



*“Do Not Be Afraid. I Am The First And The Last, The Living One.”  
By Rudolf Schäfer*

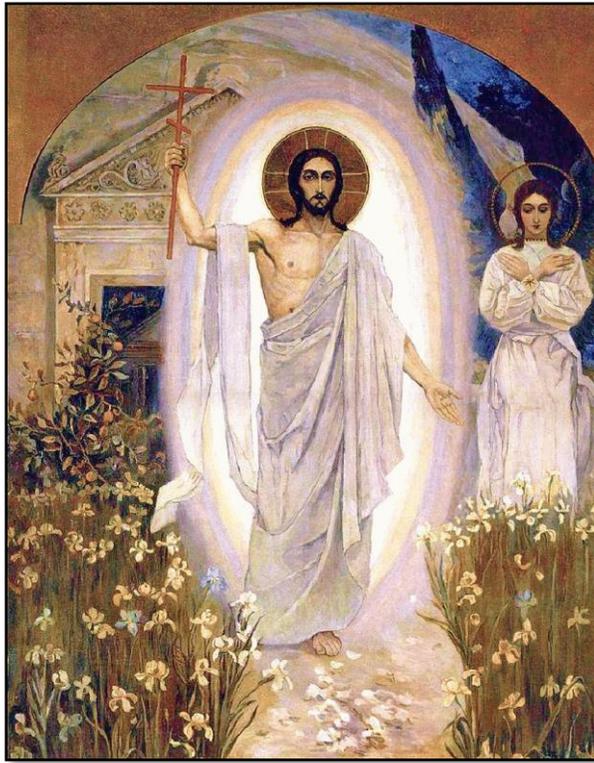
## OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Dr. Laurence White, Officiating • Jeff Armstrong, Organist*

*Our Savior Lutheran, 5000 W. Tidwell, Houston, TX 77091 • 713-290-9087 • [www.OSL.cc](http://www.OSL.cc)*

*COVER ILLUSTRATION – “I Am The First And the Last” by Dr. Rudolf Schäfer presents the awesome vision of our Lord Jesus as He revealed himself to the apostle John in the opening scene of the Book of Revelation. There Christ was standing amid the seven golden lamps which signified the church. Schäfer captures the essence of the vision as Christ upon the cross, shedding His precious blood to win forgiveness for the sins of mankind, dominates the entire image. Our Lord’s humble entrance into this world as the Babe of Bethlehem is shown in the left foreground. A joyful choir of angels proclaims the Christmas gospel above the stable and a gleaming star announces the Savior’s birth. In the right foreground stands the empty tomb with its resplendent guardian angel so that all might know that Jesus has conquered death for us. The beautiful life promise of the rainbow extends from the cross to the open door of the tomb. The risen Lord walks in the nearby garden behind the tomb awaiting the arrival of the women. The angels ascending from the empty tomb are carrying home the life harvest of God’s people. Over all is the extended hand of God the Father surrounded by the countless hosts of heaven, prophets and apostles, faithful men and women of God (including Martin Luther), those who have already received their share of God’s gracious gift of eternal life. Schäfer painted this masterpiece for the altar of the village church in Oberjesigen, Germany.*

*A Service of Thanksgiving*  
*Celebrating God's Gift of Eternal Life For*



*“The Lord Is Risen!” by Nesterov*

*Gus R. Hillegeist*

*October 28, 1923 - July 8, 2022*

*The death of a Christian has been transformed from tragedy into victory by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. At the moment of physical death the soul of the believer is safe at home in heaven with their Lord. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that those who remain - for a time - here on earth, would gather to celebrate God's gift of life and savor the memories of blessings received through our beloved who now lives with Christ in heaven. We affirm the faith in which they lived and through which they have been given eternal life in the sanctuary where they received the forgiveness of sins in Word and sacrament. **“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.”** (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)*

# Opening Hymn

## BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

Text: tr. Joseph A. Seiss; Tune: Silesian, 19<sup>th</sup> cent. – “Schönster Herr Jesu”; LSB #537 © 2006 CPH



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -

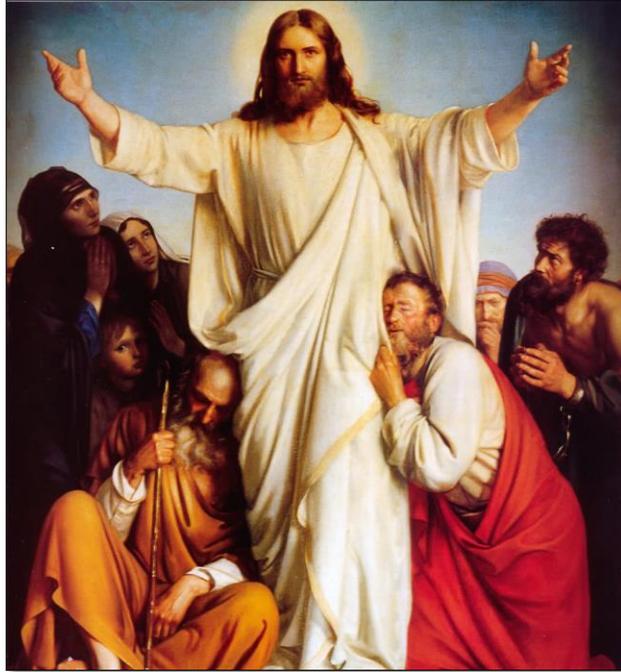


serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!



