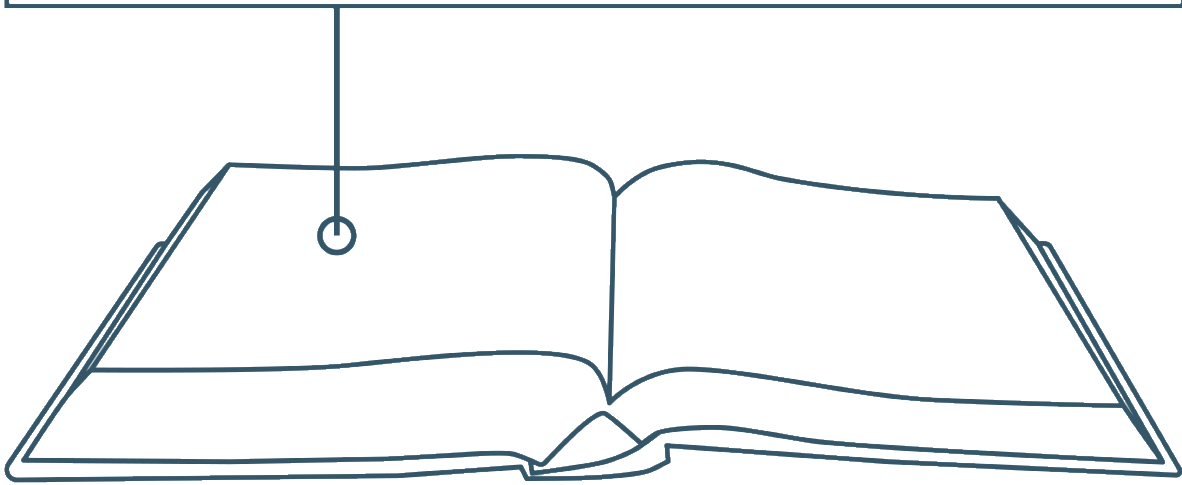


# Define: Christian



THE CHRISTIAN TRUSTS GOD  
TO PROVIDE

July 30, 2023



# Welcome!

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

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

**NEW TO OUR SAVIOR?** We are excited that you have joined us for worship today. Our message is as old as God's Word to mankind: Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to take away our sins. If you need assistance during the service, an usher located in the back will be able to assist you.

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card—if you would prefer to fill it out online, scan the code with your phone, or go to [OurSaviorBirmingham.com/Connect](https://OurSaviorBirmingham.com/Connect). You can put the Connect Card in the offering plate or give it to an usher as you leave.



**FAMILIES WITH KIDS:** We think it is important for families to worship together regularly. We know that occasionally, kids are going to have a rough morning. 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 ACTIVITY SHEETS** give activities and lessons pertaining to the Scripture lessons for today's service. Ask an usher at the door into the sanctuary.

**AN OFFERING** will be gathered during our worship service today. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated or compelled to participate. If you would like to give an offering that supports the ministry work at Our Savior, there are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution:

- (1) place your offering into the offering plate,
- (2) you can scan this QR code to take you to our secure, online giving site where you can give via credit card or ACH transfer.





**BATHROOMS** are located at the far end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary. There is a changing station located in Room 3 (Nursery).


**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!

**AN AUTOMATED ELECTRONIC DEFIBRILLATOR (AED)** is located in the fellowship hall, in the corner nearest the front door.

**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](https://OurSaviorBirmingham.com) | Sermon archives, podcasts, calendar of events, and more!

 [@OurSaviorBham](https://twitter.com/OurSaviorBham) | Weekly sermon videos and upcoming events

 [OurSaviorBham](https://www.facebook.com/OurSaviorBham) | Weekly sermon videos and upcoming events

 [OurSaviorBham](https://www.instagram.com/OurSaviorBham) | Event pictures and church pictures

 [OurSaviorBham](https://www.youtube.com/OurSaviorBham) | Weekly worship service and sermon videos, Our Savior Kid's videos

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

## The Christian Trusts God to Provide

The hardest times to trust in God are the times we need him most. It's easy to trust God when your job is great, your health is fine, your relationships are strong, your family is well. It's easy to trust God when the sun is shining, but what happens when your life is suddenly overshadowed by dark days?

When tragedy or conflict affect us, we may wonder if God continues to care and provide for us. At those times the Christian focuses on certain foundational facts. The Christian was chosen, predestined, and adopted as God's dear child. God has provided the Christian with innumerable spiritual blessings and promises the Christian an eternity of glory, peace, and joy. If we look at those spiritual blessing God provides to us, how could we doubt that he will, at the right time, give us everything we truly need? The Christian trusts God to provide.

