

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

Divine Service



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, Massachusetts

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

1 Hager Park Road
(Junction 140, 2, and 2A)
Westminster, MA 01473

Our Savior Lutheran Church

July 9, 2023

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church: 978-874-2479
www.oursaviorlcms.com

Visitor, you are very welcome here.

Please contact us with questions or prayer requests, and come worship with us again. Our pastor would be very glad to meet with you. May our Lord's Word be a blessing to all who gather in His name.

For those caring for young children or who have difficulty standing for the prayers, hymns, or other parts of the service, please know that you may sit as you find need or comfort.

Don't be embarrassed if your children make noise during worship—all children do. We encourage families to worship together. If needed for children under three years old, there is a nursery available in the basement during service and Bible class.

Out of courtesy to your brothers and sisters, please turn off your cell phone ringer and refrain from leaving or entering the sanctuary during the readings and the prayers.

Holy Communion

We welcome to the Lord's Table members of Our Savior and members of sister congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Pastor Gregory would be very glad to instruct you so that you can confess Jesus Christ with us and receive His holy body and blood for forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Spiritual Care

Individual confession and absolution, spiritual care, and pastoral counsel are available by appointment. Please contact the church office to schedule a time.

Christian Education

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study follow the service. Pre-Kindergarten through seventh grade students meet in the basement, high school students in pastors' study, and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Celebrant & Preacher | The Rev. Charles Varsogea |
| Liturgist | Tom Connell |
| Organist | Anne Bennet |
| Acolytes | Matthew Connell, Nate Newman |

Prayer for Worship

For right reception of the Lord's Supper: Lord Jesus, You invite all who are burdened with sin to come to You for rest. We now come at Your invitation to the heavenly feast, which You have provided for Your children on earth. Preserve us from impenitence and unbelief, cleanse us from our unrighteousness, and clothe us with the righteousness purchased with Your blood. Strengthen our faith, increase our love and hope, and assure us a place at Your heavenly table, where we will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of Your pleasure forever and ever. Hear us, Jesus, for Your own sake. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament: Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name. Amen.

For rest: Lord Jesus Christ, we come to you weary and heavy laden with the weight of our sin and with the cares and sorrows of this world. Put Your light and easy yoke on us and grant us Your rest, that refreshed by Your Word and gifts we might be ready to carry on with the work You have given us to do. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Cover Illustration

Mural sculpture of Jesus Christ in Oratoire Saint-Joseph, Montreal, Quebec (Canada).

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 524



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My
4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing
Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.
hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.
trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.
way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

**5 How weak the effort of my heart,
How cold my warmest thought!
But when I see Thee as Thou art,
I'll praise Thee as I ought.**

**6 Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death!**

Text and tune: Public domain

THE INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with sincere hearts to confess our sins to God, our Father, and to plead in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ for His forgiveness.

*Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.*

Psalm 124:8

*I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the guilt of my sin.*

Psalm 32:5

All-Powerful God, merciful Father, I, a poor, pitiful sinner, confess to You all my sins and unrighteousness. By them I have continually offended You and fairly deserved Your punishment, both now and eternally. But from my heart I am sorry for them, and I sincerely repent of them, and I pray You, in Your limitless mercy for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

The Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

Amen

THE INTROIT

Psalm 91:1–2, 9–10

*He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.*

*I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”*

*Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is my refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.*

THE GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

THE KYRIE

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory to God on high:

and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,

We glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.

**For You only are holy; You only are the Lord.
You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

from the Old Testament: Zechariah 9:9–12

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 145:1–14; antiphon v. 19

He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him;
He also hears their cry and saves them.

I will extol You, my God and King,
and bless Your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless You
and praise Your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and His greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall commend Your works to another,
and shall declare Your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.

They shall speak of the might of Your awesome deeds,
and I will declare Your greatness.

They shall pour forth the fame of Your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all,
and His mercy is over all that He has made.

All your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,
and all Your saints shall bless You!

They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom
and tell of Your power,
to make known to the children of man Your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of Your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The LORD is faithful in all His words
and kind in all His works.

The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

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.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him;
He also hears their cry and saves them.

from the Letters: Romans 7:14–25a

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:25–30

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE NICENE CREED

Having heard the Word, what do you believe?

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 752

- 1 **Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide; in ev'ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**
- 2 **Be still, my soul; your God will undertake to guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.**
- 3 **Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart and all is darkened in this vale of tears;
Then you will better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay from His own fullness all He takes away.**
- 4 **Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on when we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

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The Sermon

THE OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

**Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Do not cast me out of Your presence, nor take Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and sustain me with a free spirit. Amen.**

The Presentation of the Offering

I will offer the thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

O LORD, my strength, I love You.

