

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

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*An outline of today's sermon*

**"FEAR NOT - I HAVE REDEEMED YOU"**

Text: Isaiah 43:1 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."

INTRODUCTION – The text is very timely for us as we begin a new year that is a total unknown to us. No one knows the future. Being very limited in what we can do, it is helpful to be told by our Maker not to fear. He made each one of us a member of his family. Come what may, there is no reason for fear because we belong to our Lord God Almighty!

**1 – The context: Israel is in Babylon.**

**2 – The reason behind their new "homeland."**

**3 – Israel worships other "gods" for protection.**

**4 – The concept of belonging to God is lost on them.**

**5 – "Children of Abraham" – Children of God.**

**6 – Walking through life in faith.**

**7 – Enabled by God we conquer all things.**

**8 – The unlimited power of Holy Baptism.**

CONCLUSION – We are God's children, that is, members of his family. He adopted us to be his. He leads us through this life into eternal life. Even if we abandon God, he will remain faithful. He disciplines us out of love. The children of Israel experienced this discipline. May our dear Father in heaven spare us this lesson and prosper our work on behalf of his Kingdom! Amen.

## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD (First Sunday after the Epiphany) *The Triune God Opens Heaven to You in Holy Baptism*

The Baptism of our Lord is an “Epiphany” of the one true God in the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ. In divine mercy, He takes His place with sinners and takes their sin upon Himself. “*When all the people were baptized,*” Jesus submitted Himself to a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Luke 3:21). He had no sins of His own, but He took the sins of the world upon Himself and so was baptized into His own death. Therefore, “*when you pass through the waters,*” He is with you (Is. 43:2). He created you for His glory, and He has redeemed you with His blood, that you may be His own and live with Him in His Kingdom (Is. 43:1, 7). As you are baptized with a baptism like His, so also are you united with Him in His death and resurrection that you “*might walk in newness of life*” (Rom. 6:4). For all who are baptized into Christ Jesus receive His anointing of the Holy Spirit and are named by His Father as beloved and well-pleasing sons and daughters.

### SERVICE AND SCHEDULE INFORMATION

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** led by Pastor Sander will start a new video series of eight sessions with Dr. Paul Maier - “Jesus, Legend or Lord?” on February 3. Until then, we will continue to read the Book of Acts.

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** Join us for a new Bible Study on Sunday mornings that explores the theories of evolution and how God's creation and salvation are linked in the person of Jesus Christ. We will meet in the library.

**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** is led by Pastor Sander at 6:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. Any early risers are welcome!

**TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY** meets every Tuesday at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall and is focusing on the book “Altogether Beautiful-A Study of Song of Songs”. All ladies are welcome to join us! If you have small children at home, you are more than welcome to bring them along!

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** We will be studying 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians. All are invited to attend as we read and discuss Holy Scriptures and applications for our daily life. The class meets from 7:00PM until 8:00PM each Wednesday.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** Pastor Sander leads this Bible Study on the *Old Testament* at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall, currently studying the book of *Psalms*. Everyone is welcome.

### CHARITABLE INFORMATION

**OUR SPECIAL MISSIONS** for the first quarter is Concordia Publishing-Brazil. Our gifts will go for the publication of a book by John Kleinig: “Grace Upon Grace.” If you’d like to read this book in English, speak to Pastor Sander.

**SCRIP** Thank you for your support of our SCRIP gift card program throughout 2018! Throughout the year, we were able to purchase just over \$50,000 worth of gift cards! The Board of Education was able to use the money that was raised to give additional tuition support to a Preschool family, as well as contribute to the new Preschool playground. We look forward to seeing how we can continue to support Lutheran education with the funds we raise in 2019! SCRIP cards will continue to be sold on Sunday mornings, as well as through the order forms.

## **CHURCH INFORMATION**

**YOUNG @ HEART** Please join us in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 am on Thursday, January 17. We will watch "I Can Only Imagine", a movie about a Christian songwriter. Those of us who have already seen it can hardly wait to see it again. After the movie we will enjoy pizza together. We hope to see all of you on January 17. Please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so we know how much pizza to order.

**A GRANDPARENT'S LEGACY** Whether you've been a grandparent for 2 weeks or 20 years, sharing your faith and faith story with your grandchildren is a wonderful privilege! Join us on Saturday, January 19 from 11am-2pm as we explore how to share our faith and create a lasting legacy we can give to our grandchildren. Lunch is provided days. Please sign up on the bulletin board, or call Jaime Greene in the church office at (262) 786-6465 ext. 21.

**FAMILY GAME NIGHT** To kick-off National Lutheran Schools Week we will be having a family game night. Gather your favorite family games and meet us in the fellowship hall on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30PM.

**WINTER PICNIC** Want a taste of summer in the middle of winter? We're kicking off Lutheran Schools Week with a celebration of our Preschool and Sunday School at our Winter Picnic on January 27 after late church! We'll provide the brats, you bring the sides! Sign up on the bulletin board so that we can get an accurate count for set up. Please consider volunteering to clean up after the picnic. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for volunteers.

**PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** You are invited to a Preschool open house on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00PM. Meet the teachers, see what programs we have to offer, and register for the upcoming school year. Information is available so if you would like to learn more or have someone to share it with please see Jennifer Leinss. More information can also be found on our website [www.blessedsaviorwi.org](http://www.blessedsaviorwi.org).

**BUTTONS** We are looking for green, white and clear buttons for a project that we'll be doing in March as a church family. If you have any green (any shade!), white or clear buttons that we can use, please place them in the vase that is sitting on the table by the windows in the Narthex. Thank you! And be sure to watch the bulletin for information on our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Family Day that we'll have at the end of March!

**PASSIONATE BELIEVERS CONFERENCE** The South Wisconsin District Passionate Believers Conference will be held at Divine Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hartland on Saturday, January 29. If you are interested in registering, or would like information on the breakout sessions, please contact Jaime Greene.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES FELLOWSHIP & GENERAL MEETING** Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Church Fellowship Hall. Please join us for Christian fellowship and tasty treats while learning how the Lutheran Missions Attic Workshop helps provide desperately needed medical supplies and equipment, quilts, school supplies, layettes, and hygiene kits to people in poor countries around the world. Our guest speaker, Kathy Growth, with the Attic, will share more about this vital mission with us. All women are invited to the program followed by our general meeting. Men are also invited for the first hour to enjoy our program speaker. Please sign up on the WM bulletin board for attendance so we may plan for appropriate seating. Ingathering for the Lutheran Missions Attic Workshop will be through February 5<sup>th</sup> (Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Deodorant, Shampoo, Razor, Shaving Cream, Bar of Soap, Washcloth, Towel). There is a container in the Narthex for your valued donations if you cannot attend on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

### ***RADIO CHURCH SERVICES***

*SUN 6:30AM—WTMJ (AM 620) LUTHERAN HOUR &*

*SUN 7:00AM—WJYI (AM 1340) LUTHERAN RADIO*