*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 and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Ushers: Bill and Erich Messerschmidt

Greeters:

Audio/Video/Livestream: Benzes

Accompanist: Mrs. Betsy Moenedick

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz



# The Service

**Hymn**

**708 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

*Stand*

## **Invocation**

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## **Confession**

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

*Psalm 32:1-2*

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,  
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.  
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.  
We have done those things that we should not have done,  
and we have not done those things that we should have done.  
Have mercy on us, Lord!  
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,  
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## Glory to God in the Highest *Gloria in Excelsis*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of seven staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 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 the  
 Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. 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. A - men.  
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to  
 God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,  
 and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman  
 Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 702194

# The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **The Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

1 Kings 17:1-6

Elijah told a wicked king God would send years of drought and famine. In those dark times, the Lord provided food for his faithful prophet

**17** Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

<sup>2</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: <sup>3</sup> “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. <sup>4</sup> You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”

<sup>5</sup> So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there.

<sup>6</sup> The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**





1 We give thanks un - to you, O God \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ might:  
 2 In your wis - dom and love you shaped \_ the \_\_\_ skies:  
 3 You have filled all the skies with glo - ry and light:  
 4 From of old you have led your peo - ple in faith:  
 5 You de - liv - ered the ones who called \_\_\_ un - to you:  
 6 You have o - pened the sea and brought your peo - ple through:  
 7 You re - mem - ber your prom - ise age \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ age:  
 8 You give food and \_\_\_ life to all \_\_\_ liv - ing things:



for your love is nev - er - end - ing;



1 We give thanks un - to you, the God of gods:  
 2 You \_\_\_ spread out the earth up - on the sea:  
 3 The \_\_\_ sun for the day and moon for night:  
 4 You have shown your com - pas - sion, strength, and love:  
 5 From \_\_\_ bond - age to free - dom, you brought them forth:  
 6 Brought them in - to a land that flows with life:  
 7 You show mer - cy on those of low de - gree:  
 8 We give thanks un - to you, the God of all:



for your love is nev - er - end - ing.

Text: Marty Haugen  
 Tune: Marty Haugen  
 Text and tune: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 702194

## Second Reading

**Ephesians 1:3-10**

Before the world was formed, God chose us to be his beloved children. This is why we can trust God to provide

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—<sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, <sup>9</sup>he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

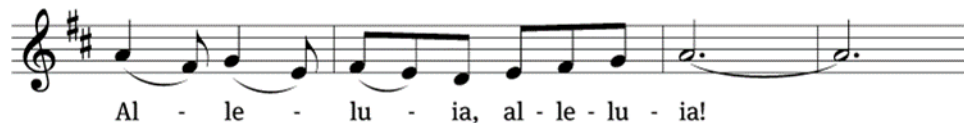
*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

**Romans 8:32**



*Refrain*



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He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—  
how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

**Refrain.**

## Gospel

**Matthew 14:13-21**

Jesus graciously and abundantly provides for the needs of a great multitude

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

<sup>15</sup> As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

<sup>17</sup> “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

<sup>18</sup> “Bring them here to me,” he said. <sup>19</sup> And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. <sup>20</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. <sup>21</sup> The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Children’s Message

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

## Hymn of the Day

**603 All Praise to God Who Reigns Above**

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

## Sermon

**Matthew 14:13-21**

*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.*

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

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# REMEMBER TO TRUST

The \_\_\_\_\_ times to trust God are the times we need to \_\_\_\_\_ him the most.

When our circumstances make us doubt whether God still cares for us, remember the - \_\_\_\_\_ God has given to us.

Jesus' miracle is the \_\_\_\_\_ to doubts about trusting God in the hardest times.

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*Stand*

## **Creed** *Credo*

*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.*

### **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.**

*Be seated*

### **Prayer of the Church**

*In the prayer of the Church, we pray for those in our congregation and for the needs and struggles of God's people around the world.*

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

...Lord, in Your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

### **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. If you are a guest with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate.*

*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 in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

**Mission Statement**

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.**

**Closing Hymn**

**504 We Sing the Almighty Power of God**



# THE NEWS @ OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN

Week of August 6, 2023

## **BARON'S GAME OUTING—FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH**

Experience the thrill of Birmingham Barons baseball together with your church family on Friday, August 18th. Get baseline box seats, a meal voucher (hot dog, chips, soda), all for just \$18 per person. **Deadline to order tickets is TODAY.** Don't miss out! Reserve your ticket now on our website.