### Invocation

# *Opening Prayers*



## *Scripture Readings*

### PSALM 86:1–12

*(A Prayer of David)*

Bow down thine ear, O Lord, hear me: for I am poor and needy.  
Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily.

Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive;

and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.

Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord;

neither are there any works like unto thy works.

All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord;  
and shall glorify thy name.

For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone.

Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart:

and I will glorify thy name for evermore.

## 1 JOHN 2:1-5

[2] My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: [2] And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. [3] And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. [4] He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. [5] But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.



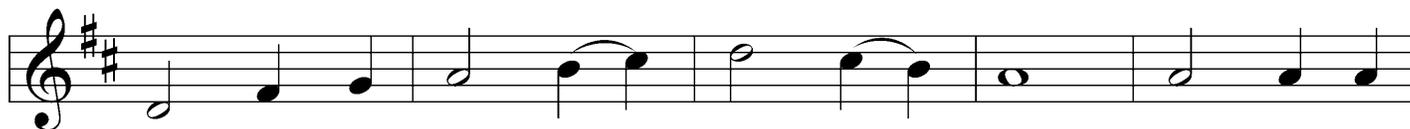
## JOHN 14:1-6

[1] Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. [2] In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. [4] And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. [5] Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? [6] Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

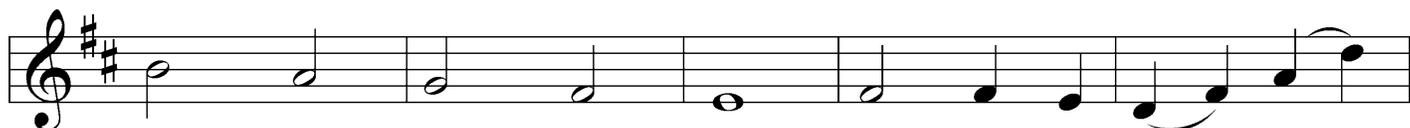
# Sermon Hymn

## I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

Text: Samuel Medley; Tune: John C. Hatton – “Duke Street”; LSB #461 © 2006 CPH



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to  
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious  
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry  
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.  
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

# *Sermon*

## MATTHEW 6:33

***But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;  
and all these things shall be added unto you.***

*There is no more poignant or powerful opportunity for the proclamation of the Biblical message of Law and Gospel than the moments in which Christians celebrate the home-going of a loved one to eternal life in the mansions of heaven. The funeral sermon is designed to declare that wondrous Gospel and to set before all present this day the truth that every believer is a sinner saved by grace alone. Salvation cannot be earned. It can only be given as a free gift by the God whose love for us moved Him to give His only Son to die in our place upon the cross so that we might live with Him forever.*

# *Obituary*

## GUS R. HILLEGEIST

***October 28, 1923 – July 8, 2022***

Gus R. Hillegeist, age 98 years, son of Gus A. and Ella Hillegeist, passed away peacefully on July 8, 2022.

His life was defined by his love of family and most importantly, his love of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

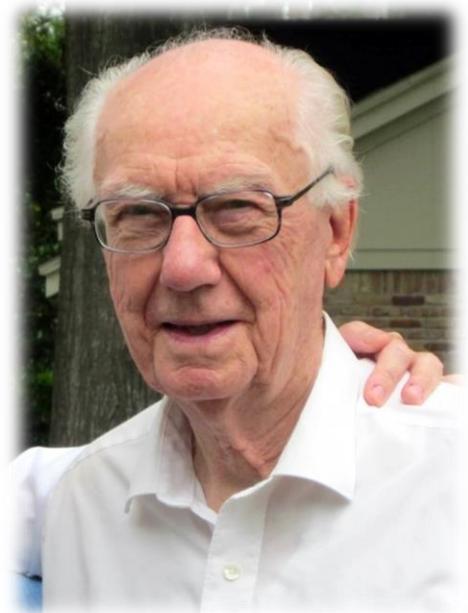
He was predeceased by his parents, his wife of 69 years, Eunice, and his son-in-law John.

He is survived by his son Douglas and wife JoAnne, daughter Barbara, and grandchildren Zachary (wife Chelsea) and Katherine.

Gus served his country honorably in World War II as a member of the 102nd (Ozark) Infantry Division in the European Theater.

A memorial service is scheduled for Monday at 11am at Our Savior Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests remembrances be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, 5000 W. Tidwell Road, Houston, TX 77091.



# *Prayers*



## *The 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.

## *Benediction*

# Closing Hymn

## I'M BUT A STRANGER HERE

Text: Thomas R. Taylor; Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan – "Heaven Is My Home"; LSB #748 © 2006 CPH



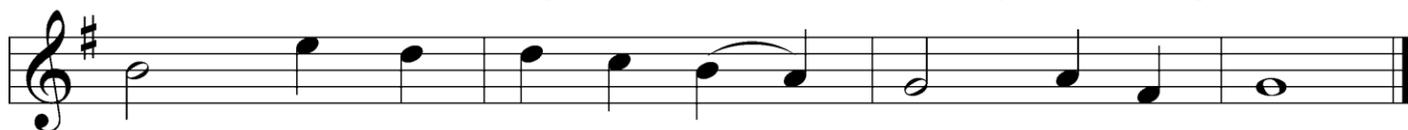
1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;  
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;  
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;



Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.  
Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;  
What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;

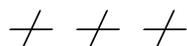


Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;  
And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;  
And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;



Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.  
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.  
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

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# All Glory to God