



# THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
*March 31, 2013*

## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

**Music / Sound:** Erik Roberson  
**Ushers:** Erik Roberson  
**Choir:** Roger and Christina Benz, Bob Holbrook,  
Pastor and Emily Kratz Caleb Roberson, Erik and  
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**Pastor Ben Kratz**  
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## WELCOME

Thank you for being with us today to celebrate Easter. Today is the highest festival in the Christian Church Year, because on this day Jesus Christ rose from the dead to be our Savior. When he came out of the tomb, he defeated sin, death, and the devil. For thousands of years, Christians have remembered this victory by greeting each other with the Easter greeting: "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"



## THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Today, the Church sings out its praise to the risen Lord for his victory over the grave which has secured for us the forgiveness of sins and the sure hope of eternal life in heaven.

# 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:*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise 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

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

**Looking for more information about 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](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com), or call the church office at (205) 677-8642.

# CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C(ongregation): Amen.

L: Dear friends in Christ, today we come together to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Let us draw near to him in worship and in praise, in our thoughts and in our prayers.

Christ is Risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

L: This is the day the Lord has made!

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

## OPENING HYMN: #157 *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured,  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured,  
Praise e - ter - nal as his love,



Who did once up - on the cross,  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky he's King,  
Praise him, all you heav'n - ly host,



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss,  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,

# CONFESSION OF SINS

L: Upon the hill the cross now stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb. As we come before our God and King, let us confess our sins.

C: Lord God, I humbly come before you. I confess that I am sinful in thought, word, and deed. I daily fail to do what you command, and continually do what you forbid. Lord, I am sorry for my sins. I believe that for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ, you will have mercy on me.

L: Upon this your sincere confession, by Christ's command and authority, I assure you that your sins are all forgiven. The vacant cross and the empty grave are God's signs to you that he has accepted the sacrifice of his one and only Son. Whoever believes this simple truth of Scripture has eternal life. The Lord is gracious and righteous!

C: When I was in great need, he saved me.

L: The Lord is my strength and my song;

C: He has become my salvation.

*The congregation sings*

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his  
 2 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the

throne; Hark how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All  
 grave And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For

mu - sic but its own. A - wake, my soul, and  
 those he came to save. His glo - ries now we

sing Of him who died for thee, And hail him  
 sing Who died and rose on high, Who died e -

as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

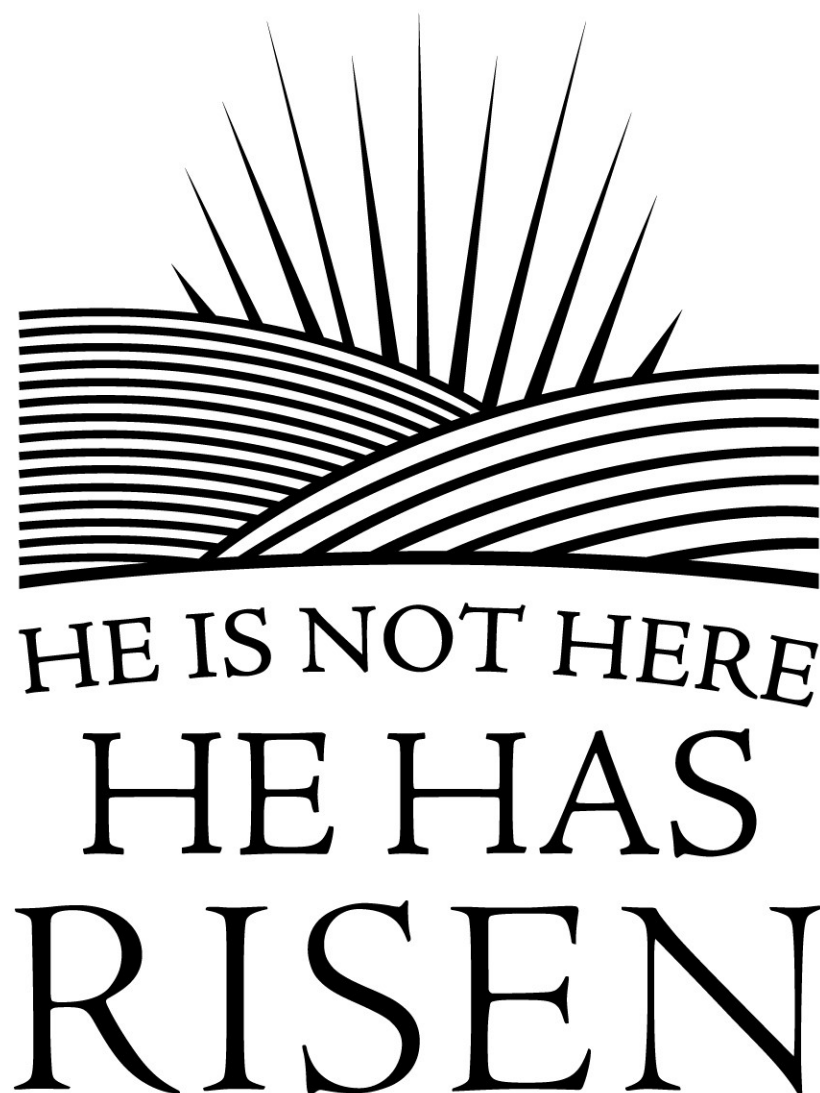
C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray:

