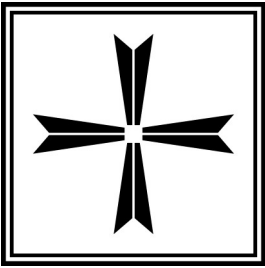




*Service of the Word*

**FREED BY FAITH!**



# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Birmingham, Alabama*

*June 16, 2013*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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**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 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.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

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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

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## BEFORE WORSHIP

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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 God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show us your mercy and forgive our sins day by day. Guide us through our earthly lives that we do not lose the things you have prepared for us in heaven. We pray this and all things through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## FOR THE CHILDREN

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**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

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**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.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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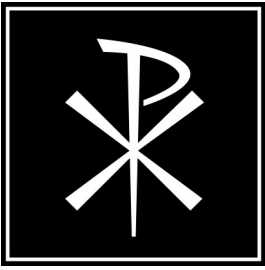
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~ *How Firm a Foundation*, Text: *A Selection of Hymns*, London, 1787, alt. Tune, Setting: Traditional American melody; Caldwell's *Union Harmony*, 1837.

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# SERVICE OF THE WORD

## OPENING HYMN

#768

*How Firm a Foundation*

*See insert*

*~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

*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.

## GLORY TO GOD ~ *Gloria in Excelsis*

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

Refrain

The musical notation is for a refrain in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the words 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and'. The second staff contains the melody for the words 'peace to his peo - ple on earth.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end of the second staff.

Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

Verses

1. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.
2. We worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you, we praise you for your glory.
3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive, receive our prayer.
4. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray:

O God, protector of all the faithful, you alone make strong; you alone make holy. Show us your mercy and forgive our sins day by day. Guide us through our earthly lives that we do not lose the things you have prepared for us in heaven. We pray this and all things through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship.

~Please be seated



*Nathan rebuked David  
for this despicable sins of  
adultery and murder.*

*David's penitent,  
sorrowing heart is  
comforted with the words,  
"The Lord has taken  
away your sin."*

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 11:26-12:10, 13-15 (pg. 487)

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<sup>26</sup>When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. <sup>27</sup>After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.

**12** The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup>The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, <sup>3</sup>but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

<sup>4</sup>"Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."

<sup>5</sup>David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die! <sup>6</sup>He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."

<sup>7</sup>Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup>I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. <sup>9</sup>Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. <sup>10</sup>Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

<sup>13</sup>Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. <sup>14</sup>But because by doing this you have made the enemies of the LORD show utter contempt, the son born to you will die."

<sup>15</sup>After Nathan had gone home, the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and he became ill.



David's penitential Psalm vividly portrays the anguish of unconfessed sin and the sweet blessing of confession and absolution.

*Happy the pardoned, whose sin is canceled, in whom God finds no evil, no deceit. While I hid my sin, my bones grew weak from endless groaning, from endless groaning. Refrain.*

*Day and night, under the weight of your hand, my strength withered as in a summer drought. Then I stopped hiding my sin and spoke out, "God, I confess my wrong." Refrain.*

*You my shelter, you save me from ruin. You encircle me with songs of freedom. Rejoice in the Lord. Be glad and sing, you faithful and just. Refrain.*

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 2:11-21 (pg. 1811)

<sup>11</sup>When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. <sup>12</sup>Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. <sup>13</sup>The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

<sup>14</sup>When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

<sup>15</sup>"We who are Jews by birth and not 'Gentile sinners' <sup>16</sup>know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

<sup>17</sup>"If, while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not! <sup>18</sup>If I rebuild what I destroyed, I prove that I am a lawbreaker. <sup>19</sup>For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. <sup>20</sup>I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup>I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

We are often on the road to repentance through the correction of Christian friends. This was the case when Paul opposed Peter in Antioch. Paul correctly points out that no one is justified by "observing the law."

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Psalm 132:9

The congregation will sing the “Alleluia” refrain both before and after the verse. The leader will sing the verse.

*Refrain. May your priests be clothed in righteousness; may your saints sing for joy. Refrain.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

Luke 7:36-50 (pg. 1604)

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

The woman who anointed Jesus' feet knew the sorrow involved with repentance. She also showed the love of Christ that is inspired by his forgiveness.

~Please stand

<sup>36</sup> Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. <sup>37</sup> When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, <sup>38</sup> and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

<sup>39</sup> When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

<sup>40</sup> Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

<sup>41</sup> "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup> Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

<sup>43</sup> Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

<sup>44</sup> Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. <sup>45</sup> You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup> You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. <sup>47</sup> Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little."

<sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

<sup>49</sup> The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."



After the Gospel, the congregation responds:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

~Please be seated

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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Children are invited to assemble at the front for a children's message.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

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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

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#479

*Jesus Your Boundless Love to Me*

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

## SERMON

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## APOSTLES CREED

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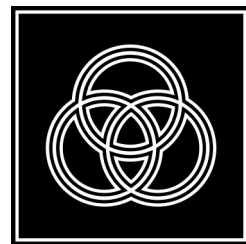
~Please stand

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

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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

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The Lord invites our  
prayers and asks that  
Christians pray for many

~Please stand

## LORD'S PRAYER

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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

#404

*Faith is A Living Power from Heaven*

*Sing to the Lord  
praise his name  
proclaim his salvation  
day after day*

## PRAYER

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~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

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L: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

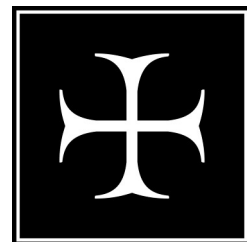
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (t) 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

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#752

*In Christ Alone*

*See insert*



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