

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  
(Junction 140, 2, and 2A)  
Westminster, MA 01473

# Our Savior Lutheran Church

May 13, 2022

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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 (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

|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Celebrant | Rev. Peter Gregory   |
| Preacher  | Vicar Ed Schneeflock |
| Organist  | Judy Greenlees       |

## 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

The Ascension by Luca della Robbia (1400–1482)  
from the Museum Duomo, Florence.

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 493, STS. 1–5

- 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 The holy apostolic band  
Upon the Mount of Olives stand.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
And with His faithful foll'wers see  
Their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 To them the shining angels cry,  
"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
"This is the Savior," thus they say;  
"This is His glorious triumph day!"  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 "You see Him now, ascending high  
Up to the portals of the sky."  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see  
Returning in great majesty."  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 5 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!**

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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, 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.**

THE INTROIT

Psalm 47:5; 110:1, 4–5

*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 reading from 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.**

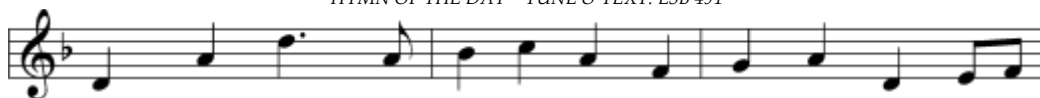
**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;**

*(Continued on the next page.)*

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 491



1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph  
 2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual  
 3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,  
 Δ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the



in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,  
 to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther  
 prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure  
 Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -  
 As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our  
 With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as  
 Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.  
 world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!  
 You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.  
 al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

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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:*

*Lord, in Your mercy,  
hear our prayer.*

THE PREFACE

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

*2 Timothy 4:22*

*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;  
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.**

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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 537

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,<br/>         Son of God and Son of Man!<br/>         Truly I'd love Thee,<br/>         Truly I'd serve Thee,<br/>         Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.</b></p>           | <p><b>3 Fair is the sunshine,<br/>         Fair is the moonlight,<br/>         Bright the sparkling stars on high;<br/>         Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer<br/>         Than all the angels in the sky.</b></p> |
| <p><b>2 Fair are the meadows,<br/>         Fair are the woodlands,<br/>         Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;<br/>         Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,<br/>         He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.</b></p> | <p><b>4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,<br/>         Son of God and Son of Man!<br/>         Glory and honor, Praise, adoration<br/>         Now and forevermore be Thine!</b></p>                                      |

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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 Lord God, worthy is the Lamb, who was slain and has redeemed us to You by His blood,  
to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing. To You who sit on  
the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! **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 BENEDICTION

Matthew 28:20

*Lo, I am with you always.  
Lo, I am with you always.  
Lo, I am with you always, to the end of the world.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

- 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 Humbled for a season,**  
To receive a name  
From the lips of sinners  
Unto whom He came,  
Faithfully He bore it  
Spotless to the last,  
Brought it back victorious  
When from death He passed;
- 3 Bore it up triumphant**  
With its human light,  
Through all ranks of creatures  
To the central height,  
To the throne of Godhead,  
To the Father's breast,  
Filled it with the glory  
Of that perfect rest.
- 4 In your hearts enthrone Him;**  
There let Him subdue  
All that is not holy,  
All that is not true:  
Crown Him as your captain  
In temptation's hour;  
Let His will enfold you  
In its light and pow'r.
- 5 Christians, this Lord Jesus**  
Shall return again  
In His Father's glory,  
With His angel train;  
For all wreaths of empire  
Meet upon His brow,  
And our hearts confess Him  
King of glory now.
- △ **6 Glory then to Jesus,**  
Who, the Prince of light,  
To a world in darkness  
Brought the gift of sight;  
Praise to God the Father;  
In the Spirit's love  
Praise we all together  
Him who reigns above.



## **He Ascended on High! Alleluia!**

### **The Ascended Lord Jesus Is with Us Always in His Church on Earth**

After He rose from the dead, the Lord Jesus presented Himself alive to the apostles, *“appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God”* (Acts 1:3). When He ascended to the right hand of the Father, He did not orphan His Church, but He fills all things in heaven and on earth and gives gifts to His disciples. Even now, through His Church, He continues *“to do and teach”* (Acts 1:1), preaching *“repentance for the forgiveness of sins”* (Luke 24:47), even *“to the end of the earth”* (Acts 1:8). Though the cloud hid Jesus from the sight of His disciples then, and He remains hidden from sight even now, He remains with His people through His Gospel and Sacraments. He comes to us by the word of His apostles, by the promise of His Father and by the power of the Holy Spirit, whom He pours out upon *“the church, which is his body”* (Eph. 1:22–23). In this Holy Christian Church, we bless God and worship Christ with joy, for in His Church He blesses us with forgiveness, lifts us up in His hands and seats us with Himself *“in the heavenly places”* (Eph. 1:20).