

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

November 21, 2021

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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.

For those caring for young children or who have difficulty standing for the prayers, hymns, or other parts of the service, please know that you may sit as you find need or comfort.

Don't be embarrassed if your children make noise during worship—all children do. We encourage families to worship together. If needed, there is a nursery available in the basement during service and Bible class.

Out of courtesy to your brothers and sisters, please turn off your cell phone ringer and refrain from leaving or entering the sanctuary during the readings and the prayers.

Holy Communion

We welcome to the Lord's Table members of Our Savior and members of sister congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Pastor Gregory would be very 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.

Christian Education

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study follow the service. Pre-Kindergarten through seventh grade students meet in the basement, high school students in pastors' study, and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

Celebrant	Rev. Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Doug Newman
Organist	Anne Bennet
Acolytes	Nate Newman

Prayers for Worship

For faithfulness to the end: O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness shown to all Your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For support in this life and peace at the last: O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Prayer of the Waiting Bride, the Church: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen. (Revelation 22:20)

With an eye toward the end: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever. Amen.

Cover Image

Icon of the Last Judgment—Christ the Judge from the Florence Baptistery (*Battistero di San Giovanni*).

The Last Sunday of the Church Year/Christ the King.....November 21, 2021

> Note: The offering of tithes and gifts will be received in the offering box as you enter the nave for the service.
They will be presented before the Lord's altar prior to the Prayer of the Church.<

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 336

1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him,
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,

Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;

Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

As you witness this baptism, take hold of your own baptism and your daily return to the font by again renouncing the devil and confessing faith in the Triune God.

The Baptisms of Emily Marie, Kaley Anne, and Adaline Nicole Suprenant

During the baptism, the congregation may join in the responses:

Do you renounce the devil? **Yes, I renounce him.**

Do you renounce all his works? **Yes, I renounce them.**

Do you renounce all his ways? **Yes, I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth? **Yes, I believe.**

Do you believe 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? **Yes, I believe.**

Do you 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? **Yes, I believe.**



THE INTROIT

2 Peter 3:13b NIV; Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8

We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.

O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!

Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before You.

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

My hope is in You.

Deliver me from all my transgressions.

Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry;

hold not Your peace at my tears!

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. Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

from the Old Testament: Isaiah 51:4–6

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

from the Letters: Jude 20–25

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24–37

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE LITANY CREED

He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Refrain: I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

*As the lightning flashes from east to west, the Son of Man will come in His Father's glory with His holy angels to reward everyone according to what each has done. He will come like a thief in the night; one will be taken and the other left. **Refrain***

*The skies will disappear with a roar, the elements will disintegrate in the heat, and the earth and everything on it will be burned. **Refrain***

*He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call and gather His chosen from the four winds. We will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. **Refrain***

*We will all stand before Christ's judgment seat. Each of us will give an account of himself to God. **Refrain***

*He will say to those on His left, "Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." **Refrain***

*He will say to those on his right, "Come, you blessed of My Father! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world." **Refrain***

*He will change our lowly bodies to be like His own glorious body; we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **Refrain***

*We look for new heavens and a new earth, the home of righteousness. Then the righteous shall shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom, and we shall be with the Lord forever, whose kingdom shall have no end. **Refrain***

*Great, we confess, is the mystery of our faith: Jesus died. **Jesus died.***

*Jesus rose! **Jesus rose!***

*Jesus will come again! **Jesus will come again!***

I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

- 1 **“Wake, awake, for night is flying,”**
The watchmen on the heights are crying;
 “Awake, Jerusalem, arise!”
Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
 “Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
 Alleluia!
With bridal care yourselves prepare
To meet the Bridegroom, who is near.”
- 2 **Zion hears the watchmen singing,**
And all her heart with joy is springing;
 She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;
 Her star is ris’n, her light is come.
Now come, Thou Blessèd One,
Lord Jesus, God’s own Son,
 Hail! Hosanna!
We enter all the wedding hall
To eat the Supper at Thy call.
- 3 **Now let all the heav’ns adore Thee, let saints and angels sing before Thee**
 With harp and cymbals’ clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal, where, joining with the choir immortal,
 We gather round Thy radiant throne.
No eye has seen the light, no ear has heard the might of Thy glory;
 Therefore will we eternally sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text: Public domain

The Sermon

Mark 13:24–37

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 621

- 1 **Let all mortal flesh keep silence**
 And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
 For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
 Comes our homage to demand.
- 2 **King of kings yet born of Mary,**
 As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
 In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
 His own self for heav’nly food.
- 3 **Rank on rank the host of heaven**
 Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
 From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow’rs of hell to vanquish
 As the darkness clears away.
- 4 **At His feet the six-winged seraph,**
 Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
 As with ceaseless voice they cry:
 “Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Text: Public domain

The Presentation of the Offering

I will offer the thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

O LORD, my strength, I love You.