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory. We pray this and all things through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

C: Amen.

*PLEASE BE SEATED*



# #719 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.  
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.  
5 Christ has a - ris - en; he sets us free.



Re - jice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.  
He has a - ris - en this world to save.  
Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life did death un - der - go.  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.  
Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.  
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;



E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
And in its con - quest his might did show.  
On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there."  
E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."  
He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

## *Refrain*



Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

# THE WORD OF GOD

## FIRST LESSON: Exodus 15:1-11 (Pg. 110)

*The song of Moses and the Israelites foreshadows our song of joy on this day!*

**15** Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

"I will sing to the LORD,  
for he is highly exalted.

The horse and its rider  
he has hurled into the sea.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

<sup>3</sup> The LORD is a warrior;  
the LORD is his name.

<sup>4</sup> Pharaoh's chariots and his army  
he has hurled into the sea.

The best of Pharaoh's officers  
are drowned in the Red Sea.

<sup>5</sup> The deep waters have covered them;  
they sank to the depths like a stone.

<sup>6</sup> "Your right hand, O LORD,  
was majestic in power.  
Your right hand, O LORD,  
shattered the enemy.

<sup>7</sup> In the greatness of your majesty  
you threw down those who opposed you.  
You unleashed your burning anger;  
it consumed them like stubble.

