

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

May 9, 2021

office@oursaviorlcms.com  
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.

Don't be embarrassed if your children make noise during worship—all children do. We encourage families to worship together. As needed, there is a nursery available in the basement during the services (unstaffed at 9:00 am; staffed at 11:00 am).

## 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 to the virus
- Keep appropriate social distance
- Please wear a mask, especially while singing
- Be gracious & considerate of your neighbors
- Conversations and fellowship are encouraged outdoors and 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.

## Spiritual Care

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

## Serving in Worship Today

Preacher & Celebrant	Rev. Peter Gregory
Liturgist (9:00 am)	Ed Shaffer
(11:00 am)	Ray Arsenaault
Organist	Anne Bennet

## Prayer for Worship

*Praise and supplication:* Lord God, creator of heaven and earth, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise You for the abundant mercy that You this day so richly have provided us, blessing us not only with daily bread for our bodies but also with heavenly food for our souls. Grant that Your living and powerful Word may abide in our hearts, working mightily in us to Your glory and for our salvation. We commit ourselves to Your divine protection and fatherly care. Let Your holy angels be with us that the evil foe may have no power over us. Look in mercy on Your Church and deliver it from all danger and adversities. By Your Holy Spirit comfort and strengthen all who are in affliction or distress, and grant Your abiding peace to us all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*Life as a baptized child of God:* Merciful Father, through Holy Baptism You called us to be Your own possession. Grant that our lives may evidence the working of Your Holy Spirit in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, according to the image of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*For faith, hope, and love:* Almighty God, grant us a steadfast faith in Jesus Christ, a cheerful hope in Your mercy, and a sincere love for You and one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Cover Image

By John Hrehov. Used with permission.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE: TLH 193 – TEXT: LSB 469, STS. 1, 3–6

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n today!”<br/>Saints on earth and angels say;<br/>Raise your joys and triumphs high;<br/>Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply.</p> <p>2 Lives again our glorious King!<br/>Where, O death, is now thy sting?<br/>Once He died our souls to save;<br/>Where thy victory, O grave?</p> | <p>3 Soar we now where Christ has led;<br/>Foll’wing our exalted Head.<br/>Made like Him, like Him we rise;<br/>Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.</p> <p>4 Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n!<br/>Praise to Thee by both be giv’n!<br/>Thee we greet triumphant now:<br/>Hail, the resurrection, Thou!</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.*

*Psalms 124:8*

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

*Psalms 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.**

*Come and hear, all you who fear God,*  
**and I will tell what He has done for my soul.**

*Shout for joy to God, all the earth;*  
**sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!**

*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.**

*Blessèd be God,*  
**because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from 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

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 10:34–48*

*After the reading:*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

*Psalms 98; antiphon: v. 2*

*The LORD has made known His salvation;*

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

*Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!*

**His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

*The LORD has made known His salvation;*

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

*He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.*

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;*

**break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

*Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,*

**with the lyre and the sound of melody!**

*With trumpets and the sound of the horn*

**make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;*

**the world and those who dwell in it!**

*Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD,*

**for He comes to judge the earth.**

*He will judge the world with righteousness,*

**and the peoples with equity.**

**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 LORD has made known His salvation;*

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

*the Second Reading: 1 John 5:1–8*

*After the reading:*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*the reading from the Holy Gospel: John 15:9–17*

**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.**

*HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE: TLH 387 – TEXT: LSB 556, STS. 1–2, 4–6*

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|--|---|
| <b>1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,<br/>With exultation springing,<br/>And with united heart and voice<br/>And holy rapture singing,<br/>Proclaim the wonders God has done,<br/>How His right arm the vict'ry won.<br/>What price our ransom cost Him!</b> | <b>2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;<br/>Death brooded darkly o'er me.<br/>Sin was my torment night and day;<br/>In sin my mother bore me.<br/>But daily deeper still I fell;<br/>My life became a living hell,<br/>So firmly sin possessed me.</b> |
|--|---|

3 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.

4 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."

5 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.

