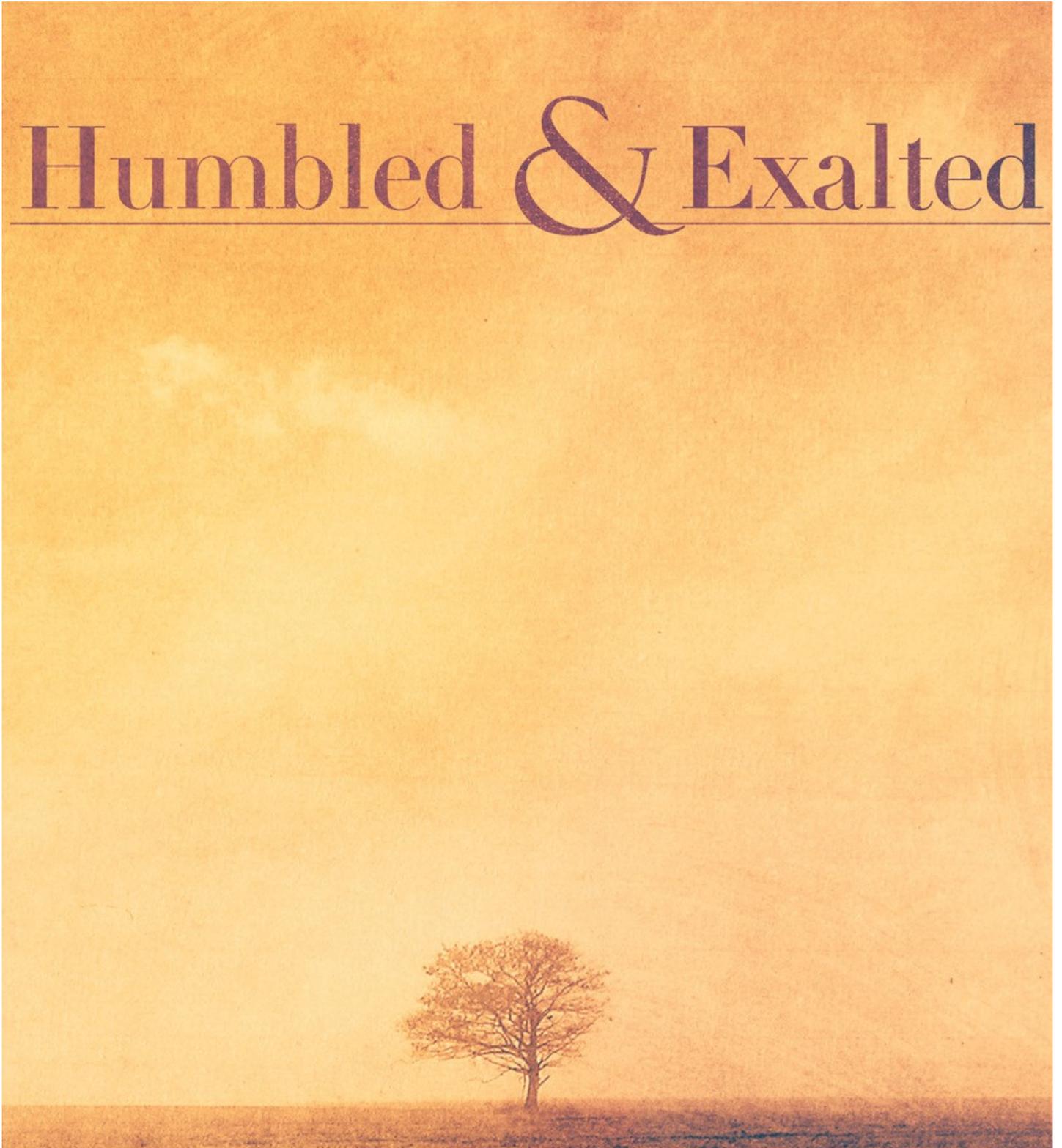


September 1, 2019

Humbled & Exalted





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](https://twitter.com/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

Humbled and Exalted

September 1, 2019

The life of faith is one of true humility. But it is humility rendered by faith in the promise of God that those who exalt themselves on earth will be humiliated for eternity, but those who humble themselves now will be exalted. So the believer is both humbled and exalted!

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:

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Roger Benz, Johnny Culver

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Cell: (205) 478-6843

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Order of Service

HYMN *Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near*

1. Af - flict - ed saint, to Christ draw near, Your Sa - vior's
2. Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the
3. Should per - se - cu - tion rage and flame, still trust in
6 4. When called to bear your weigh - ty cross, or sore af -
gra - cious pro - mise hear, His faith - ful Word, you can be -
con - flict should be long, the Lord will make the temp - ter
your Re - deem - er's name; in fier - y tri - als you shall
flic - tion, pain, or loss, or deep dis - tress or pv - ver -
12 lieve, that as your days your strength shall be.
flee, that as your days your strength shall be. So, sing with
see, that as your days your strength shall be.
ty, still as your days your strength shall be.
18 joy, af - flict - ed one' the bat - tle's fierce but the vic - tory's
24 won; God shall sup - ply all that you need. Yes, as your
30 days your strength shall be.

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.

PLEASE STAND

GREETING

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 AND FORGIVENESS 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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

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.

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.

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.

