



# Following.

Followers of Jesus—Are Faithful in Spite of Rejection

July 8, 2018



Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. We are happy that you are here! 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.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

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

**Children's Activity Sheets** give activities and lessons pertaining to the Scripture lessons for today's service. 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. Children's Church is located in Room 3 and will be on your right as you exit the sanctuary.

**Holy Communion** will be celebrated as part of this morning's worship service. Here at Our Savior Lutheran Church, we practice "membership communion" and ask that only members come forward to receive the sacrament. On page 156 in the front of the hymnal, there is a "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" you can use to prepare to receive Christ's true body and blood.

**Free WIFI** is available if you use an online Bible or Bible app on your phone or tablet. Look for the "OSLC\_Guest" connection to get online!

**Looking for more information?** If you would like to learn more about Our Savior Lutheran Church, You can stay up to date and in the know by connecting with Our Savior online.



**[OurSaviorBirmingham.com](http://OurSaviorBirmingham.com)** | Video and audio sermons archives, calendar of events, and more!



**[@OurSaviorBham](https://twitter.com/OurSaviorBham)** | Daily Bible passage, weekly sermon videos, and upcoming events



**[OurSaviorBham](https://www.facebook.com/OurSaviorBham)** | Daily Bible passage, weekly video worship service previews, and upcoming events



**[OurSaviorBham](https://www.instagram.com/OurSaviorBham)** | Daily Bible passage, event pictures, and church pictures



**[OurSaviorBham](https://www.youtube.com/OurSaviorBham)** | Weekly sermon videos and worship service previews



**[Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com](mailto:Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com)** | Pastor Kratz's email

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



# TODAY'S WORSHIP

Followers of Jesus—Are Faithful in Spite of Rejection

July 8, 2018

Social media enables a person to closely follow topics that are interesting or important to them, engage in discussions on those topics, and read related content. With just the click of a button, we can “follow” interesting people or important topics and get pertinent updates. Did you know, though, that even if you aren’t on any social media platform, we still “followers”? You and I “follow” Christ. As a follower of Christ, we want to closely follow what Jesus says and does, engaging in discussion about him and reading related materials to gain wisdom for life and grow in faith. Join us as we “follow” Jesus through the Gospel of Mark and you will hear from our Savior important truths that will guide you, encourage you, and strengthen you in your journey though life. Today, we that Jesus was faithful to his God and his mission in spite of persecution. In following our Savior, we too can be faithful to our God and the mission he has given us in spite of persecution.



## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

*As you prepare to worship your Lord today, spend a few quiet moments in prayer before the service. Review the Scripture readings, 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; through Jesus Christ, our Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Music: Brent Nolte

Ushers: Tim Smith

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

~ *Cover Art* by

~ *Artwork* by Ian M. Welch and Corissa Nelson. © 2012 Ian M. Welch. © 2017 Corissa Nelson. All Rights Reserved. ([paramentics.com](http://paramentics.com) / [corissanelsonart.com](http://corissanelsonart.com))

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

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

~ *Divine Service II*, © 2006 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

~ *Music settings* by Pastor Michael Schultz. © 2010 Michael Schultz. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

~ *The Lord is My Light* David Haas. © 1983 GIA Publications Inc. Chicago. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# DIVINE SERVICE

HYMN | #768 *How Firm a Foundation*



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints  
 2 "Fear not! I am with you. Oh, be  
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path -  
 5 "Through - out all their life - time my peo -



of the Lord, Is laid for your  
 not dis - mayed; For I am your  
 for re - pose I will not, I  
 way shall lie, My grace all - suf -  
 ple shall prove My sov' - reign, e -



faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What  
 God and will still give you aid; I'll  
 will not, de - sert to his foes. That  
 fi - cient shall be your sup - ply. The  
 ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love, And



more can he say than to you  
 strength - en you, help you, and cause  
 soul, though all hell should en - deav -  
 flames will not hurt you; I on -  
 then, when gray hair shall their tem -



he has said Who un - to the  
 you to stand, Up - held by my  
 or to shake, I'll nev - er, no  
 ly de - sign Your dross to con -  
 ples a - dorn, Like lambs they shall



Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!  
 sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 still on my shoul - ders be borne."

