

This is (y)our life - Adopted

July 15, 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.

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** | Video and audio sermons archives, calendar of events, and more!

 **@OurSaviorBham** | Daily Bible passage, weekly sermon videos, and upcoming events

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 **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.



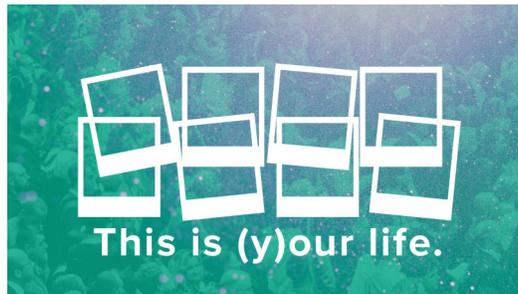
TODAY'S WORSHIP

This is (y)our life: Adopted

July 15, 2018

The book of Ephesians is an incredibly practical book for Christians at every stage of life. Here we see what the Christian life looks like, and what it doesn't look like. Over the next several weeks, we will explore Paul's letter to the Ephesians as if we were paging through a family photo album. We'll see how we were adopted as God's children (baby photos), how we are united as one family (the group family picture), we'll also page through graduation pictures, wedding photos, and more. This is your life! Yet, thankfully, because we're all in this together – this is OUR life. We encourage you to read through the book of Ephesians in your personal devotions in preparation for this practical worship series – This is (y)our life.

Today, we marvel at God's goodness and mercy in his choosing us to be adopted into his family.



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:

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ 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: John and James Haberland

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN | #241 *Alleluia! Let Praises Ring*

GREETING

~Please stand

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

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

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.

Silence for personal confession and reflection

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.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY | *Kyrie, eleison*

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Greeting: *This blessing from 2 Corinthians 13:14 reminds us of the foundation of worship: God's grace. He loves us because of Jesus and we have fellowship with God and each other because of the faith the Holy Spirit gives us. The congregation responds by praying the same blessing on their pastor.*

The Confession and Forgiveness of Sins: *Our God is a holy God, and we are unholy sinners. Before we meet our God, our status before him must change – or he would destroy us. We confess our sins, trusting God's promise to forgive us (See 1 John 1:9). Our Lord wants to forgive our sins. He sent Jesus to make us "at one" (atonement) with God by dying on the cross for our sins. The pastor makes the sign of the cross to remind us we are forgiven only because Jesus died on the cross.*

For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

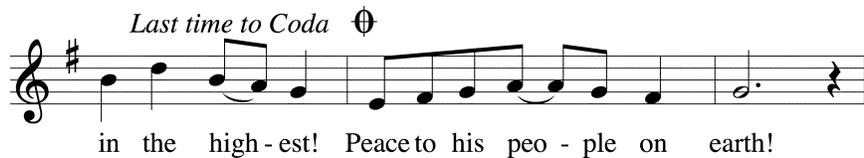
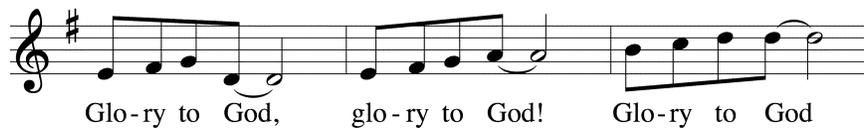
Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD | *Gloria in Excelsis*

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

REFRAIN



Music: *Mass, Jesus, the Compassion of God*, David Haas; © 1991, 1999, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Verse 1 (followed by refrain)



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.

Verse 2 (followed by refrain)

Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

6

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

11

sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

16

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

Verse 3 (followed by refrain repeated twice)

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

5

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

10

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

THE WORD

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

~Please be seated

The believer depends on God to keep his Word, i.e., to send opposition and to send success when and where it pleases him

¹⁰Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: “Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. ¹¹For this is what Amos is saying:

“ ‘Jeroboam will die by the sword,
and Israel will surely go into exile,
away from their native land.’ ”

¹²Then Amaziah said to Amos, “Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. ¹³Don’t prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king’s sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor a prophet’s son, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. ¹⁵But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ ¹⁶Now then, hear the word of the LORD. You say,

“ ‘Do not prophesy against Israel,
and stop preaching against the house of Isaac.’ ”

¹⁷“Therefore this is what the LORD says:

“ ‘Your wife will become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and daughters will fall by the sword.
Your land will be measured and divided up,
and you yourself will die in a pagan country.
And Israel will certainly go into exile,
away from their native land.’ ”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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. Because God has forgiven us, we have a special bond with our Lord and with each other as Christians. Pastor and congregation express this bond of fellowship with a blessing for each other – that the Holy Spirit would bless you as you hear God’s Word and that he would bless the pastor to preach God’s Word with power.*

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

PSALM OF THE DAY | *Psalm 78*

O my people, hear my teaching
listen to the words of my mouth.

