



Equipped for Life

September 2, 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*

 **OurSaviorBham** | *Daily Bible passage, weekly video worship service previews, and upcoming events*

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 **OurSaviorBham** | *Weekly sermon videos and worship service previews*

 **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

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Faithfulness and obedience to the Word of God are not merely one aspect of life out of many. They are the all-important matters of life that should be reflected in all of the rest of life. There is a life-and-death struggle going on with us, as Satan strives with all his might to pull us back into sin and unbelief. The only help that avails in that life-and-death struggle is the help of God's own Word, the covering of the gospel and the confidence of faith which comes from it. Armed with the promises of God, we storm the gates of heaven with our prayers for assistance, in the certainty that God will hear us and in his Word answer us. May our awareness of the battle and of the victory Christ gives permeate all that we do at work and at play, at home and away, in our lives with family, with friends, with foes as well.

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: John Haberland, James Haberland

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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MORNING PRAISE

HYMN | #735 *Speak, O Lord*



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re -
 2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly
 3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word.
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.
 grasp the heights of your plans for us.



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes In the
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, That will



fash - ion us in your like - ness That the
 ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our
 e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to-day In our acts of
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic
 grace we'll stand on your pro - mis-es, And by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
 love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
 walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your

fill in us All your pur - pos-es for your
nev - er fail, Let their truth pre-vail o - ver
Church is built And you fill the earth with your

glo - ry.
un - be-lief.
glo - ry.

Tune: SPEAK, O LORD (8 10 8 10 10 8 10)
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COME, OH, COME, LET US SING | *Venite*

~Please stand

M: O Lord, o - pen my lips

C: And my mouth will de - clare your praise.

M: Has - ten to save me, O God.

C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



M: (Advent) The King of kings draws near:
 (Christmas) To us the Christ is born:
 (Epiphany) Christ's glo - ry is re - vealed:
 (Lent) Be - hold the Lamb of God:
 (Easter) The Lord is ris'n in - deed:
 (Pentecost) God's Spir - it fills the world:
 (General) The tri - une God be praised:



Come, let us wor - ship him.



C: Come, let us sing, let us sing to the Lord.



Let us make a joy - ful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.



Let us come in - to his pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing,



let us make a joy - ful noise to him with songs of praise.



For the Lord is a great God, a great king a - bove all gods.



The deep plac - es of the earth are in his hand;



the heights of the high - est hills are al - so his.



The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land.

Opening Sentences: The opening sentences resemble the urgent prayers of those who are threatened by enemies (Psalm 70:1). They verbalize the heartfelt needs of all who have gathered to worship the God of justice, truth, and mercy. With these words the gather believers call for the Lord's help and thus begin their worship.

2

Come, let us wor - ship and bow down, let us

kneel be - fore the Lord, our mak - er, For he is our God,

and we are the peo - ple of his pas - ture,

we are the sheep of his hand.

3

Venite: This song is called the Venite because of its opening word in Latin (Venite = come). With these words from Psalm 95, the worshiper makes a joyful noise in praise of the maker of heaven and earth.

MORNING PSALM | *Psalm 5*

Refrain (first time: cantor/choir; second time and as indicated: all)

[intro only]

Lord, in the morn - ing I cry to you, I pray and sigh and I

wait on you. Lord, in the morn - ing you hear my voice, you

lis - ten to my prayer, my King and my God.

Verses

1 All who lie and fill them - selves with pride can - not dwell with
2 Lead me, Lord, my en - e - mies con - spire. Leave them in their

you; you hate all who do wrong. But I, by your mer - cy, will
guilt; it is you they de - spise. But let those who love you be

come in - to your house; in awe of your grace I'll bow
glad and sing for joy — all those who take ref - uge in

down. O Lord, lead me in your right - eous - ness, make your
you. O Lord, let your fa - vor, as a shield, guard and

way my path.
keep your own.