The Prayer of the Church

each petition closes with the words:

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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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.

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 about 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.* <

Psalm 93

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: 473 – TEXT: LSB RMH

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Oh, let the veil be parted!
Oh, let the Lord appear,
The Man so lowly-hearted,
The God of countless years.
Let earth fall down and fear Him,
Who dooms to heav'n or hell;
Let all creation hear Him,
The Lord of Israel.</p> <p>2 Once, sinners tore asunder
The veil of flesh He wears;
The God of fire and thunder
Poured forth in blood and tears.
Amazing love outflowing
That cancels all our shame;
The Pow'r beyond all knowing
Our Sacrifice became.</p> | <p>3 Now veiled in Word and Water,
In holy Bread and Wine,
The Lamb once led to slaughter
Fills ev'ry humblest shrine,
With gentle pardon sealing
The servants of the Lamb
Who long for the revealing
Of Christ, the Great I am.</p> <p>4 Look up! The skies are tearing!
He comes in glory bare!
And, changed by His appearing,
We rise through shining air!
'Mid lightnings of Your splendor
And thund'ring shouts of praise,
O Terrible and Tender,
We see You face to Face!</p> |
|---|---|

1 Hear the thrilling voice that's calling!
 "Christ is near!" we hear it say,
 "Throw aside the works of darkness,
 All you children of the Day!"
 Startled at the solemn warning,
 Let the drowsing Christian wake.
 Shall the sunrise catch you sleeping?
 Look! The Dawn begins to break!

2 On the Day of wrath and mourning,
 Where shall shaking sinners hide
 When the Judge of all, descending,
 This creation thrusts aside?
 Skies and earth in fire dissolving
 As Christ lifts His righteous hand—
 If You, LORD, should count transgressions,
 Ah, LORD God! Oh, who could stand?

3 Patiently, the Lamb, still lowly,
 Comes with pardon now from heav'n.
 Hurry then, with tears, repentant,
 One and all to be forgiv'n!
 Then, when He returns in glory
 And the world is wrapped in fear,
 He will shield us with His mercy
 And with words of love draw near.

4 Holy God, our gentle Savior,
 Judge of all, once crucified,
 Come for those who wait to see You;
 Raise the dead for whom You died.
 Then, like rolling peals of thunder,
 Like the roaring of the sea,
 Shall break forth a "Hallelujah"
 Rising to eternity!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 534



1 Lord, en-throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor, First - be - got - ten
 2 Though the low - liest form now veil You As of old in
 3 Pas - chal Lamb, Your of - f'ring, fin - ished Once for all when
 4 Life - im - part - ing heav'n - ly man - na, Strick - en rock with



from the dead, You a - lone, our strong de - fend - er,
 Beth - le - hem, Here as there Your an - gels hail You,
 You were slain, In its full - ness un - di - min - ished
 stream - ing side, Heav'n and earth with loud ho - san - na



Lift - ing up Your peo - ple's head. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Shall for - ev - er - more re - main, Al - le - lu - ia,
 Wor - ship You, the Lamb who died, Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus, true and
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! We in wor - ship
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Cleans - ing souls from
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ris'n, as - cend - ed,
 liv - ing bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!
 join with them; We in wor - ship join with them.
 ev - 'ry stain; Cleans - ing souls from ev - 'ry stain.
 glo - ri - fied! Ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Text and tune: Public domain

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

Psalm 107:1

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

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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 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 521, STS. 1, 3, 5–7

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>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.</p> | <p>3 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.</p> |
| <p>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;</p> | <p>4 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.</p> |
| <p>5 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.</p> | |

Text: Public domain

Note on the Last Sunday of the Church Year

also called Christ the King Sunday or The Sunday of the Second Coming

Yes, we Christians even have our own calendar! It starts on the First Sunday in Advent and goes through the Last Sunday of the Church Year, which is today.

