ers Who
 Sav - ior's plea; Yet noth - ing can be add - ed, No
 ter - ni - ty. And so, my pre - cious Sav - ior, This



live e - ter - nal - ly, But, dy - ing, Christ did
 Christ, my Lord's de - cree That all have been for -
 share the gos - pel key We spread the gos - pel
 word on bend - ed knee, Be - yond the sim - ple
 is my hum - ble plea: Pre - pare me for my



save me, And now he calls for me!
 giv - en— My Sav - ior calls for me!
 tid - ings— My Sav - ior calls for me!
 gos - pel— My Sav - ior calls for me!
 mis - sion For you are call - ing me!

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 Tune: ANTHES (76 76 D) Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857.

PLEASE BE SEATED

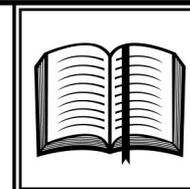


Personal Worship Notes for Kids

What is the name of the church season or special day? _____

What is the color of the church today? Blue White Purple Red Green

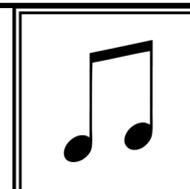
The sermon was based on these Bible verses: _____



This is in the Old Testament New Testament

What was the sermon about?

My Favorite Song was:



Did we have a sacrament today?



Baptism?

- Yes
 No



Communion?

- Yes
 No

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

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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