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## *The Sermon*

*John 15:9–17*

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:*

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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.**

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.**



**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. Those who have not been instructed may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 305

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|--|--|
| <p><b>1 Soul, adorn thyself with gladness,<br/>Leave behind all gloom and sadness;<br/>Come into the daylight's splendor,<br/>There with joy thy praises render<br/>Unto Him whose grace unbounded<br/>Hath this wondrous Supper founded.<br/>High o'er all the heav'ns He reigneth,<br/>Yet to dwell with thee He deigneth.</b></p> | <p><b>3 He who craves a precious treasure<br/>Neither cost nor pain will measure;<br/>But the priceless gifts of heaven<br/>God to us hath freely given.<br/>Tho' the wealth of earth were proffered,<br/>Naught would buy the gifts here offered:<br/>Christ's true body, for thee riven,<br/>And His blood, for thee once given.</b></p> |
| <p><b>2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him<br/>And with loving rev'rence greet Him;<br/>For with words of life immortal<br/>Now He knocketh at thy portal.<br/>Haste to ope the gates before Him,<br/>Saying, while thou dost adore Him,<br/>"Suffer, Lord, that I receive Thee,<br/>And I nevermore will leave Thee."</b></p>            | <p><b>4 Ah, how hungers all my spirit<br/>For the love I do not merit!<br/>Oft have I, with sighs fast thronging,<br/>Thought upon this food with longing.<br/>In the battle well-night worsted,<br/>For this cup of life have thirsted,<br/>For the Friend who here invites us<br/>And to God Himself unites us.</b></p>                  |
| <p><b>5 In my heart I find ascending<br/>Holy awe, with rapture blending,<br/>As this mystery I ponder,<br/>Filling all my soul with wonder,<br/>Bearing witness at this hour<br/>Of the greatness of God's power;<br/>Far beyond all human telling<br/>Is the pow'r within Him dwelling.</b></p>                                    |  |

> Note: There will be an interlude before singing the final four stanzas of the communion hymn. <

6 Human reason, though it ponder,  
Cannot fathom this great wonder  
That Christ's body e'er remaineth  
Though it countless souls sustaineth  
And that He His blood is giving  
With the wine we are receiving.  
These great mysteries unsounded  
Are by God alone expounded.

7 Jesus, Sun of Life, my Splendor,  
Jesus, Thou my Friend most tender,  
Jesus, Joy of my desiring,  
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
At Thy feet I cry, my Maker,  
Let me be a fit partaker  
Of this blessed food from heaven,  
For our good, Thy glory, given.

8 Lord, by love and mercy driven  
Thou hast left Thy throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish  
And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness  
And to shed Thy blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living,  
Lord, I praise Thee with thanksgiving.

9 Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray Thee,  
Let me gladly here obey Thee.  
By Thy love I am invited,  
Be Thy love with love requited;  
From this Supper let me measure,  
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gifts Thou here dost give me  
As Thy guest in heav'n receive me.

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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. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through 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.**

HYMN TO DEPART – TUNE: TLH 387 – TEXT: LSB 556, STS. 9–10

> Note: In these two hymns stanzas, God's beloved Son speaks to us of His ascension,  
the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the life of the Church. <

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> “Now to My Father I depart,<br/>From earth to heav’n ascending,<br/>And, heav’nly wisdom to impart,<br/>The Holy Spirit sending;<br/>In trouble He will comfort you<br/>And teach you always to be true<br/>And into truth shall guide you.</p> | <p><b>2</b> “What I on earth have done and taught<br/>Guide all your life and teaching;<br/>So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought<br/>And honored in your preaching.<br/>But watch lest foes with base alloy<br/>The heav’nly treasure should destroy;<br/>This final word I leave you.”</p> |
|---|---|

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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	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
<i>Divine Services for the Ascension at Noon &amp; 7:00 pm</i>		
F	Num. 11:24–29; 12:1–16	Luke 17:20–37
Sa	Num. 13:1–3, 17–33	Luke 18:1–17

### The Sacrament of the Altar

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

*Who does Christ our Lord say about this Sacrament? He says, "This is My body and blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."*

*From the Large Catechism:* These words . . . are not preached to wood and stone, but to me and you. Otherwise, Christ might just as well be silent and not institute a Sacrament. Therefore consider, and read yourself into this word *you* so that He may not speak to you in vain. Here He offers to us the entire treasure that He has brought for us from heaven. With the greatest kindness He invites us to receive it also in other places, like when He says in St. Matthew 11:28, "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org.  
LC V, 65–66.

### Verse for Meditation

In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. *John 16:33b*

### 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, Thursday, May 13

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

#### For the Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 16

Acts 1:12–26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9–15; John 17:11b–19