THE WORD

FIRST READING | *Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 (pg. 279)*

Moses is about to die and the Israelites are about to finally enter the Promised Land—land God had promised to give them hundreds of years earlier. So, Moses reminds the Israelites about just how serious God is about all of his Word, both the law and the gospel. His commands are good because he who gave them is good. And because he is good, his abundant blessing through a peaceful and orderly life rests on those who follow his Word. That blessing brings forth a still greater blessing and honor: those who do not know his Word may be moved to hear it by the evidence of God’s blessings on the godly lives of Christians.

Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

⁶Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” ⁷What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? ⁸And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

⁹Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Adding to God's Word is just as bad as subtracting from it. In both cases man sets aside what God has said in favor of what he wants in order to justify himself apart from God's Word and Christ's work. Precisely because the Word of both the law and the gospel is addressed to the heart, it allows for no additions, no subtractions. For to the extent that the heart is cleansed by the gospel, to that extent what flows from it will be clean and in accord with the law. An unclean heart can produce only unclean works, no matter how good and clean those works may appear on the outside.

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and ²saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were “unclean,” that is, unwashed. ³(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. ⁴When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?”

⁶ He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

“ ‘These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

⁷ They worship me in vain;
their teachings are but rules taught by men.’

⁸ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.”

¹⁴ Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. ¹⁵ Nothing outside a man can make him ‘unclean’ by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him ‘unclean.’”

²¹ For from within, out of men’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and make a man ‘unclean.’ ”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEASONAL RESPONSE

Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children are invited to assemble at the front for a children’s message.

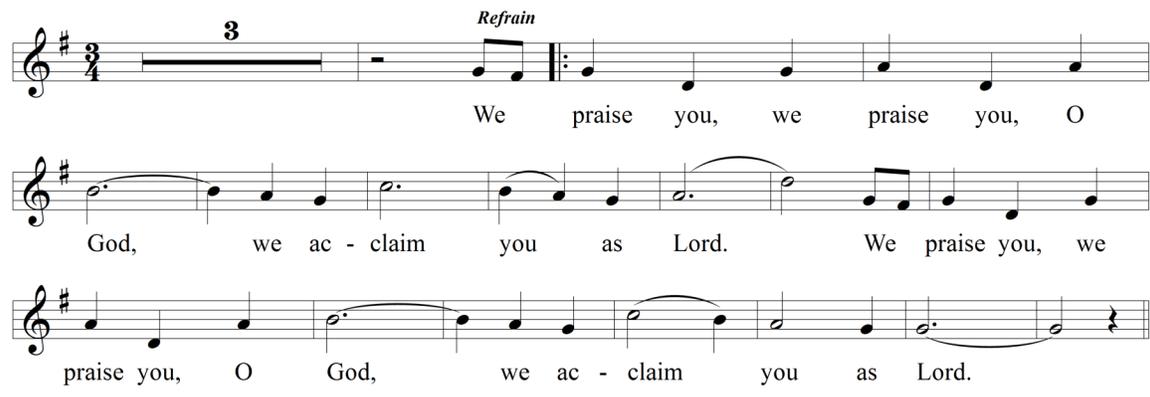
CHILDREN’S CHURCH

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.

