

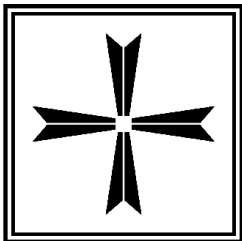


MY REFUGE  
AND MY FORTRESS,  
MY GOD,  
IN WHOM I TRUST

THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, ONE WORD AT A TIME:

BATTLING

*AUGUST 3RD, 2014*



# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA*  
*AUGUST 3RD, 2014*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**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 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

Ushers: Roger Benz, 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

In the book of Romans, the apostle Paul clearly and succinctly lays out God's plan of salvation. As we study this book, we are going to see how it describes the main points of our saving faith, one word at a time.

Today's word that summarizes our lesson is "battling." The Christian life is a battle between the sinful flesh and the new man born in us through baptism. The Old Adam wages constant war. Where can we find any rest from this kind of fight? Paul's words ring true in our lives: all the good I want to do, but I fail to accomplish; all the evil I have promised never to do again, but repeat within a day. I want to do good, but I just can't make it happen! What a wretched person I am! I just want rest from this battle—rest from my failure. Who can save me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord, who came to give rest to our weary and burdened souls.

## 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:*

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.

## 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](mailto: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.

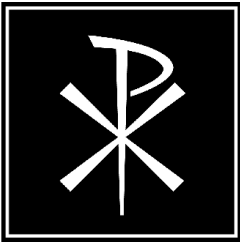


## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

#580

*EVERY MORNING MERCIES NEW*

*~PLEASE STAND*

## GREETING

**L**eaders: 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.**

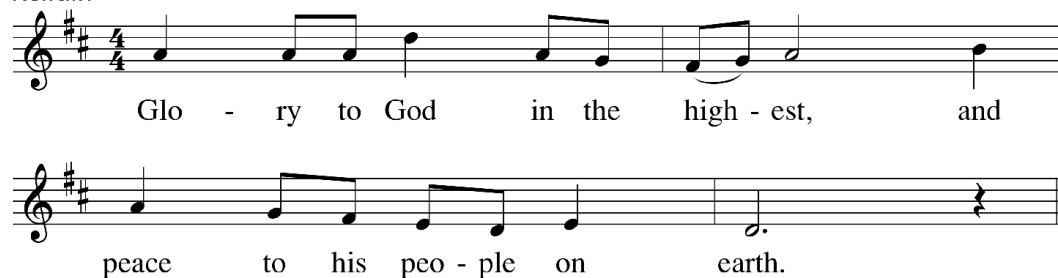


## GLORY TO GOD ~ "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS"

**L** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

*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.*

Refrain



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

**L** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

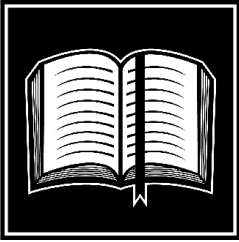
*This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship.*

**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 our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*~PLEASE BE SEATED*



*Moses pleaded with God to go up to the Promised Land with them. Though the Israelites had sinned greatly, Moses reminded the LORD that they were God's people.*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON

*EXODUS 33:12-23 (PG. 140)*

<sup>12</sup> Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' <sup>13</sup> If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."

<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. <sup>16</sup> How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

<sup>17</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

<sup>19</sup> And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. <sup>20</sup> But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."

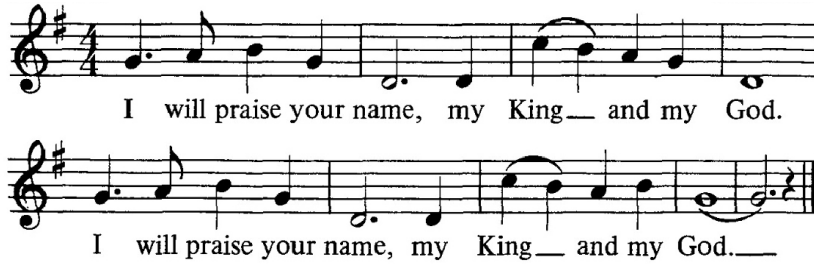
<sup>21</sup> Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. <sup>22</sup> When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."



## PSALM OF THE DAY

## PSALM 145

*Our God is  
compassionate to all  
who trust in him—  
especially those who  
are in need.*



**L** Refrain.

**C** Refrain.

**The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain after each of the verses.**

*I will give you glory my God and King, and I will bless your name forever.  
Ev'ry day I will bless and praise your name forever. **Refrain.***

*The Lord is full of grace and mercy, He is kind and slow to anger.  
He is good in all his works and full of compassion. **Refrain.***

*Let all your works give you thanks O Lord, and let all the faithful bless you.  
Let them speak of your might O Lord, the glory of Your kingdom. **Refrain.***

*The Lord is faithful in all His words, and always near, His name is holy.  
He lifts up all those who fall, He raises up the lowly. **Refrain.***

## SECOND LESSON

## ROMANS 7:15-25 (PG. 1756)

*The Christian life is a  
battle between the  
sinful flesh and the new  
man born in us through  
baptism.*

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

<sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

## VERSE OF THE DAY

LUKE 8:15



**L** Refrain.

**C** Refrain.

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

**C** Refrain. (sung twice)

## GOSPEL

MATTHEW 11:25-30 (PG. 1513)

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

*Christianity is not a religion of rules meant to call us to endlessly labor for God's favor; it does not leave us to work things out on our own. No, it frees us from the burden of carrying our sin and puts Christ in its place.*

~PLEASE STAND

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

<sup>27</sup> "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

*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

#419

*IF GOD HIMSELF BE FOR ME*

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

## SERMON

ROMANS 7:15-25

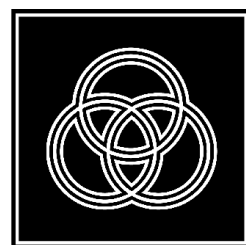
## APOSTLES CREED

*~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.**



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

*~PLEASE BE SEATED*

## OFFERING

*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

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

*~PLEASE STAND*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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

#471

*RENEW ME, O ETERNAL LIGHT*

## 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

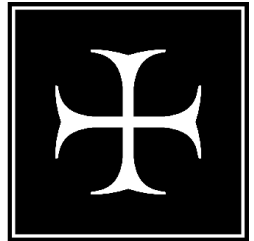
- ☐ Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

■ Amen.



*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).*

*~PLEASE BE SEATED*

## CLOSING HYMN

#320

*ON MY HEART IMPRINT YOUR IMAGE*





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