



THE CHRISTIAN, THE MILITARY, AND WAR

October 7, 2012 - *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*



A Place to Belong

Pastor Ben Kratz

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Those who serve:

Music / Sound: Roger Benz

Ushers: Bob Holbrook, Shannon Sikes

OCTOBER 7, 2012

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome! 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 Welcome card found in our entryway. You can place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor or an usher as you leave.

- ☞ **Restrooms** are located at the end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary.
- ☞ **Your children** are always welcome at Our Savior, no matter how much noise they might make. If your little one is having a difficult morning, please feel free to take them into the entrance hallway.



TODAY'S THEME:

**CHURCH AND STATE: THE CHRISTIAN, THE MILITARY,
AND WAR**

Can a Christian be a soldier and kill someone? God has established the government to protect people. Because we live in a sinful world, there will be war. God has given the government the authority to wage a just war to protect its people when necessary.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord—our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter—we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word. We pray that you open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

WELCOME FROM PASTOR KRATZ

OPENING HYMN: #523 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

PLEASE STAND

GREETING

L(eader): 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

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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

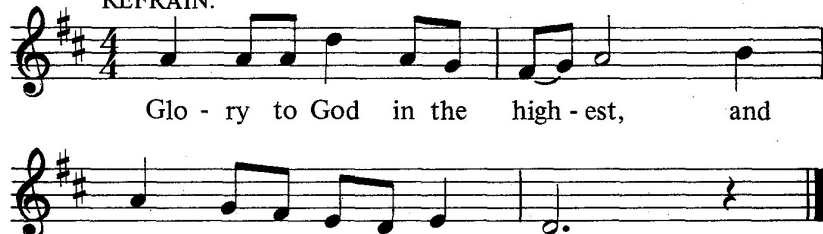
L: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

GLORY TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis

James J. Chepponis

REFRAIN:



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth.

The musical notation consists of two staves in 4/4 time, key of D major. The first staff contains the melody for the words 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and' and the second staff contains the melody for 'peace to his peo-ple on earth.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes.

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Refrain sung by the choir.

Refrain sung by the congregation.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father. Refrain.

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you, we praise you for glory. Refrain.

*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. Refrain.*

*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. Refrain (sung twice).*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray:

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you. We pray this and all things through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 9:5-6 (Pg. 12)

Man will be held accountable for taking another persons life

⁵ And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man.

⁶ “Whoever sheds the blood of man,
by man shall his blood be shed;
for in the image of God
has God made man.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 85

¹ You showed favor to your land, O LORD;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins.

³ You set aside all your wrath
and turned from your fierce anger.

⁴ **Restore us again, O God our Savior,
and put away your displeasure toward us.**

⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger through all generations?

⁶ Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷ **Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.**

⁸ I will listen to what God the LORD will say;
**he promises peace to his people, his saints—
but let them not return to folly.**

⁹ Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

- 10 Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- 11 Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed give what is good,
 and our land will yield its harvest.
- 13 **Righteousness goes before him**
and prepares the way for his steps.

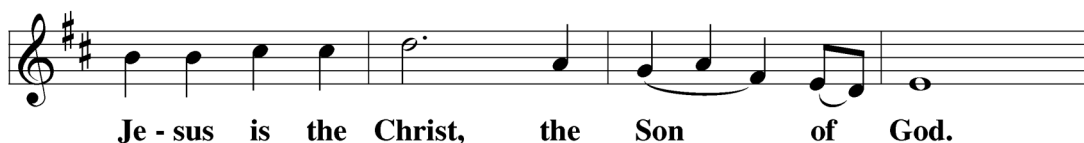
SECOND LESSON: Romans 12:18-19; 13:2-4 (Pg. 1764)

Do not seek revenge, but live at peace with one another

¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

² Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. ⁴ For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

VERSE OF THE DAY



PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 26:47-56 (Pg. 1545)

Jesus is arrested

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

⁵⁰ Jesus replied, "Friend, do what you came for."

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹ With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

⁵² "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

⁵⁵ At that time Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

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 next hymn, parents may choose to escort their young child(ren) to our children's church, where they will hear a Bible story, sing some songs, learn a prayer, and do a craft.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #416 How Firm a Foundation

SERMON

PLEASE STAND

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

THANKSGIVING

THE OFFERING

The members of Our Savior Lutheran Congregation have joined together to the Lord's word in this community and around the world. If you are a guest today, you need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

C: We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

L: You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

C: For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

L: Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C: Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

L: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C: Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

L: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

L: O Lord , we remember before you today the men and women who serve in our nation’s armed forces. Be with them, protect them, and help them faithfully carry out their difficult duties. Relieve the anxious thoughts of loved ones who are concerned about their safety. Help them, and us, to hold fast to your promise that you are ruling the world for the welfare of those who love you.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

L: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

L: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

C: Hear our prayers for Jesus’ sake. Amen.

