



**Vacation Bible School  
Closing Service**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
June 16, 2024**

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Stand*

**WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER**

We begin our closing celebration in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen

We pray:

**C** Heavenly Father, we thank You for bringing us together to celebrate Your Son, our Savior, Jesus! We are filled with joy because You came for us, You heal us, You care for us, and You have saved us. Thank You for Your great love for all people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Sit*

**CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR**

In Vacation Bible School this week, we celebrated the many ways that Jesus' love fills us with joy! We looked in the Bible, God's Holy Word, and explored five Bible accounts that teach how God the Father loved the world so much that He sent Jesus, His only Son, to save us. Now, we'd like to share highlights from our VBS with all of you!

Each day of VBS began and ended with songs that celebrate our Savior, Jesus! We invite you to the gym following the service to watch some of the pictures of our children as they celebrate the Savior this week.

**HYMN:** ♪ "PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY"

**LSB 790**

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear  
Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!**
  
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen  
All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?**

- 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief  
Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.**
- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.**
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen  
Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!**

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Our small groups, or Teams, started together in the Opening, where they sang and watched skits. Then the Teams and their Team Leaders went to six sites: Storytelling, Bible Exploration, Snacks, Crafts, Music and Games. At each site, they heard about the many ways that Jesus' love fills us with joy.

## ***MONDAY: WISE MEN WORSHIP JESUS***

Our first Bible lesson is recorded in Matthew 2:1–12. In this lesson, we learned that Wise Men from the East followed a special star to the place where Jesus, the Savior, was born. When they found Jesus, they offered Him gifts fit for a king. Jesus is the greatest gift, given for all people! He came for us to give us salvation!

Our Take-Home Point for Lesson 1 was "Jesus came for me."

### **🎵 JESUS GIVES ME JOY!**

**Children Sing:** 🎵 *"Celebrate the Savior"*

### ***BIBLE MEMORY VERSE***

Our Bible Memory Verse for this lesson was Luke 2:11.

**🎵 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:11***

Monday, we learned that Jesus came for us. On Tuesday, we learned how Jesus heals us!

## ***TUESDAY: JESUS HEALS A MAN LOWERED THROUGH A ROOF***

Our second Bible lesson comes from Mark 2:1–12. Four friends brought a man to Jesus for healing. Jesus is our best Friend. Jesus amazed everyone when He healed the man's heart by forgiving his sins and then healed the man's legs so he could walk!

Our Take-Home Point for Tuesday was "Jesus heals me."

**☐ JESUS GIVES ME JOY!**

**Children Sing:** ♪ "Jesus Has the Power"

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Our Bible Memory Verse for this lesson was Psalm 30:2.

**☐ O Lord my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me. Psalm 30:2**

Tuesday, we learned that Jesus heals us. On Wednesday, we learned how Jesus cares for us!

**WEDNESDAY: JESUS FEEDS FIVE THOUSAND**

We find our third Bible lesson in Matthew 14:13–21. A crowd of more than five thousand people came to Jesus for healing and to hear Him teach about God's love. When dinnertime came around, Jesus' disciples didn't know where to get food for them all. Jesus miraculously provided all the food they needed and more!

Our Take-Home Point for Wednesday was "Jesus cares for me."

**☐ JESUS GIVES ME JOY!**

**HYMN:** ♪ "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD"

*LSB 895*

- 1 Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.**
  
- 2 Oh, may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in His grace  
And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next!**

△3 **All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heav'n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.**

Text: Public domain

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Our Bible Memory Verse for this lesson was Philippians 4:19.

📖 **God will supply every need. *Philippians 4:19***

Wednesday, we learned that Jesus cares for us. On Thursday, we learned how Jesus saves us!

**THURSDAY: JESUS DIES AND RISES AGAIN**

Thursday's Bible lesson, the account of Jesus' death and resurrection, comes from Luke 23:32–49 and Matthew 28:1–10. Jesus willingly went to the cross to suffer and die to pay for the sins of the world. When Jesus died, His followers were filled with sadness. Then Jesus rose from the dead, and their sadness turned into joy! Jesus saves us, giving us hope and new life!

Our Take-Home Point for Thursday was "Jesus saves me."

📖 **JESUS GIVES ME JOY!**

**Children Sing:** 🎵 "Jesus Has Been There"

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Our Bible Memory Verse for this lesson was Acts 16:31.

📖 **Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved. *Acts 16:31***

Thursday, we learned that Jesus saves us. Friday, we learned how Jesus' love fills us with joy!