## **GREETER TRAINING**

Next Sunday after our worship service we will have a short Greeter's training session. If you are signed up to be a Greeter, or are interested in helping out with this important ministry, please plan to attend!

## **MEN'S LUNCH—THIS WEEK!**

Join us this Friday for our monthly Men's Lunch. We are eating at Ming's Cuisine (514 Cahaba Park Circle) and will meet there at 11:30 am. Hope you can join us!

## **OKTOBERFEST ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING—NEXT SUNDAY!**

Next Sunday after our worship service, we will have an organizational meeting for this year's Oktoberfest. We need your help with this year's event and this is a great way to get involved here at Our Savior!

## **FALL CLASSES**

Our fall semester of small groups/Bible classes will begin the week of September 10th. You can see the available classes at [OurSaviorBirmingham.com/grow](http://OurSaviorBirmingham.com/grow) or click on the "Groups" button in the Church Center app. Pick a class and grow in your faith and make connections with the others in your class!

## **GREETERS NEEDED!**

We are in need of friendly and welcoming volunteers to serve as greeters during our Sunday services. If you have a warm smile and a desire to make others feel welcomed here at Our Savior Lutheran, we invite you to join our greeter team.

As a greeter, you will play a crucial role in creating a warm and friendly atmosphere for both new guests and long-time members. You will have the opportunity to meet new people and build relationships within our church family. Your friendly presence and helpful assistance will ensure that everyone feels welcomed and comfortable as they enter our church. No prior experience is necessary—just a genuine willingness to extend kindness and connect with others.

If you're interested in becoming a greeter or want to learn more, please let Pastor Kratz know!





# THIS WEEK @ OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN

Week of August 6, 2023

Sunday	10:15 am	Worship Service
Friday	11:30 am	Men's Lunch at Mings Cuisine
Sunday (8/13)	9:00 am	Sunday Morning Bible Class / Our Savior Kids Classes (Preschool & Elementary)
Sunday (8/13)	10:15 am	Worship Service
Sunday (8/13)	11:30 am	Greeter Training
Sunday (8/13)	11:45 am	Oktoberfest Organizational Meeting

## SERVING NEXT WEEK:

Usher: Braden/Eva Keel

Greeter:

Service Team: Allison/Armstrong/Baldwin/Haberland/Roberson  
Moenedick/A.Roberson/Vertein/K.Wright

Sanctuary Care: Burkart/Wright

## OUR SAVIOR KIDS MINISTRY - ALL CLASSES NOW AT 9 AM!

Are you looking for a fun and engaging way to help your children grow in their faith? Look no further than Our Savior's Kids!

Our kid's ministry is designed specifically for children, with age-appropriate lessons and activities that will help them develop a deeper understanding of God's love, their Savior Jesus, and his plan for their lives. Our team of experienced and passionate leaders are committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment where children can learn and grow together.

We invite you and your kids to join us and experience the joy of learning and growing together in community. Come see for yourself why our kids ministry is the perfect place for your child to thrive!

**Our Savior's Kids—Preschool & Elementary - Sundays at 9:00 am**

## Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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# ABOUT US

## OUR MISSION

Our Savior Lutheran Church was established in 1969 as a mission church in Birmingham, AL. 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.

## OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

1074 Dunnington Valley Road  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
OurSaviorBirmingham.com

## LET US KNOW YOU WERE HERE!



## OUR MINISTRY

Sunday Worship: 10:15 am  
Sunday Online Worship: 10:15 am on Facebook and Youtube  
Bible Classes: held online and in-person throughout the year  
Our Savior's Kids Ministry: online year-round

## OUR PASTOR

Pastor Ben Kratz  
Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com  
(205) 478-6843

## OUR CHURCH BODY

Our Savior Lutheran Church proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We have sister congregations serving the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world missions. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

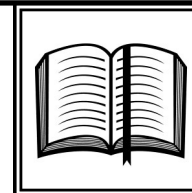


# Personal Worship Notes for Kids

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

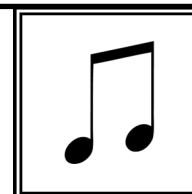
What was the sermon about?

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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?

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2) What did God tell you about yourself?

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3) What did God tell you to believe?

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4) What did God tell you to do?

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*OurSaviorBirmingham.com*