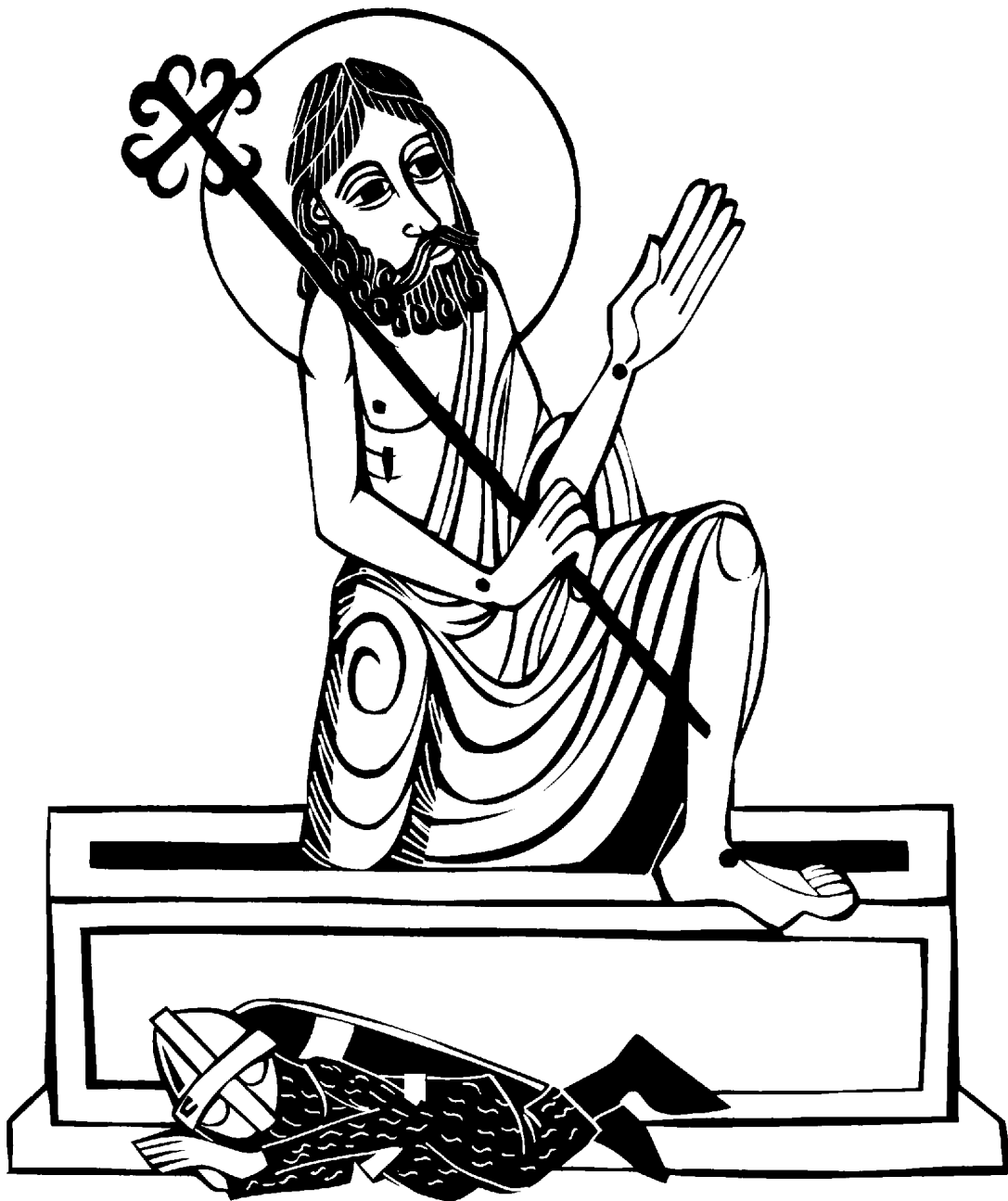
<sup>8</sup> By the blast of your nostrils  
the waters piled up.  
The surging waters stood firm like a wall;  
the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

<sup>9</sup> "The enemy boasted,  
'I will pursue, I will overtake them.  
I will divide the spoils;  
I will gorge myself on them.  
I will draw my sword  
and my hand will destroy them.'



<sup>10</sup> But you blew with your breath,  
and the sea covered them.  
They sank like lead  
in the mighty waters.

<sup>11</sup> “Who among the gods is like you, O LORD?  
Who is like you—  
majestic in holiness,  
awesome in glory,  
working wonders?”



PSALM FOR EASTER DAY: Psalm 118



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

*Choir: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever;  
Let the house of Israel say: "His mercy endures forever."*

**C: Refrain.**

*Choir: The hand of the Lord has struck with pow'r, his right hand is exalted,  
I shall not die, but live anew, declaring the works of the Lord.*

**C: Refrain.**

*Choir: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,  
The Lord of love and mercy has brought wonder to our eyes.*

**C: Refrain.**

## SECOND LESSON: I Corinthians 15:1-11 (Pg. 1789)

*The message of Christ's resurrection saves us*

**15** Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.<sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,<sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.<sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.<sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,<sup>8</sup> and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.<sup>11</sup> Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

### VERSE OF THE DAY

*The leader introduces the Alleluia refrain*

L: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Refrain*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Refrain*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

L: This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*Refrain*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

PLEASE STAND

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12 (Pg. 1642)**

*Christ has risen just as he said!*

**24** On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup>While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: <sup>7</sup>'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words.

<sup>9</sup>When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. <sup>10</sup>It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. <sup>12</sup>Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

*After the Gospel, the congregation responds:*

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

PLEASE BE SEATED

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR: *Glory Be to Jesus***

**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: #160 *This Joyful Eastertide*



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and  
 2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the  
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
 riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill  
 slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row.  
 My pass - ing soul de - liv - er.  
 Shall wake the dead in num - ber.

*Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst his three - day



pris - on, Our faith had been in vain: But



now is Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -



ris - en; But now is Christ a - ris - en.

EASTER MESSAGE

*Easter Alters Our Perspective... of Death*

*PLEASE STAND*

## 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

## OFFERING

*The members of Our Savior Lutheran Congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work 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

L: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

**C: Christ is risen!**

L: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

**C: He is risen indeed!**

L: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

**C: Alleluia!**

L: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

**C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.**

L: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

**C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.**

L: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

**C: You are risen!**

L: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

**C: You are risen indeed!**

L: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

**C: Alleluia!**

L: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: **We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.**

L: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: **He is risen!**

L: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: **He is risen indeed!**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

L: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C: **Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! 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.

## **BLESSING**

L: Now may the glorious Father, who by his power raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, give you the Spirit of wisdom to know the hope to which he has called you. And may he preserve you in body, soul, and spirit until our own resurrection on the day of Christ. Jesus. Let all God's people say, "AMEN!"

C: **AMEN!**

L: Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed!**

*PLEASE BE SEATED*



## CLOSING HYMN: #152 *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*



All 1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort  
 All 2. He lives to bless me with his love; He lives to  
 Choir 3. He lives and grants me dai - ly breath; He lives and  
 All 4. He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 plead for me a - bove. He lives, my hun - gry  
 I shall con - quer death. He lives my man - sion  
 Je - sus still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing Head!  
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.  
 to pre - pare; He lives to bring me safe - ly there.  
 sen - tence gives: "I know that my Re - deem - er lives!"

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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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

(205) 478-6843 [cell]

(205) 618-9065 [home]



# Announcements

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- ☞ **Welcome to guests and visitors!** We are glad that you are here, and hope that you will join us again soon!
- ☞ **Spiritual Growth Opportunities:**
  - Sunday Bible Class: *Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.* God promises the believer that he will face trials in life. Join us as the Apostle Paul encourages the Thessalonians and you and me in our trials with the comfort of the Gospel. Our Sunday Bible class will be studying 1-2 Thessalonians.
  - Sunday School: *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.* Join us as we study Paul's letter to the Philippians and see not only the joy the believer has in life, but learn to live a life worthy of the Gospel.
  - Bible Class for Beginners: *Wednesday evenings at 8:00 pm.* Don't feel like you know enough about the Bible to attend a regular Bible class? Join us for this class designed just 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:** Our FaithBuilders class 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 Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm. If you would like to attend, please contact Pastor Kratz. Childcare is available.
- ☞ **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 [Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com) or 677-8642 for more information about serving opportunities.
- ☞ **Keep 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.)*
  - Members and friends of Our Savior** who, by God's grace, have been brought through trials. Join them in thanking the Lord for his mercy and goodness.
  - Members and friends of Our Savior** who are struggling with physical, financial and emotional hardships. Ask the Lord to give them the peace and strength they need.
- ☞ **Invite a Friend to Church!** Here are the themes for the worship services the coming weeks. Use them to invite a friend, a relative, a neighbor to come with you saying, "Our worship this week is all about..."
  - 4/7: Easter Alters Our Perspective... Of God
  - 4/14: Easter Alters Our Perspective... Of Worship
- ☞ **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](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com), or call the church office at (205) 677-8642.

# This Week at Our Savior

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am  Worship 10:15 am

## 1 Year Chronological Bible Reading: Week #13

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8	9  FaithBuilders 7:00 pm	10  Wednesday Night Bible Class 7:00 pm  Bible Class for Beginners 8:00 pm	11	12	13	14  Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am  Worship 10:15 am

## 1 Year Chronological Bible Reading: Week #14

### ☞ Upcoming Schedule

Cleaning: April: Church Family A (DeMasi/Herda/Holbrook/Jung/Schoel/Sikes/Rader)  
 Flowers: 3/31: EASTER LILIES  
 4/7: OPEN  
 4/14: Jones (Joshua's Birthday)  
 4/21: OPEN



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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.