## INVOCATION

*~Please stand*

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me for Jesus' sake.**

*Silence for personal confession and reflection*

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY | *Kyrie, eleison*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord of life, live in us that we may life for you.

**Amen.**

---

**Invocation:** This comes from the latin "invoco" which describes the act of calling upon or asking for help or support. As we begin our worship, we call on the name of the triune God, who is our ever-present help and strength and in whose name we were baptized. The sign of the cross then reminds worshipers of their baptisms.

**The Confession and Forgiveness 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.

**Lord, Have Mercy:** "Kyrie" is the Greek word for "Lord." The expression "Lord have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

GLORY BE TO GOD | *Gloria in Excelsis*

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the  
high - est and peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.  
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther. We wor - ship  
you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est and  
peace, peace, peace, 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 God the Fa - ther: re -  
*rit.*  
ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.  
*a tempo*  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est and

**Hymn of Praise:** Purified of our sin, we respond with a song of praise, based on the angel's song at Jesus' birth. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.



peace, peace, peace, 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 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high-est and

peace, peace, peace, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

## THE WORD

### SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*~Please be seated*

---

**The Word:** We sit at the feet of Jesus, like Mary did, to hear the Word (Luke 10:42). Here is time for meditating, strengthening, forgiveness, instruction, and response.

**Salutation:** 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:** Following an ancient outline, the prayer of the day asks for one specific blessing. This prayer changes each Sunday, according to the Bible readings for that Sunday.

*The Lord prepares Ezekiel for rejection.*

**2** He said to me, “Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you.”<sup>2</sup> As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

<sup>3</sup>He said: “Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their fathers have been in revolt against me to this very day.<sup>4</sup> The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says.’<sup>5</sup> And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious house—they will know that a prophet has been among them.<sup>6</sup> And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be afraid, though briars and thorns are all around you and you live among scorpions. Do not be afraid of what they say or terrified by them, though they are a rebellious house.<sup>7</sup> You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



PSALM OF THE DAY | *Psalm 27*

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, of  
whom should I be a - fraid, of whom should I be a - fraid?

*The leader will introduce the refrain and sing the verses of the song.*

*The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain as indicated.*

Refrain.

**Refrain.**

*The Lord is my light and my help; whom should I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom should I shrink?*

**Refrain.**

*There is one thing I ask of the Lord; for this I long; to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

**Refrain.**

*I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord, in the land of the living; Hope in him, and take heart, hope in the Lord!*

**Refrain.**

SECOND READING | *2 Timothy 2:1-13 (pg. 1853)*

*Opposition and persecution are guaranteed wherever the Word is proclaimed in its truth and purity.*

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.<sup>2</sup> And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.<sup>3</sup> Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.<sup>4</sup> No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.<sup>5</sup> Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor’s crown unless he competes according to the rules.<sup>6</sup> The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops.<sup>7</sup> Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

<sup>8</sup>Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel,<sup>9</sup> for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God’s word is not chained.<sup>10</sup> Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

<sup>11</sup>Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him,  
we will also live with him;

<sup>12</sup>if we endure,  
we will also reign with him.

If we disown him,  
he will also disown us;

<sup>13</sup>if we are faithless,  
he will remain faithful,  
for he cannot disown himself.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | *Luke 8:15*

*-Please stand*

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

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

**Refrain**

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

**Refrain**


---

**Second Reading:** *The Second Reading is from the New Testament letters of the apostles or the Revelation to St. John. It stresses Christian faith and Christian living as a response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *The Gospel Acclamation, or Verse of the Day, is a verse, often times from the New Testament, that echoes or reinforces the theme or tone of the focus of today’s worship service.*

## GOSPEL | *Mark 6:1-6 (pg. 1560)*

The Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 6.