**FRIDAY: JESUS ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**

Our final Bible lesson is recorded in Luke 24:13–35. In this Bible account, two of Jesus' followers were walking from Jerusalem, dismayed and dejected after seeing Jesus put to death. When Jesus joined them on the road, they didn't recognize Him. As Jesus talked with them, He opened their eyes to see that Jesus was the Savior that God had promised. When they finally recognized Jesus, their hearts were filled with joy and they ran back to Jerusalem to share this good news with the others!

Our Take-Home Point for Friday was "Jesus' love fills me with joy."

📖 **JESUS GIVES ME JOY!**

**Children Sing:** ♪ "Jesus Gives Me Joy"

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Our Bible Memory Verse for this lesson is Philippians 4:4.

**C** Rejoice in the Lord always. *Philippians 4:4*

### **OFFERING**

*As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.*

**OFFERING HYMN:** ♪ "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

**LSB 781 V. 1-2**

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blestest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!**

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### **NICENE CREED**

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

### **PREFACE**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** ♪ **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** ♪ **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### **SANCTUS**

**C** *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** 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.

**C** *For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PAX DOMINI**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** *Amen.*

### **AGNUS DEI**

**C** *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

*Sit*

### **DISTRIBUTION**

**CHILDREN SING:** *J* "JESUS LOVES ME"  
*J* "LET US SING FOR JOY"

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN:** *J* "I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE"

**LSB 618**

**1** I come, O Savior, to Thy table,  
For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able  
To satisfy and make me whole: *Refrain*

*Refrain:*

Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

- 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning**  
**That sinners may salvation see**  
**Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;**  
**So I, a sinner, come to Thee. *Refrain***
- 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,**  
**Because I have a sinful heart,**  
**Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,**  
**For Thou my faithful shepherd art: *Refrain***
- 4 Weary am I and heavy laden;**  
**With sin my soul is sore oppressed;**  
**Receive me graciously and gladden**  
**My heart, for I am now Thy guest. *Refrain***
- 5 What higher gift can we inherit?**  
**It is faith's bond and solid base;**  
**It is the strength of heart and spirit,**  
**The covenant of hope and grace. *Refrain***

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***DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪"OH, THAT I HAD A THOUSAND VOICES"***

***LSB 811***

- 1 Oh, that I had a thousand voices**  
**To praise my God with thousand tongues!**  
**My heart, which in the Lord rejoices,**  
**Would then proclaim in grateful songs**  
**To all, wherever I might be,**  
**What great things God has done for me.**
- 2 O all you pow'rs that He implanted,**  
**Arise, keep silence now no more;**  
**Put forth the strength that God has granted!**  
**Your noblest work is to adore.**  
**O soul and body, join to raise**  
**With heartfelt joy our Maker's praise.**
- 3 You forest leaves so green and tender**  
**That dance for joy in summer air,**  
**You meadow grasses, bright and slender,**  
**You flow'rs so fragrant and so fair,**  
**You live to show God's praise alone.**  
**Join me to make His glory known.**



**4 All creatures that have breath and motion,  
That throng the earth, the sea, the sky,  
Come, share with me my heart's devotion,  
Help me to sing God's praises high.  
My utmost pow'rs can never quite  
Declare the wonders of His might.**

**5 Creator, humbly I implore You  
To listen to my earthly song  
Until that day when I adore You,  
Together with the angel throng  
And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing  
Eternal anthems to my King.**

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*Stand*

### ***NUNC DIMITTIS***

**☩ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

### ***THANKSGIVING***

**☩** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**☩ and His mercy endureth forever.**

**☩** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**☩ Amen.**

### ***SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS***

**☩** The Lord be with you.

**☩ And with thy spirit.**

**☩** Bless we the Lord.

**☩ Thanks be to God.**

We've had a joy-filled time at *Celebrate the Savior* VBS! Jesus worked in and through the servant hearts of many people to share His saving love! We thank all those who are listed. A special thank you to all who donated supplies for the year.

Let's pray together.

**☩** Dear Jesus, in good times and in sad times, we know that You care and You are here for us. You have shown Your great love for us by coming to the earth to heal, care for, and save us. Help us to share Your Good News with everyone we know so that more and more people can be filled with the joy of Your love. In Your name we pray. Amen.

### **BENEDICTION**

**☩** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**☩** Amen, amen, amen.

### **CLOSING HYMN: ♪"ALMIGHTY FATHER, BLESS THE WORD"**

**LSB 923**

**1** Almighty Father, bless the Word  
Which through Your grace we now have heard.  
Oh, may the precious seed take root,  
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

**2** We praise You for the means of grace  
As homeward now our steps we trace.  
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here  
May all at last in heav'n appear.

**△ 3** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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### **SILENT PRAYER**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**