YOU ARE GOD, WE PRAISE YOU | *Te Deum*

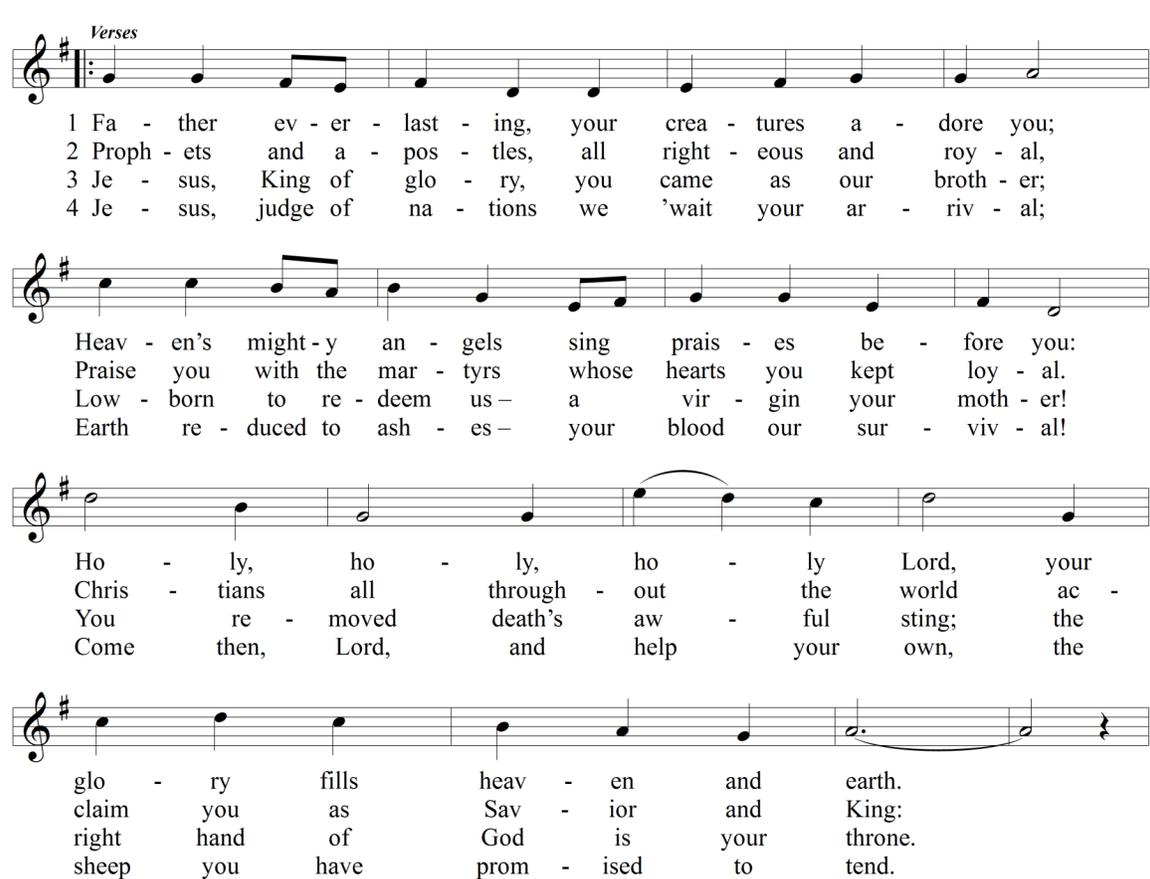
~Please stand

3 *Refrain*



We praise you, we praise you, O
God, we ac - claim you as Lord. We praise you, we
praise you, O God, we ac - claim you as Lord.

Verses



1 Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, your crea - tures a - dore you;
2 Proph - ets and a - pos - tles, all right - eous and roy - al,
3 Je - sus, King of glo - ry, you came as our broth - er;
4 Je - sus, judge of na - tions we 'wait your ar - riv - al;

Heav - en's might - y an - gels sing prais - es be - fore you:
Praise you with the mar - tyrs whose hearts you kept loy - al.
Low - born to re - deem us - a vir - gin your moth - er!
Earth re - duced to ash - es - your blood our sur - viv - al!

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, your
Chris - tians all through - out the world ac -
You re - moved death's aw - ful sting; the
Come then, Lord, and help your own, the
glo - ry fills heav - en and earth.
claim you as Sav - ior and King:
right hand of God is your throne.
sheep you have prom - ised to tend.



Words fail to ex - press it; your great - ness de - fies all
 Fa - ther, Son and Spir - it; to you, God Most High, your
 Now your bless - ed king - dom is o - pen to all who
 Bring us in - to glo - ry with all of your saints where

ending for stanzas 1 and 3; then go to next stanza



meas - ures of wealth and worth.
 cling to your grace a - lone.

ending for stanzas 2 and 4; then go to refrain



Church lifts its voice to sing. We
 wor - ship will nev - er end. We

~Please be seated

LORD, HAVE MERCY | *Kyrie*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of 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 lost 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 live for you.

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.**

~Please be seated

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

Lord have Mercy: *We lift up our prayers with a cry for mercy to the Lord. Lord have mercy is one of the most ancient responses of the Christian Church.*

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.*

PRAYER

~Please stand

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

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 | #474 *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

~Please be seated

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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