



JESUS IS OUR  
SUPER HERO

**Super Hero Sunday**  
**Sunday, July 23, 2023**

*Welcome, we are so happy you are here this morning!*

*Today's worship highlights an important ministry of Redeemer Lutheran, God's kids.*

*The theme of today, and yesterday, is **Super Hero Hotline**. We are reminded that we strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up (Romans 14:19).*

***Prelude***

***#725, Children of the Heavenly Father***

***1 Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.***

***2 God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they  
flourish. From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.***

***3 Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.***

***4 Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.***

*Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958*

*Text: Public domain*

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

**C: Amen.**

P: We are children of God, fed by the Word and led by the Spirit, but we are also sinners.

**C: Therefore I confess that I have often been led astray by my sinfulness. I have often fed my mind with worldly matter rather than with Your divine teaching. In thought, word, and action, I have sinned against You. Forgive me my sin and guide me in Your ways, Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given Jesus to be the one true Hero who died for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### ***#588, Jesus Loves Me***

**1 Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong;**

**They are weak, but He is strong. Refrain**

**ref Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.**

**2 Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide. He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in. Refrain**

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Text: Public domain

P: Together, we pray,

**C: Jesus, You are The Super Hero. You laid down Your life for us. Bring us into the green pastures of Your love that we may grow in faith and love. Save us. Protect us. And when we stray, use Your Spirit to bring us back into the fold. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.**

### ***Children's Time and Song***

**Exodus 2:1-10 *Heroes are called to help others.***

Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him. Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother. And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "Because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

L: This is the Word of our Lord,

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Acts 9, Various verses *Heroes are called to show grace***

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were

opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. . . . For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

L: This is the Word of our Lord,

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **John 1:35-51** *Heroes are called to follow Jesus*

The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" "And they said to him, Rabbi", which means Teacher, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah", which means Christ. He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas", which means Peter. The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him,

“Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And He said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord,

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***#711, Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us***

**1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.  
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.**

**2 We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.**

**3 You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;  
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.**

**4 Early let us seek Your favor, Early let us do Your will;  
Blessèd Lord and only Savior, With Your love our spirits fill.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.**

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.

Text: Public domain

## **The Sermon**

## ***Our True Hero***

### **The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes**

### **Appreciation of our VBS Staff and Teachers**

#### **Prayers of His Children**

P: O God we pray Your blessings on us. You alone create faith, hope, and love in our hearts. As our Super Hero, You keep us, and protect us, against the evil influences of the world. May Your Word be for us a well of water springing up to life, and a source of growth and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: God, thank You for everyone who was involved in making our VBS program so awesome. Thank You for all the kids that came, and please keep them safe and always in Your hands. Give us all the ability to share the way of salvation that every child of God may clearly understand and know that Jesus is our Super Hero. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: God, please enable us to walk as Christians in this sinful world. As a shepherd leads his flock to green pastures, lead us, Jesus, to seek You and keep our feet on Your path. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: God, we pray for all those in special need, especially.....Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all from whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us all to pray,

**C: LORDS PRAYER**

## God's Benediction

### *#922, Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

1 Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own. In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever. Go, My children, with My blessing— You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you heard My dear Son's story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory. Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.

3 Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me; Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free. Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you. Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace; I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace: I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother. Go, My children; I will keep you  
And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

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## Ministry Announcements

### *Postlude*