**Glory be to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus was rejected by his own hometown.*

**6** Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. <sup>2</sup>When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

“Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! <sup>3</sup>Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.

<sup>4</sup>Jesus said to them, “Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor.” <sup>5</sup>He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their lack of faith.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**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.*

---

**Gospel:** *The congregation stands for the reading of the Gospel. (In the past, soldiers put down their weapons and kings removed their crowns when the Gospel was read.) Christ—his life, his words of law and Gospel, his suffering and death, his resurrection, his ascension, his assignment to the Church, his promise to return—is the center of the Gospel. The faithful have waited for this moment, this reading. They stand in reverence. After hearing the Gospel, we respond with a joyful acclamation of praise.*

SERMON | *Mark 6:1-6*

## Followers of Jesus– Are Faithful in Spite of Rejection

~Please stand

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God,  
 and re - new a stead-fast spir - it with - in me.  
 Do not cast me from your pres - ence or take your  
 Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
 Re - store to me the joy, the joy of  
 your sal - va - tion and grant me a will - ing  
 spir - it to sus - tain me.

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

**Sermon:** The Sermon is the Word of God, proclaiming the living voice of the Gospel to God's people. The preacher is the appointed representative who illuminates the Scripture for the congregation and applies it to our contemporary situation. He is neither lecturer nor entertainer, but a link through whom the Holy Spirit brings law and gospel to bear upon the hearts and minds of the worshiper and enlivens their faith and life.

## NICENE CREED | *Credo*

**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*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## OFFERING

*This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Our Savior Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work of sharing the Gospel. If you are a guest with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate.*

*If you would like to help Our Savior with this important mission, there are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution (the latter two provide options for either one-time or recurring gifts):*

*Place your offering in the plate*

*Use the "Tithe.ly" app on your phone (iOS or Android)*

*Click on "Give" at [OurSaviorBirmingham.com](http://OurSaviorBirmingham.com) on your phone or computer*

---

**Confession of Faith:** *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.*

**Prayer of the Church:** *The Lord invites our prayers and asks that Christians pray for many people and circumstances.*

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

# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## PREFACE

*~Please stand*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

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

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 has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. 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*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

Lord, God of pow-er, God of might: heav - en and

earth are full of your glo - ry,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord! Ho - san - na in the

**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.*

**Holy, Holy, Holy:** *"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. It incorporates elements of Isaiah 6:3 and Matthew 21:9.*

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.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

---

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:** Jesus took bread and "gave thanks." See Matthew 26:26

**Lord's Prayer:** The Lord's Prayer was given by our Savior to his Church in response to the disciples' request to be taught to pray. See Matthew 6:9-13. The conclusion to the prayer, also known as the Doxology, was a common conclusion to ancient prayers.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD | *Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you  
take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a-way the sin of the world, grant us your peace.  
*a tempo*  
A - men. A - men. A - men.

~Please be seated

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*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. Our Savior Lutheran Church asks that only members come forward to receive the sacrament.*

*There is a Personal Preparation for Communion available on page 156 in the red hymnal.*

**HYMN** | #315 *Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face*



SONG OF SIMEON | *Nunc Dimittis*


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 of your peo-ple Is-ra-el.

## PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

The Lord has refreshed us with His Word. Let us head into this new week equipped for lives of service.

**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

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.

**Amen.**

## HYMN | #403 *I Know My Faith Is Founded*

*~Please be seated*

DEVOUR  
the word  
AND FILL YOUR  
stomach  
WITH IT

---

**Blessing:** *This blessing has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. It is known as the Aaronic blessing because the Lord first instructed Aaron, the first High Priest of the children of Israel, to share the promise of blessing: "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).*



*OurSaviorBirmingham.com*