THE 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: #441 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

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.

THE LORD'S BLESSING

L: 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.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: *Swell the Anthem, Raise the Song (see insert)*

PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Good Shepherd, I was glad to be here, gathered with your flock to worship you. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in paths of righteousness, that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. Amen.



About Our Savior...

Our Savior Lutheran Church is a growing church that serves the southern neighborhoods of Birmingham. We are a Christian church that is looking forward to serving people with God's Word.

Our Savior's message is a wonderful message for you. Our theme is "**A Place to Belong.**" That means that because of our Savior's love for you, you belong to him. You belong to his family. His love will always outweigh the wrongs you have done and the sadness you have had! Our loving God always loves us more.

If you are new to the area or looking for a church home, accept our invitation to meet our pastor and find out more about us. Besides weekly worship, we also offer Bible class to individuals and groups of all ages, Christian counseling, and literature. Please come and worship with us again! Think of this as your community church, and know that you are welcome to join us here anytime.

We hope you find Our Savior "A Place to Belong!"

Benjamin Kratz, Pastor

(205) 478-6843 [cell]

(205) 618-9065 [home]

Announcements

- ☞ **Welcome to guests and visitors!** We are glad that you are here, and hope that you will join us again soon!
- ☞ **Spiritual Growth Opportunities:**
 - Sunday Bible Class: *Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.* Our Sunday Bible class is working through a study that coincides with our sermon series on the relationship between Church and State.
 - Sunday School: *Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.* Our Sunday school, which uses the award-winning Christ-Light curriculum, offers Bible lessons for children from nursery age through grade 12.
 - Wednesday Bible Class: *Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.* We are studying the book of Ephesians.
 - Bible Class for Beginners: *Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm.* Don't feel like you know enough about the Bible to attend a regular Bible class? Join us for this class designed especially for you! We will be taking a look at some of the important chapters of the Bible to learn not only the truths of God's Word, but how it all fits together!
- ☞ **FaithBuilders Class:** People often say the Bible is hard to understand. However, if we understand the four key concepts of the Bible, things become much clearer since we realize every page of the Bible deals with one of the key concepts. Those key concepts are sin, grace, faith, and works. FaithBuilders covers these and other topics to help you gain an understanding of the central message of God's Word: Jesus Christ has saved us from sin and given us new life. FaithBuilders is for people interested in becoming members of Our Savior, or for people just looking to build their faith through the study of the basic teachings of the Bible. **Classes are held every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm.**
- ☞ **Looking to serve?** Were you greeted by a warm smile as you entered the service today? Would you like to bless someone with your smile on an upcoming Sunday, or put yourself to work in other ways make our guests feel welcome? Then why not serve as an usher or greeter next week? For most of these, just show up about 10:00 am and be ready to smile, shake someone's hand or help serve some coffee and snacks. Contact Pastor Kratz at pastor@oursaviorbirmingham.com or 677-8642 for more information about serving opportunities.
- ☞ **Invite a Friend to Church!** Here are the themes for the worship services the coming weeks. Use them to invite a friend, a relative, a neighbor to come with you saying, "Our worship this week is all about..."
 - October 14: Marriage
 - October 21: Confirmation
 - October 28: Reformation—The Core of Christianity
- ☞ **Keep in Your Prayers This Week.** God promises us that the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. He also tells us to pray for one another. Hearing God's powerful promises, confidently bring these requests to the throne of our heavenly Father: *(If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Kratz.)*
 - The families who care for their loved ones,** as they quietly bear heavy burdens of love and concern.
 - Those who have long been absent from hearing the Word.** May God bless our efforts to call these fellow members of our family of faith— *I rejoiced with those who said to me 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'.*
- ☞ **Acknowledgements:**
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This Week at Our Savior

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	FaithBuilders 7:00 pm	Wednesday Night Bible Class 7:00 pm	Bible Class for Beginners 7:00 pm			Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Canvassing 12:00 pm

Today's Light Bible Reading: Week #102

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	FaithBuilders 7:00 pm	Wednesday Night Bible Class 7:00 pm	Bible Class for Beginners 7:00 pm			Sunday School/ Bible Class 9:00 am Worship / Confirmation 10:15 am

Today's Light Bible Reading: Week #103

☞ Upcoming Schedules

- Flowers: 10/14: Benz
10/21: Roberson (Caleb's Confirmation)
10/28: Benz
- Cleaning: October: Family C (Herda/Holbrook/Jung/ Schoel/Sikes/Weiss/Wright)
- Nursery / Children's Church: 10/14: Christina Benz
10/21: Hallie Keel
10/28: Yauney Sikes
- Lawn Mowing: 10/8-10/14: Rader
10/15-10/21: Benz
10/22-10/28: CHURCH WORK DAY



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Our Savior Lutheran Church is a member of a group of more than twelve hundred churches called Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving all fifty of the United States, as well as Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world mission work.