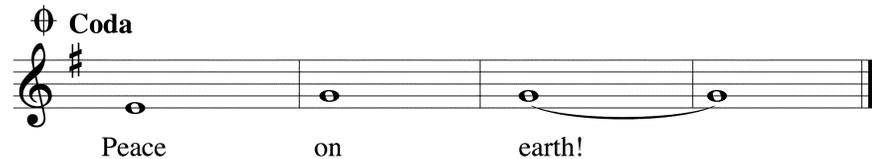
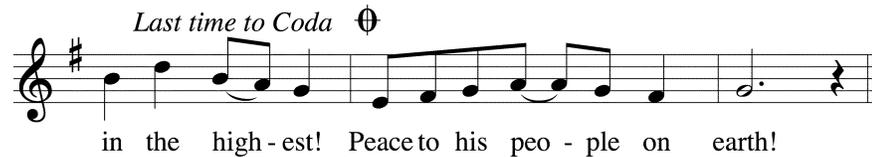
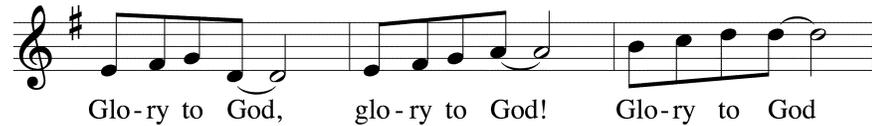
Hymn of Praise

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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

REFRAIN

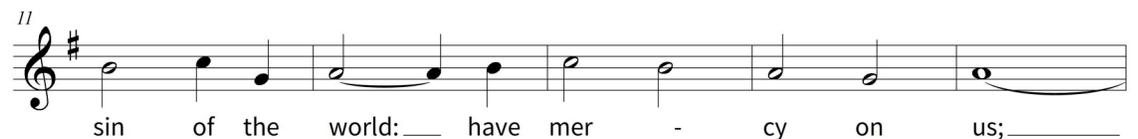


Music: *Mass, Jesus, the Compassion of God*, David Haas; © 1991, 1999, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Verse 1 (followed by refrain)



Verse 2 (followed by refrain)



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:

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father 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. 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 prayer of the day asks for one specific blessing. This prayer changes each Sunday, according to the Bible readings for that Sunday.

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.

FIRST READING *Proverbs 25:6-7 (pg. 1022)*

Sinful pride can be one's undoing. Better is humility in the presence of the king than humiliation in his court. These words of Solomon are nearly identical to the words of Jesus in the Gospel today. Humble service before the King of heaven and humble service in his kingdom mark those who will dine at the King's table for eternity.

- ⁶ Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,
and do not claim a place among great men;
⁷ it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY *Psalm 112*

- ¹ Praise the LORD.
**Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
who finds great delight in his commands.**
- ² His children will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- ³ Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.
- ⁴ **Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,
for the gracious and compassionate and righteous man.**
- ⁵ Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely,
who conducts his affairs with justice.
- ⁶ **Surely he will never be shaken;
a righteous man will be remembered forever.**
- ⁷ He will have no fear of bad news;
his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- ⁸ His heart is secure, he will have no fear;
in the end he will look in triumph on his foes.
- ⁹ He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor,
his righteousness endures forever;
his horn will be lifted high in honor.
- ¹⁰ The wicked man will see and be vexed,
he will gnash his teeth and waste away;
the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

SECOND READING *James 2:1-13 (pg. 1881)*

These words from James reiterate the lesson from Jesus in the closing verses of the Gospel. Self-exalting pride can also be found in the display of favoritism towards those who can elevate our societal position or somehow benefit us. James warns that those who show such favoritism are self-exalting lawbreakers headed for judgment. Rather, as humble servants who have known the mercy of the King, show mercy to all those in need. For it is by the King's mercy that we will spend eternity beyond the reach of his exacting judgment.

² My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

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

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.

PLEASE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Jeremiah 15:16*



Text: ICEL, © 1969
Music: *Mass of Light*, David Haas, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

Refrain (x2)

Refrain. (x2)

Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart.

Refrain. (x2)

GOSPEL *Luke 14:1, 7-14 (pg. 1675)*

The Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 14.

Glory be to you, O Lord!

It is difficult, perhaps, for most of us to imagine ourselves in this specific situation. We are so far removed from royalty and subjects, masters and slaves. Jesus drives home his point on humility with a story. As Jesus warns against sinful pride, he warns those who would promote themselves and seek places of honor in the presence of the Host of the Heavenly banquet. Only those who humbly wait on the King's merciful acknowledgment will find eternal reward at his table. For now, the King calls on us to humbly serve those in need as a display of humble service to the King.

^{14:1} One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸ "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹ If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this man your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹²Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY #524 *O Fount of Good, for All Your Love*

ALL THOSE WHO
EXALT
THEMSELVES WILL BE
humbled

PLEASE STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

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, "...let us pray to the Lord:" the congregation responds by saying, "**Lord, have mercy.**"

...Grant to us all these things, O Lord, not because of our own merits or worthiness, but solely for the sake of Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

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

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.

Offering

Our offerings are a response to the Lord for his goodness to us, which we heard about in the readings and sermon. They are to be given on a regular basis and be the first fruits of what we receive.

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER

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 #529 *Built on the Rock* (verses 1,4,5)

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).

Personal Worship Notes for Kids

What is the name of the church season or special day? _____

What is the color of the church today? Blue White Purple Red Green

The sermon was based on these Bible verses: _____



This is in the Old Testament New Testament

What was the sermon about?

My Favorite Song was:



Did we have a sacrament today?



Baptism?

Yes

No



Communion?

Yes

No

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What did you learn about God today?

1) What did God tell you about himself?

2) What did God tell you about yourself?

3) What did God tell you to believe?

4) What did God tell you to do?



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