The Prayer of the Church

after each petition:

*Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]

It is good and right that we do.

THE PROPER PREFACE

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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy LORD God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

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.

The Words of Institution

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

THE PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

**O Christ, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
grant us Your peace. Amen.**

Holy Communion

> *Note about Holy Communion: All who receive Holy Communion here must first be instructed. Our pastor will be very glad to instruct you. Please contact the office for an appointment. Those who have not been instructed may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing. <*

Psalm 145:15–21 (antiphon: v. 13b)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 388 – TEXT: LSB 570

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.</p> | <p>4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.</p> |
| <p>2 Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.</p> | <p>5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.</p> |
| <p>3 Just as I am, though tossed about With many'a conflict, many'a doubt, Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.</p> | <p>6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.</p> |

- 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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- 1 "Comfort, comfort ye My people,
 Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
 "Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
 Speak ye to Jerusalem
 Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell her that her sins I cover
 And her warfare now is over."
- 2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
 Blotting out each dark misdeed;
 All that well deserved His anger
 He no more will see or heed.
 She hath suffered many_a day,
 Now her griefs have passed away;
 God will change her pining sadness
 Into ever-springing gladness.
- 3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying
 In the desert far and near,
 Calling sinners to repentance,
 Since the Kingdom now is here.
 O that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet Him
 And the hills bow down to greet Him.
- 4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
 Make the rougher places plain.
 Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits His holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord
 Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That His Word is never broken.

Text: Public domain

Now, Lord, You dismiss Your servant in peace, as You have promised,
 for my eyes have seen the Salvation You prepared before the face of all people,
 a Light to enlighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Your 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.

*Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
and His mercy endures forever.*

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. We thank You, all-powerful God, for refreshing us with this healing gift, and we pray: Father of mercy, by this holy food make us strong in faith toward You, and in deep love for each other, that through us other beloved sinners may kneel to You and receive with us grace and life in Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

*The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.*

THE BENEDICAMUS

[Psalm 103:1]

*Bless we the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

THE BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

*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.*

THE CLOSING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 763

- 1** When peace, like a river, attendeth my way; *Refrain* It is well – with my soul,
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll; It is well, it is well with my soul.
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul. *Refrain*
- 2** Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. *Refrain*
- 3** He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*
- 4** And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

God's People at Prayer

For Home Devotions

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Readings from Holy Scripture

These may be read in the morning and evening, as suggested here, or in any way that best works with your schedule.

| | Morning Prayer | Evening Prayer |
|----|------------------|---------------------|
| Su | Judges 4:1–24 | Acts 14:1–18 |
| M | Judges 6:1–24 | Acts 14:19–15:5 |
| Tu | Judges 6:25–40 | Acts 15:6–21 |
| W | Judges 7:1–23 | Galatians 1:1–24 |
| Th | Judges 13:1–25 | Galatians 2:1–21 |
| F | Judges 14:1–20 | Galatians 3:1–22 |
| Sa | Judges 15:1–16:3 | Galatians 3:23–4:11 |

The Sacrament of the Altar

As the head of the family should teach it to his household.

What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently? First, both the command and promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

From the Large Catechism: If you could see how many knives, darts, and arrows are every moment aimed at you [by the devil], you would be glad to come to the Sacrament as often as possible. But there is no reason why we walk about so securely and carelessly, except that we neither think nor believe that we are in the [sinful] flesh and in this wicked world or the devil's kingdom. Therefore, try this and practice it well. Be sure to examine yourself, or look about you a little, and just keep to the Scriptures. . . . With God's grace, you may feel your misery more and become hungrier for the Sacrament.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org.
LC V, 82–84.

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

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:
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good! LSB 618:1

Daily Prayer

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

The following topics may guide your prayer each day.

- Su For the joy of the resurrection among us
- M For one's calling and daily work, coworkers, and the unemployed
- Tu For deliverance against temptation and evil; for all who suffer and are afflicted
- W For immediate, extended, and church family; for our schools, communities, and neighborhoods
- Th For the Church and her pastors, all who serve in the congregation, and missionaries
- F For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for the sick and dying
- Sa For faithfulness to the end; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word

The Lord's Prayer

Collect of the Week

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for next Sunday, July 16

Isaiah 55:10–13; Psalm 65;
Romans 8:12–17; Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23