

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

March 7, 2021

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church: 978-874-2479
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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, 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)	Ray Arsenault
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

For obedience to the Word: O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For right reception of the Lord's Supper: Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation we come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Grant that we receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Cover Illustration

"Purification of the Temple"
by Raymond Balze, (French, ca. 1850s),
from Musée Ingres in Montaubon.

OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 156/LSB 431

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Not all the blood of beasts
On Israel's altars slain
Could give a guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.</p> <p>2 But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,
Is greater far than they:
The blood of God removes all shame
And takes all sins away!</p> | <p>3 By faith I lay my hands,
My sins upon His head,
While in my place my Off'ring stands
To perish in my stead!</p> <p>4 O holocaust of love,
O rising smoke and flame
That bear the precious blood above
With ev'ry sinner's name!</p> <p>5 Oh, hear the ram's horn call:
Atonement full and free!
Atonement wondrous, once for all,
For all eternity!</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.

OPENING VERSES

Psalm 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

Psalm 69:9, 14–16

For zeal for Your house has consumed me,

and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.

Deliver me from sinking in the mire;

let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.

Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up,

or the pit close its mouth over me.

Answer me, O LORD, for Your steadfast love is good;

according to Your abundant mercy, turn to me.

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, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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: Exodus 20:1–17

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 19; antiphon v. 8

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

In them He has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is Your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors?
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

*Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;
let them not have dominion over me!*

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight,
O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

**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 precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.*

from the Letters: 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

John 2:19

Destroy this temple,

and in three days I will raise it up.

from the Holy Gospels: John 2:13–25

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY - TUNE & TEXT: TLH 165

1 Be - hold the Lamb of God! O Thou for sin - ners slain,
 2 Be - hold the Lamb of God! In - to the sa - cred flood
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God! All hail, in - car - nate Word!
 4 Be - hold the Lamb of God! Wor - thy is He a - lone

Let it not be in vain That Thou hast died!
 Of Thy most pre - cious blood My soul I cast.
 Thou ev - er - last - ing Lord, Purge out our leav'n;
 To sit up - on the throne Of God a - bove,

Thee for my Sav - ior let me take, My on - ly ref - uge
 Wash me and make me pure and clean, Up - hold me through life's
 Clothe us with god - li - ness and good, Feed us with Thy ce -
 One with the An - cient of all days, One with the Par - a -

let me make Thy pierc - ed side.
 change - ful scene, Till all be past.
 les - tial food, Man - na from heav'n.
 clete in praise, All Light, all Love!

The Sermon

John 2:13–25

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 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. <

11:00 AM SERVICE ONLY – DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 143 – TEXT: TLH 143/ LSB 439, STANZAS 6–10

- 1 **There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me, such woe it wrought me.**
- 2 **O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying while Thou wert dying.**
- 3 **O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer? what dare I offer?**
- 4 **For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee! can I requite Thee?**
- 5 **Yet unrequited, Lord, I would not leave Thee;
I will renounce whate'er doth vex or grieve Thee
And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly all fires unholy.**

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 God, now, and forever.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR THE CHURCH

Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; 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.

CLOSING HYMN – TUNE: TLH 175, FIRST TUNE – TEXT: TLH 175/LSB 425

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride. | 3 See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
When did such love and sorrow meet?
Oh, when were thorns so rich a crown? |
| 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God.
All empty things that pleased me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood. | 4 If all the universe were mine,
That off'ring would be all too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all. |

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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	Gen. 27:30–45; 28:10–22	Mark 9:1–13
M	Genesis 29:1–30	Mark 9:14–32
Tu	Genesis 35:1–29	Mark 9:33–50
W	Genesis 37:1–36	Mark 10:1–12
Th	Genesis 39:1–23	Mark 10:13–31
F	Genesis 40:1–23	Mark 10:32–52
Sa	Genesis 41:1–27	Mark 11:1–19

Holy Baptism

*As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household
What does such baptizing with water indicate?* It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written? St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Rom. 6:4)

From the Large Catechism: Therefore, every Christian has enough in Baptism to learn and to do all his life. For he has always enough to do by believing firmly what Baptism promises and brings: victory over death and the devil, forgiveness of sin, God's grace, the entire Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts. In short, Baptism is so far beyond us that if timid nature could realize this, it might well doubt whether it could be true. . . . Here in Baptism there is freely brought to everyone's door such a treasure and medicine that it utterly destroys death and preserves all people alive.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org; LC IV.41–43

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

By faith I lay my hands,
My sins upon His head,
While in my place my Off'ring stands
To perish in my stead!

LSB 431:3

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, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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 Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 14

Num. 21:4–9; Psalm 107:1–9; Eph. 2:1–10; John 3:14–21