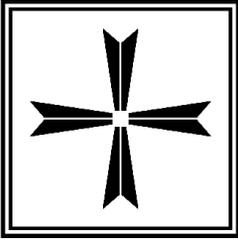


IN THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS  
*WE ARE RAISED FROM DEATH TO LIFE*

*FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT*  
*APRIL 6, 2014*



# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA*

*APRIL 6, 2014 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**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 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: Erik Roberson

Ushers: Erik Roberson, Bob Holbrook

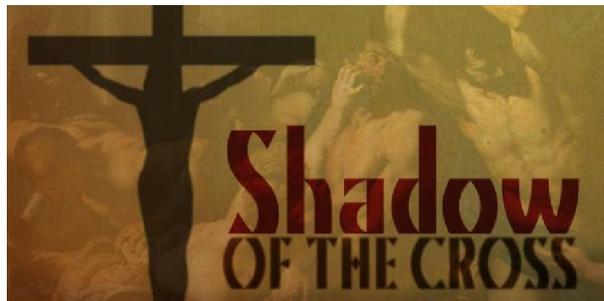
Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: [Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com)

## SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



***In the Shadow of the Cross... We are raised from death to life.***

Inside every person's heart burns a big question. What happens when we die? You cannot find the answer to that question in a laboratory or philosophy textbook. But the Lord of Life has an answer for us. Death is not the end. It is only temporary. But just as our Savior uses his almighty power to raise us from spiritual corpses (unbelief) to spiritual life (faith), so also with his word Jesus will raise our bodies as well. He proves he can do that in the Gospel.

## 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:*

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## FOR FAMILIES

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

**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 all fifty of the United States, as well as Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world mission work.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

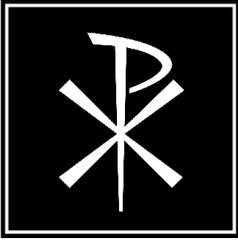
*~ Artwork by Jan M. Welch. © 2012 Jan M. Welch. All Rights Reserved.*

*Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-702194:*

*~ Service of the Word, © 2006 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

*~ Verse of the Day: Lent V, © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

*~ Scripture is taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION ® NIV® ©1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*



# SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

#114 VS. 1,2,6,7

*CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING*

*~PLEASE STAND*

## GREETING

(L)eader: The grace of our Lord (t) 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.**

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

#326

*MAY THE GRACE OF CHRIST OUR SAVIOR*

# 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 see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to body and from evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through 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

### FIRST LESSON

*EZEKIEL 37:1-14 (PG. 1346)*

**37** The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!' <sup>5</sup> This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. <sup>6</sup> I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.' " <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. <sup>14</sup> I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.' "



*In raising Israel from the death of exile, God foreshadowed the great work of Christ: the resurrection of God's people from the dead.*

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*PSALM 115*

*The Church praises  
God, who has delivered  
her from death.*

- 1 Not to us, O LORD, not to us  
but to your name be the glory,  
because of your love and faithfulness.**
- 2 Why do the nations say,  
“Where is their God?”**
- 3 Our God is in heaven;  
he does whatever pleases him.**
- 4 But their idols are silver and gold,  
made by the hands of men.**
- 5 They have mouths, but cannot speak,  
eyes, but they cannot see;**
- 6 they have ears, but cannot hear,  
noses, but they cannot smell;**
- 7 they have hands, but cannot feel,  
feet, but they cannot walk;  
nor can they utter a sound with their throats.**
- 8 Those who make them will be like them,  
and so will all who trust in them.**
- 9 O house of Israel, trust in the LORD—  
he is their help and shield.**
- 10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD—  
he is their help and shield.**
- 11 You who fear him, trust in the LORD—  
he is their help and shield.**
- 12 The LORD remembers us and will bless us:  
He will bless the house of Israel,  
he will bless the house of Aaron,**
- 13 he will bless those who fear the LORD—  
small and great alike.**
- 14 May the LORD make you increase,  
both you and your children.**
- 15 May you be blessed by the LORD,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.**
- 16 The highest heavens belong to the LORD,  
but the earth he has given to man.**
- 17 It is not the dead who praise the LORD,  
those who go down to silence;**
- 18 it is we who extol the LORD,  
both now and forevermore.**

**Praise the LORD.**

## SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 8:11-19 (PG. 1757)

*The knowledge of our future glory lets us approach God without fear and bear suffering as children of God and coheirs with Christ.*

**4** What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? <sup>2</sup> If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. <sup>3</sup> What does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

<sup>4</sup> Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. <sup>5</sup> However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup> For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, <sup>15</sup> because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup> As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

MARK 10:45

### C: Refrain (sung twice)



L: The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

### C: Refrain (sung twice)

# GOSPEL

JOHN 11:17-27, 38-45 (PG.1668)

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

*Jesus reveals himself to the woman at the well as the promised Messiah. Through him the spiritually thirsty receive drink that becomes in them "a spring of water welling up to eternal life."*

*~PLEASE STAND*

<sup>17</sup> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

<sup>21</sup> "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; <sup>26</sup> and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

<sup>27</sup> "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

<sup>45</sup> Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, put their faith in him.

*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

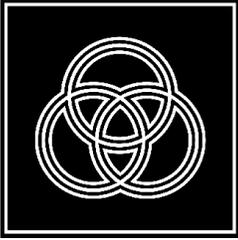
#110 VS.1,2,7

*MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN*

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

## SERMON

ROMANS 8:11-19



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

## APOSTLES CREED

*~PLEASE STAND*

**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*

## 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

#99

*OH, COME, MY SOUL*

## 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.

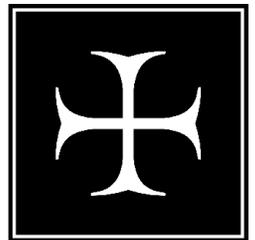
**C: Amen.**

*~PLEASE BE SEATED*

## CLOSING HYMN

#392

*NOT UNTO US*



*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).*



*OURSAVIORBIRMINGHAM.COM*