

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✠ SOLA GRATIA ✠ SOLA FIDE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, Massachusetts

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✠ GRACE ALONE ✠ FAITH ALONE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE OPENING HYMN—TUNE & TEXT: TLH 188, STS. 1, 3–6

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| <p>1 Hallelujah! Jesus lives!
 He is now the Living One;
From the gloomy house of death
 Forth the Conqueror has gone,
Bright Forerunner to the skies
Of His people, yet to rise.</p> <p>2 Jesus lives! Why weepst thou?
 Why that sad and frequent sigh?
He who died our Brother here
 Lives our Brother still on high,
Lives forever to bestow
Blessings on His Church below.</p> <p>5 Hallelujah, angels, sing! Join us in our hymn of praise;
 Let your chorus swell the strain which our feebler voices raise:
 Glory to our God above and on earth His peace and love!</p> | <p>3 Jesus lives! And thus, my soul,
 Life eternal waits for thee;
Joined to Him, thy living Head,
 Where He is, thou, too, shalt be;
With Himself, at His right hand,
Victor over death shalt stand.</p> <p>4 Jesus lives! To Him my heart
 Draws with ever new delight.
Earthly vanities, depart!
 Hinder not my heavenward flight!
Let this spirit ever rise
To its Magnet in the skies.</p> |
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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 to the Lord,
and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

All-Powerful God, our Maker and our Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are sinful and unclean by nature, and also that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, our words, and our actions. And so we flee to find refuge in Your limitless mercy, looking and pleading for Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Most merciful God, who gave Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us, and for His sake forgive us all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us real knowledge of You and of Your will and real obedience to Your Word so that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

Amen.

THE INTROIT

Psalm 119:105, 89–93

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Forever, O LORD, Your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
You have established the earth, and it stands fast.

By Your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are Your servants.

If Your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget Your precepts,
for by them You have given me life.

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. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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

the First Reading: Acts 17:16–31

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66:8–20 (*antiphon v. 8*)

Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of His praise be heard,
who has kept our soul among the living
and has not let our feet slip.
For You, O God, have tested us;
You have tried us as silver is tried.
You brought us into the net;
You laid a crushing burden on our backs;
You let men ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet You have brought us out to a place of abundance.
I will come into Your house with burnt offerings;
I will perform my vows to You,

that which my lips uttered

and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

I will offer to You burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;

I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

Come and hear, all you who fear God,

and I will tell what He has done for my soul.

I cried to Him with my mouth,

and high praise was on my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,

the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened;

He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessèd be God,

because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me!

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.

Bless our God, O peoples;

let the sound of His praise be heard.

the Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13–22

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

the Holy Gospel: John 14:15–21

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 \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY—TUNE: TLH 387—TEXT: LSB 556

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| <p>1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done,
How His right arm the vict'ry won.
What price our ransom cost Him!</p> <p>2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day;
In sin my mother bore me.
But daily deeper still I fell;
My life became a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.</p> <p>3 My own good works all came to naught,
No grace or merit gaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought,
Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair
Left only death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.</p> | <p>4 But God had seen my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And mindful of His mercies great,
He planned for my salvation.
He turned to me a father's heart;
He did not choose the easy part
But gave His dearest treasure.</p> <p>5 God said to His beloved Son:
"It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of My crown,
And bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free;
Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with You forever."</p> <p>6 The Son obeyed His Father's will,
Was born of virgin mother;
And God's good pleasure to fulfill,
He came to be my brother.
His royal pow'r disguised He bore;
A servant's form, like mine, He wore
To lead the devil captive.</p> |
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The Sermon

7 To me He said: “Stay close to Me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I Myself will be;
For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, and you are Mine,
And where I am you may remain;
The foe shall not divide us.

8 “Though he will shed My precious blood,
Me of My life bereaving,
All this I suffer for your good;
Be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict’ry win;
My innocence shall bear your sin,
And you are blest forever.

9 “Now to My Father I depart,
From earth to heav’n ascending,
And, heav’nly wisdom to impart,
The Holy Spirit sending;
In trouble He will comfort you
And teach you always to be true
And into truth shall guide you.

10 “What I on earth have done and taught
Guide all your life and teaching;
So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought
And honored in your preaching.
But watch lest foes with base alloy
The heav’nly treasure should destroy;
This final word I leave you.”

Text: Public domain

The Prayer of the Church

after each petition:

. . . let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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 THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. Dearest Lord Jesus, Master and Savior, Alpha and Omega, Firstborn from the dead, thanks and praise and glory to You. O risen Brother, Living God, lead us and we will follow You to the cross, to the grave, and to the skies. Amen.

THE BENEDICAMUS

[Psalm 103:1]

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

HYMN TO DEPART—TUNE: TLH 261—TEXT: LSB 655

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.**
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.**

Text: Public domain

Preacher & Officiant: Rev. Peter Gregory
Organist: Anne Bennet

Liturgist: Vicar Ed Schneeflock

*Cover image: The Holy Spirit, above the baptismal font in Kramer Chapel.
Photo courtesy Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.*

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	Num. 3:1–16, 39–48	Luke 14:25–15:10
M	Numbers 8:5–26	Luke 15:11–32
Tu	Numbers 9:1–23	Luke 16:1–18
W	Numbers 10:11–36	Luke 16:19–31
Th	Num. 11:1–23, 31–35	Luke 17:1–19
F	Num. 11:24–29; 12:1–16	Luke 17:20–37
Sa	Num. 13:1–3, 17–33	Luke 18:1–17

Christian Questions & Answers

*Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther
for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.*

After confession and instruction in the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, Christians may ask themselves these questions:

12. *What are the words of institution?* Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

13. *Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?* Yes, I believe it.

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Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

"Now to My Father I depart,
From earth to heav'n ascending,
And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
The Holy Spirit sending;
In trouble He will comfort you
And teach you always to be true
And into truth shall guide you. LSB 556:9

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

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for the Ascension of Our Lord, May 21

Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47; Eph 1:15–23; Luke 24:44–53

Readings for the Seventh Sun. of Easter, May 24

Acts 1:12–26; Ps 68:1–10; 1 Pet 4:12–19, 5:6–11; Jn 17:1–11