

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

The Ascension of Our Lord



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, Massachusetts

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

1 Hager Park Road
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Our Savior Lutheran Church

May 24, 2020

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Service Guidelines

- Follow the directions of greeters, hosts, Pastor, and elders about how and when to enter, where to sit, how to receive communion, when to exit, and so forth
- Don't come if you are sick, have symptoms, or have potentially been exposed
- No handshakes, hugs, or touches. Keep 6 feet apart unless you are a joint household
- Masks are to be worn at all times (if possible), especially entering, exiting, and moving about
- Movement into & out of the sanctuary should be kept to a minimum
- Be gracious & considerate of your neighbors
- Don't overcrowd – cars, conversations/groups in walkways or doorways, etc.
- Extended conversations are encouraged, but outdoors & after service

Holy Communion

We welcome to the Lord's Table members of Our Savior and members of sister congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Visitors may come forward with arms crossed for a blessing. Our pastor would be 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.

The body of Christ will be placed into the hand. The blood of Christ will be received from individual glass cups. Distribution will be in a continuous line rather than at the altar rail.

Spiritual Care

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

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher & Celebrant	Rev. Peter Gregory
Assisting	Vicar Ed Schneeflock
Organist (9:00 & 11:00 am)	Anne Bennet

Prayer for Worship

For the Ascension of Our Lord: O LORD of Hosts, our Brother Jesus, You are the King of Glory, who ascended far above all heavens to fill the universe; You are the King of Power, who upholds the universe by Your powerful word; and You are the King of Grace, the mighty Savior. Send us Your Spirit through Your Word and Sacraments that we may receive Your salvation, so that we who walk with You here may also ascend with You there, where You live and rule with the Father and the Spirit, one eternal God, now and in the endless world to come. Amen.

To our Risen and Exalted Lord: Lord Jesus Christ, the temple of Your body was destroyed on the cross and three days later raised from the dead and exalted to the right hand of the Father. Visit us now with this same body, that we may not deny that we know You, but in faith hear in our ears Your life-giving voice and receive on our lips Your very body and blood to strengthen us in times of temptation; for You live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one eternal God, now and in the endless world to come. Amen.

For the Holy Spirit: O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father, for You live and rule with Him and the Holy Spirit, one eternal God, now and in the endless world to come. Amen.

*Cover image by Belgian artist René de Cramer
(1876–1951).*

THE OPENING HYMN—TUNE: TLH 339—TEXT: LSB 549, STS. 1, 5–7

**1 All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**3 Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**2 Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**4 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We’ll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.**

Text: 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 to 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.

God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand,
until I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,
“You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”

The Lord is at Your right hand;
He will shatter kings on the day of His wrath.

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. Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, 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 1:1–11

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

the Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15–23

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

the Holy Gospel: Luke 24:44–53

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.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY—TUNE: TLH 212—TEXT: LSB 493, STANZAS 1, 5–6

- 1 A hymn of glory let us sing!
New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise Your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

△ 3 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to You let earth accord:
Alleluia, alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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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.

Note: The offering of tithes and gifts will take place as you come forward for Holy Communion

The Prayer of the Church

after each petition:

. . . let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

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 after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine 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! Heaven 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!

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 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 on Holy Communion: In the Lord's Supper, the Risen Christ is at once the Giver and the Gift! By His promise His very body and blood are really present, so that we come into direct communion with the exalted Christ and His forgiveness. As we do so, we also bear witness to the oneness in doctrine of those who receive the Sacrament together. For this reason, we kindly ask guests to speak with pastor before communing so that all who receive Holy Communion with us might first be properly instructed.

For those who will be receiving Holy Communion, please follow the directions of the hosts and pastor. Distribution will be in a continuous line, not at the altar rail. The body of Christ will be given into the hand. The blood of Christ will be received from individual glass cups.

During the distribution, silently pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ present and absent, for those in need, for your own family and friends, and for yourselves.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

**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.**

THE THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1

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

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths received the holy Sacrament, we may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

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

THE BENEDICAMUS

[Psalms 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 & TEXT: LSB 512, STANZAS 1, 6–7

- 1 At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess Him King of Glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call Him Lord
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.**
- 2 Christians, this Lord Jesus shall appear again
In His Father's glory on the earth to reign;
For all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow,
King of grace, of power, and of glory now.**
- △ 3 Glory then to Jesus, who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God His Father in His Spirit's love!
Praise we with all heaven Him who reigns above.**

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	Numbers 14:1–25	Luke 18:18–34
M	Numbers 14:26–45	Luke 18:35–19:10
Tu	Numbers 16:1–22	Luke 19:11–28
W	Numbers 16:23–40	Luke 19:29–48
Th	Numbers 16:41–17:13	Luke 20:1–18
F	Numbers 20:1–21	Luke 20:19–44
Sa	Numbers 20:22–21:9	Luke 20:45–21:19

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:

14. *What convinces you to believe the Sacrament is Christ's true body and blood?* The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.

15. *What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?* We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

16. *Why should we remember and proclaim His death?* First, so that we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
And be our future great reward.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Then, throned with You forever, we
Shall praise Your name eternally.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

LSB 493:5

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

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the Day of Pentecost, May 31

Numbers 11:24–30; Acts 2:1–21; John 7:37–39