

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

February 28, 2021

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

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, those with medical or health issues excepted
- 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 (9:00 am)	Ed Shaffer
(11:00 am)	Jeremey Henrickson
Organist (9:00 & 11:00 am)	Anne Bennet

The Divine Service in Lent

During Lent, our practice is to use a simplified order of service. The “high points” remain the same—absolution, the readings, and Holy Communion—and draw us to Christ Jesus in repentance and faith.

Prayers for Worship

Before receiving the Sacrament: Most merciful Father, by the Lord's Supper strengthen us to believe that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Christ alone.

Enable us to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and our neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of our bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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. Amen.

For faithfulness unto death: Lord God, heavenly Father, Your Son fought the good fight of faith and was obedient unto death, even death on the cross, pouring out His blood as a peace offering between You and us. Keep us faithful unto death so we may receive the crown of righteousness that He will reward us with on the Last Day, having waited in hope and love for His appearing. Amen.

Cover Illustration

“Christ Helps Us Carry Our Cross”
from the Stations of the Cross series
by Audrey Frank Anastasi.

OPENING HYMN – TUNE: TLH 143 – TEXT: LSB 439

- 1 **O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,
What dark transgression?**
- 2 **They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee;
They crucify Thee.**
- 3 **Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit, this I do merit.**
- 4 **What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.**
- 5 **The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted; God is committed.**

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.

OPENING VERSES

Psalms 130:3–4; 139:23–24; Ex. 15:26; Is. 53:5

*If You, O LORD, should count our sins,
O LORD, who could stand?*

*But with You there is forgiveness,
that You may be feared.*

**Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my ways.
See where there is sin in me; lead me in the everlasting way, O Lord Jesus.**

**Thou art the LORD that healeth me; by Thy wounds I am healed.
Thou art my Redeemer; rescue me and draw me after Thee, O Lord Jesus.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

The Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

Amen.

THE INTROIT

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

Psalms 25:6; 115:11–13, 18

You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

He is their help and their shield.

The LORD has remembered us; He will bless us;

He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron;

He will bless those who fear the LORD,

both the small and the great.

We will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

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 is omitted during Lent. <

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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: Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 22:23–31; antiphon v. 22

I will tell of Your name to my brothers;

in midst of the congregation I will praise You:

*You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him,
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!*

*For He has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,
and He has not hidden His face from him,*

but has heard, when he cried to Him.

*From You comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear Him.*

*The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!*

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.*

*For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and He rules over the nations.*

*All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.*

*Posterity shall serve Him;
it shall be told of the LORD to the coming generation;
they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that He has done it.*

**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.**

I will tell of Your name to my brothers;

in midst of the congregation I will praise You.

from the Letters: Romans 5:1–11

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

If anyone would come after Me,

let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Mark 8:34b

from the Holy Gospels: Mark 8:27–38

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life † everlasting. Amen.



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

The Sermon

Mark 8:27–38

TUNE: TLH 179

**On my heart imprint Your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation!**

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

The Blessing of Sacred Art

“A More Glorious Day” by Lori MacDonald

Beloved in the Lord, in His great love for us the eternal God has taken on human flesh and joined Himself to His own creation. Heaven and earth are now filled with His glory as He uses the things of this world to bring us His blessing. “He has made everything beautiful in its time” so that we may behold the beauty of the Lord and inquire in His holy temple.

It is fitting, then, that this painting be sanctified by Word and prayer for use in the Lord's house.

after a brief description of the painting, Pastor processes to the entrance of the sanctuary and the rite continues:

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

*Let us pray. Heavenly Father, Your Son is the express image of Your glory so that when we behold Him we contemplate Your unending mercy. Bless and sanctify this painting, which is offered in honor of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that all who behold it may, by Your grace, be strengthened in the true faith and worship You with a steadfast heart; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

*The Lord Almighty, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this painting and those who behold it. **Amen.***

The Prayer of the Church

the prayer concludes with:

*. . . one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

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 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Worthy are You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, of all blessing, honor, and praise, and to be thanked forever, O King of the Universe, for You bring forth wheat from the seed and fruit from the vine, and for giving Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Send among us Your Holy Spirit that He may hallow this bread and wine which are to be the body and blood of Your Son, that we receive rightly this holy communion with You and the Spirit through the Son who was crucified and raised again for us. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

> *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.*

For those who will be receiving Holy Communion, please follow the directions of the hosts and pastor.

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 POST-COMMUNION: TLH 385

**O Depths of Love, to me revealing
The sea where my sins disappear!
In Christ, my wounds find perfect healing,
There is no condemnation here.
For Jesus' blood through earth and skies
Forever, "Mercy! Mercy!" cries.**

THE POST-COMMUNION 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 eternal God, now, and forever.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR THE WORD

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

*The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 837

Refrain: **Lift high the cross! The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name!**

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God. *Refrain***
- 2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The host of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. *Refrain***
- 3 All new-born soldiers of the Crucified
Wear on their brows the seal of Him who died. *Refrain***
- 4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Raise us and let Your cross the magnet be. *Refrain***
- 5 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
"Praise to the Crucified for victory!" *Refrain***

Text: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002389

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	Genesis 16:1-9 & 16:15-17:22	Mark 6:1-13
M	Genesis 18:1-15	Mark 6:14-34
Tu	Genesis 21:1-21	Mark 6:35-56
W	Genesis 22:1-19	Mark 7:1-23
Th	Genesis 24:1-31	Mark 7:24-37
F	Gen. 24:32-52, 61-67	Mark 8:1-21
Sa	Genesis 27:1-29	Mark 8:22-38

Holy Baptism

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household

How can water do such great things? Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5-8)

From the Large Catechism: Baptism is quite a different thing from all other water. This is not because of its natural quality but because something more noble is added here. God Himself stakes His honor, His power, and His might on it. Therefore, Baptism is

not only natural water, but a divine, heavenly, holy, and blessed water, and whatever other terms we can find to praise it. This is all because of the Word, which is a heavenly, holy Word, which no one can praise enough. For it has, and is able to do, all that God is and can do.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org; LC IV.17

Daily Prayer

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

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

As children of the heavenly Father, we are bold to pray.

- | | |
|----|--|
| Su | For God's name to be kept holy through pure teaching and holy living |
| M | For God's kingdom to come and increase through the gift of the Holy Spirit |
| Tu | For God to hinder every evil plan and purpose of the world, the devil, and the sinful nature |
| W | For daily bread and contentment in all things |
| Th | For forgiveness of our sins and of those who sin against us |
| F | For protection in the midst of temptation |
| Sa | For rescue from all evils of body and soul and, when our last hour comes, a blessed end |

The Lord's Prayer

Collect of the Week

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the Third Sunday in Lent, March 7

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19;
1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-25