**I will utter things from of old,
what we have heard and what our fathers have told us.**

We will not hide them from our children;
**we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.**

The LORD decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
**so the next generation would know them,
and they in turn would tell their children.**

Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.



First Reading: The First Reading is typically taken from the Old Testament and occasionally from the Book of Acts. In it we learn of God's mighty words and deeds with the Old Testament Church, the people of Israel.

Psalm: The Psalm is the most ancient part of our worship service. While most of our liturgy is 1,800 years old, Jews have been singing Psalms in worship for 3,000 years.

SECOND READING | *Titus 1:5-9 (pg. 1857)*

We are to hold firmly to the message we have been given

⁵The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. ⁶An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. ⁷Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁸Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. ⁹He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | *Deuteronomy 30:14*

~Please stand

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. Both staves are in the key of D major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes on both staves.

Refrain

The Word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

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.*

Verse of the Day: *The 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.*

Jesus sends his disciples out to share what they have received from him, the Gospel

⁷ Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits.

⁸ These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. ⁹ Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. ¹⁰ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. ¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave, as a testimony against them.”

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

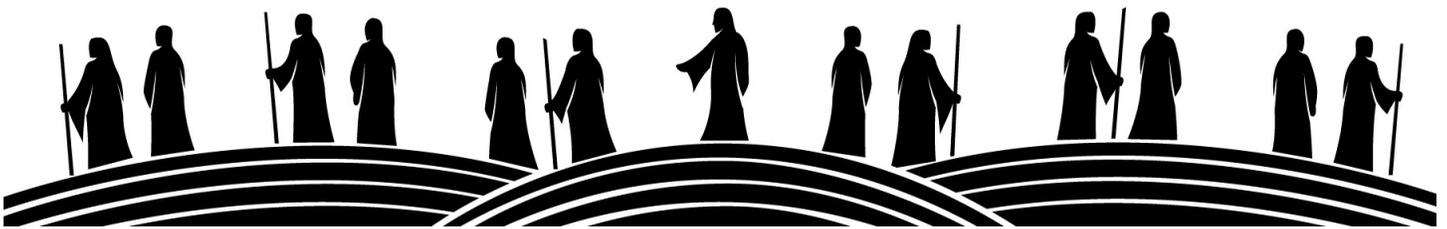
~Please be seated

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.*

HYMN OF THE DAY | #753 *Father, God of Grace, You Knew Us*

1 Fa - ther, God of grace, you knew us,
 2 We, your crea - tures, sinned a - gainst you,
 3 Coun - sel - or, you bring as prom - ised
 4 Lord, your change - less Word has fed us,
 5 For - ward lead us; Christ, we fol - low,
 6 Praise the Fa - ther, great Cre - a - tor.



Chose us, named us as your own,
 And our guilt was crim - son red.
 From the Fa - ther and the Son
 Span - ning time, tran - scend - ing space.
 Drawn by Word and prom - ise true:
 Praise the Son, who took our place.



Through e - ter - nal a - ges plan - ning
 Son of God, you came in - car - nate,
 Right - eous - ness ful - filled, ac - com - plished,
 Wa - ter, bread, and wine sus - tained us
 "To all na - tions preach the gos - pel;
 Praise the Spir - it, Sanc - ti - fi - er,



To re - deem us in your Son.
 Crushed the craft - y ser - pent's head,
 Free for - give - ness, heav - en won.
 When the dark - ness hid your face.
 I am ev - er - more with you."
 God of free and faith - ful grace!



Praise the Fa - ther, God who loved us
 Died our death, now live tri - um - phant:
 Praise the Spir - it! He as - sures us
 Keep us with you, faith - ful Shep - herd,
 Keep us faith - ful! Then, Lord Je - sus,
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

APOSTLES CREED | *Credo*

~Please stand

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Throughout the prayer, when the leader says, "Lord, in Your mercy:" the congregation responds by saying, "**hear our prayer.**"*

...Through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, forever and ever.

Amen.

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 on your phone or computer

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.*

Confession of Faith: *We respond to our Shepherd's voice by confessing what we believe concerning our God and all he's done for us.*

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

PRAYER

~Please stand

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.

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.**

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 | #568 *Good News of God Above*

~Please be seated

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.*

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).*



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