The first half of the Church year, from Advent through Pentecost, we call “the Lord’s half-year” because it’s all about what Jesus *did*: from His first coming to Bethlehem to His pouring out the Lord Holy Spirit from heaven. It’s all about how He was born for us on Christmas, how He shone out here in Epiphany, how He suffered for us in Lent, how He died for us on Good Friday, how He rose again for us on Easter, then ascended into heaven as one of us, and finally poured out the wind and fire of the Spirit on His apostles for our sake. We spend an entire half-year studying and celebrating what Jesus Christ did for us once and for all, and we do it every year because we’ll never get done with how much He *did*.

The second half of the Church year, from Trinity Sunday through today, we call “the Church’s half-year” because it’s all about what Jesus *does* right now in the world in everybody who receives Him. It’s all about how He opens God to us and opens us to God and takes us in, that is, from the time He baptizes each of us and, through the Holy Spirit, gives us faith to receive all the forgiveness and eternal life He won and accomplished for us once and for all. It’s all about receiving His grace now and growing in grace now and spreading His grace now and sharing in the life of Jesus now. We spend an entire half year studying and celebrating what Jesus Christ *does* in us, and we do it every year because we’ll never get done with how much He still *does*.

And so it goes, Church year after Church year, round and round. You might think we were just going in circles, but then comes today, when we celebrate not just the last day of the Church Year but *the* Last Day of the world.

Continued on the next page.

Because the truth is that we'll go round and round and round and round and *then* . . . we'll fly off suddenly into splendor when Jesus comes again. He'll end this whole creation and the whole new creation will start. Christians who've died will come from heaven with Him and rise from their graves alive and well, and we who are still alive will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord, to pass through the judgment safe with Him and then to enter, body and soul, what no one has ever seen or heard or imagined. Everything He *did* for us, once for all, and everything He *does* in us now—it's all for this. It's all for the moment when we see with our own eyes Christ the King—already reigning—and start the life we were made for. Everything Jesus did and everything He does—the Sunday of the Second Coming shouts what He did and does it all for.

Christ the King Sunday reminds us that things don't just go on and on. They stop. And then they start. The Last Sunday of the Church Year is practice for the Last Day of earth. It's a wedding rehearsal, one which could very well be interrupted by a trumpet blast and the Beginning of All Things New.

"But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared . . . "

Titus 3:4

*As one Church Year ends, we move forward into a new one,
waiting in eager expectation for our Lord's return.
For more on the Church Year, see the next page.*

Thanksgiving Eve

Vespers Service • Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm

Sunday Advent Services

Sundays • November 28; December 5, 12, 19

Divine Services at 10:00 am & 6:00 pm (except on 12/5) • Sunday School & Bible Class at 11:30 am

Midweek Advent Services

Wednesdays • December 1, 8, 15, & 23

Services at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm • Supper at 6:00 pm

Services of the Christmas Season

Christmas Eve Vespers • 4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols • 10:00 pm

Christmas Day Divine Service • 11:00 am

The Feast of St. Stephen, Martyr, December 26

Divine Services at 10:00 am & 6:00 pm • Sunday School & Bible Class at 11:30 am

The Second Sunday after Christmas, January 2

Divine Services at 10:00 am & 6:00 pm • Sunday School & Bible Class at 11:30 am

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	Daniel 2:1–23	Revelation 18:1–24
M	Daniel 2:24–49	Revelation 19:1–21
Tu	Daniel 3:1–30	Revelation 20:1–15
W	Daniel 4:1–37	Revelation 21:1–8
Th	Daniel 5:1–30	Revelation 21:9–27
F	Daniel 6:1–28	Revelation 22:1–21
Sa	Isaiah 1:1–28	1 Peter 1:1–21

Christ's Return for Judgment

Our churches teach that at the end of the world Christ will appear for judgment and will raise all the dead. He will give the godly and elect eternal life and everlasting joys, but He will condemn the ungodly people and the devils to be tormented without end.

They condemn the Anabaptists, who think that there will be an end to the punishments of condemned men and devils. They also condemn those who are spreading certain [false] opinions, that before the resurrection of the dead the godly shall take possession of the kingdom of the world, the ungodly being everywhere suppressed.

The Augsburg Confession, Article XVII

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

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.
LSB 512:6

Verse for Meditation

"I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the first and the last,
the beginning and the end."

Revelation 22:13

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

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds
by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your
glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and
holiness of living; for You live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.

Readings for the First Sunday in Advent, Nov. 28

Jeremiah 33:14–16; Psalm 25:1–10;
1 Thessalonians 3:9–13; Luke 19:28–40