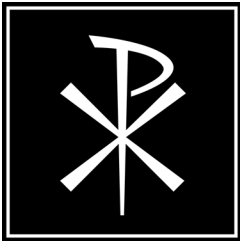




*Divine Service*

**FREED TO SERVE OTHERS**



# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Birmingham, Alabama*

*July 7, 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: Roger Benz

Ushers: Roger Benz, Shannon Sikes

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:*

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care. We ask this and all things through Jesus Christ, your Son, 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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~ **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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# DIVINE SERVICE

## OPENING HYMN

#768

*How Firm a Foundation*

*See insert*

*~Please stand*

## INVOCATION

*The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.*

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

(C)ongregation: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*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: As we prepare to worship God and have our faith fed through Word and Sacrament, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

*Silence for personal confession and reflection*

## LORD, HAVE MERCY ~ Kyrie



“Kyrie” is the Greek word for “Lord.” The expression “Lord, have mercy” is one of the oldest responses in the Christian church.

L: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

## GLORY BE TO GOD ~ Gloria in Excelsis



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.

high - est, 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 the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -

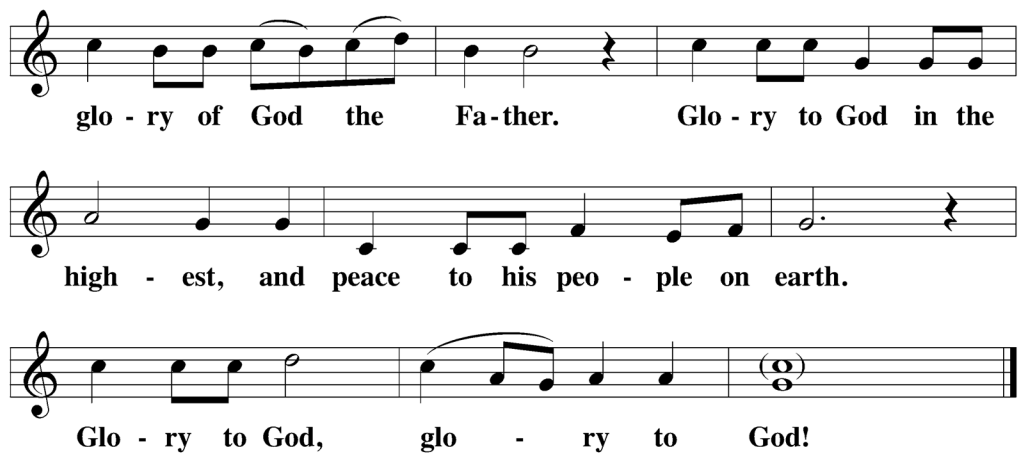
ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, 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



## SALUTATION

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L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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L: Let us pray:

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care. We pray this and all things through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

~Please be seated



*Isaiah's prophetic picture of the Christian Church is one of peace and joy, a work accomplished only by "the hand of the Lord."*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 66:10-14 (pg. 1166)

- <sup>10</sup> "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her,  
all you who love her;  
rejoice greatly with her,  
all you who mourn over her.
- <sup>11</sup> For you will nurse and be satisfied  
at her comforting breasts;  
you will drink deeply  
and delight in her overflowing abundance."
- <sup>12</sup> For this is what the LORD says:
- "I will extend peace to her like a river,  
and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream;  
you will nurse and be carried on her arm  
and dandled on her knees.
- <sup>13</sup> As a mother comforts her child,  
so will I comfort you;  
and you will be comforted over Jerusalem."
- <sup>14</sup> When you see this, your heart will rejoice  
and you will flourish like grass;  
the hand of the LORD will be made known to his servants,  
but his fury will be shown to his foes.

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 66

*The Lord's awesome power, evident in his merciful acts on behalf of the righteous, inspires our fervent praise.*

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!  
**Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious!**

Praise our God, O peoples,  
let the sound of his praise be heard.

**He has preserved our lives  
and kept our feet from slipping.**

Come and listen, all you who fear God;  
**let me tell you what he has done for me.**

If I had cherished sin in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened;

**but God has surely listened  
and heard my voice in prayer.**



**6** Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. <sup>2</sup>Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup>Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, <sup>5</sup>for each one should carry his own load.

<sup>6</sup>Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor.

<sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <sup>8</sup>The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

<sup>14</sup>May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup>Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. <sup>16</sup>Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.

*Paul reminds all believers that their devotion to God shows itself in doing "good to all people."*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 8:15

*Refrain. Happy are they who hear the Word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience. Refrain.*



*The congregation will sing the "Alleluia" refrain both before and after the verse. The Pastor will sing the verse.*

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

*Christ showed he was true God by raising the widow of Nain's son when his compassion was aroused and "his heart went out to her."*

~Please stand

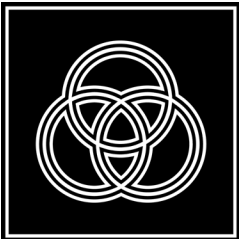
**10** After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. <sup>2</sup> He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. <sup>3</sup> Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. <sup>4</sup> Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

<sup>5</sup> "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' <sup>6</sup> If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

<sup>8</sup> "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. <sup>9</sup> Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' <sup>10</sup> But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' <sup>12</sup> I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

<sup>16</sup> "He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."



*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.*

## NICENE CREED

**C:** 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

## 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 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

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#570

O Christians, Haste

*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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Galatians 6:1-10

## 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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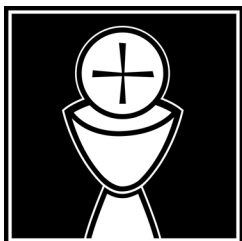
*~Please stand*

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

## 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.



# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## PREFACE

The opening words of the communion liturgy mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

L: 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 promised that where two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ~ Sanctus

"Sanctus" means "holy." Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -  
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -  
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: 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."

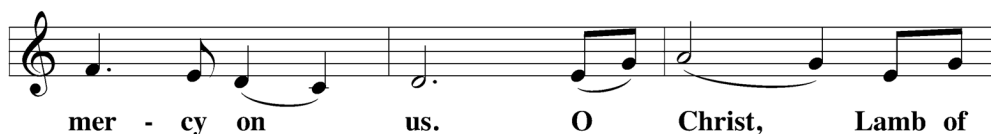
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

*As he speaks the Words of Institution, the pastor 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.*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD ~ *Agnus Dei*



*Jesus is God's Lamb (Agnus Dei), who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.*

~Please be seated



## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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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.

## THANKSGIVING

### SONG OF SIMEON ~ *Nunc Dimittis*

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The "Nunc Dimittis" ("Now dismiss") is also known as the "Song of Simeon." Through God's Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.

~Please stand

In peace, Lord, you let your

ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my

eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for

ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the

glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

L: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, 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.

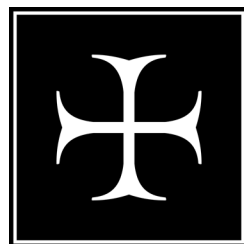
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) 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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#492

*Son of God, Eternal Savior*

*Verses 3-4*



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