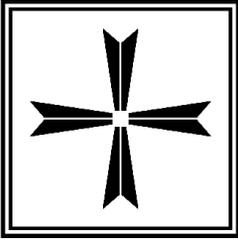




THE REDEEMER LIVES!

*FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 11TH, 2014*



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

MAY 11TH, 2014 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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: Erik Roberson

Instrumentalists: Makayla Benz, Olivia Boyce-Sauer, Hannah, Lydia, and Norah Kratz

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



The Redeemer lives to be my Good Shepherd!

Good Shepherd Sunday. The image of shepherd and sheep are certainly familiar to modern Christians, but do those concepts resonate as deeply for us as they did for the people of God 2000 years ago? On Good Shepherd Sunday we see how sharp the contrast is between true shepherds and false shepherds. All is determined by their relationship to Christ, the only gate for the sheep.

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:

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him 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, 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

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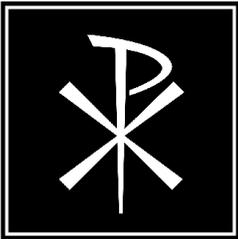
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SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

SEE, WHAT A MORNING

1. See ___ what a morn - ing, glo - rious - ly bright, with the
2. See ___ Ma - ry weep - ing, "Where ___ is he laid?" As in
3. One ___ with the Fa - ther, An - cient of Days, through the

dawn - ing of hope in Je - ru - sa - lem; Fold - ed the grave - clothes,
sor - row she turns from the emp - ty tomb. Hears a voice speak - ing,
6 Spi - rit Who cloths faith with cer - tain - ty. Hon - our and bless - ing,

tomb ___ filled with light, as the an - gels an - nounce: "Christ is
call - ing her name; It's the Mas - ter, the Lord, raised to
8 glo - ry and praise to the King crowned with Pow'r and Au -

ris - en!" See God's sal - va - tion ___ plan, wrought in
life ___ a - gain! The voice that spans the ___ years, speak - ing
11 thor - i - ty. And we are raised with ___ Him; Death is

love, borne in pain, paid in sac - ri - fice, ful - filled in
life, stir - ring hope, bring - ing peace to us, will sound 'til
14 dead, love has won, Christ has con - quered. And we shall

Christ the ___ Man, for He lives: Christ is ris - en from the dead. ___
He ap - pears, for He lives: Christ is ris - en from the dead. ___
17 reign with Him, for He lives: Christ is ris - en from the dead. ___

GREETING

~PLEASE STAND

(L)eader: CHRIST IS RISEN!

(C)ongregation: HE IS RISEN INDEED!

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

C: 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.

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).

THIS IS THE FEAST ~ *DIGNUS EST AGNUS*

The congregation joins the choir to sing the refrain.

Everyone:

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef. It begins with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure. The time signature changes to 2/4 in the second measure, then back to 3/4 in the third measure. The lyrics are: 'This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - - le - lu - ia!'. The final measure is a whole note chord in 3/4 time.

The choir sings the verses of the canticle.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood sets us free to be people of God.

Refrain

*Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. **Refrain***

*Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: **Refrain***

*Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain***

*For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia! **Refrain***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray:

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

~PLEASE BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 SAMUEL 17:34-37 (PG. 447)

³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."



Note the sharp contrast between true shepherds and false shepherds.

PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 23

SHEPHERD OF MY HEART

The good shepherd feeds, leads, and protects his sheep.

Refrain

Guide me, O shep-herd of my heart; lead me home-ward through the
dark, in-to ev-er-last-ing, day. Show me the way of truth and
light; keep me al-ways in your sight. May my life nev-er
part from the shep-herd of my heart.

*My shepherd is the Lord, for nothing shall I want; green are the pastures where I'm led to repose. Near waters still and deep God will refresh my soul. I am led onward in ways true to the Name. **Refrain.***

*If I should walk one day into the vale of darkness no evil shall I fear with God at my side. There with your crook and staff you give me strength and comfort; you spread a banquet in the sight of my foes. **Refrain.***

*You anoint my head with oil; my cup is overflowing; goodness and kindness crown the days of my life. Within the Lord's own house I dwell in peace forever; within the house of God my soul is at rest. **Refrain.***

SECOND LESSON

1 PETER 2:19-25 (PG. 1889)

Peter reminds us that not even suffering and tragedy can remove us from the care of our Good Shepherd.

¹⁹ For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

HYMN

#169 V.1-2

*ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS
INTRODUCTION: OLIVIA BOYCE-SAUER (TRUMPET)*

GOSPEL

JOHN 10:1-10 (PG. 1666)

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

*Christ is Savior, and there is no other!
Jesus is the only gate for the sheep, and there is no other!*

~PLEASE STAND

10 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ² The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. ³ The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

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

#375 vs. 1,2,3,6

THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS

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

SERMON

PSALM 23

APOSTLES CREED

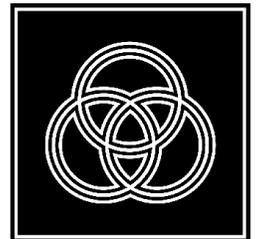
~PLEASE STAND

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



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

OFFERING

*Moved by God's love
in Christ, we offer
him our first and
best gifts, purely out
of thanks to him.*

*HOW GREAT THOU ART
INTRODUCTION: MAKAYLA BENZ (KEYBOARD)*

HYMN

#486 V.1,2

*LORD OF GLORY, YOU HAVE BOUGHT US
INTRODUCTION: LYDIA KRATZ (KEYBOARD)*

*The Lord invites our
prayers and asks that
Christians pray for
many people and
circumstances.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

~PLEASE STAND

HYMN

#498

*THOUGH I MAY SPEAK WITH BRAVEST FIRE
INTRODUCTION: HANNAH KRATZ (CLARINET)*

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.

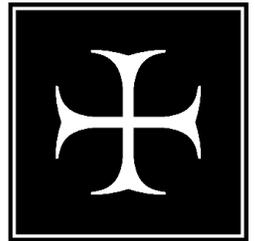
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

#334

*PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW
INTRODUCTION: NORAH KRATZ (KEYBOARD)*





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