

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

Service of the Word



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, Massachusetts

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

1 Hager Park Road
(Junction 140, 2, and 2A)
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Our Savior Lutheran Church

March 20, 2022

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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. Children meet in the basement, high school students in pastors' study, and adults in the sanctuary. Coffee and refreshments are served in the basement directly after service.

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher
Liturgist
Organist
Acolytes

Vicar Ed Schneeflock
Jeremey Henrickson
Anne Bennet
Lars Henrickson
Mason Suprenant

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 the annunciation (March 25): O Lord, as we have known the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of the angel to the virgin Mary, so by the message of His cross and passion bring us to the glory of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For peace in the world: Heavenly Father, God of all concord, it is Your gracious will that Your children on earth live together in harmony and peace. Defeat the plans of all those who would stir up violence and strife, destroy the weapons of those who delight in war and bloodshed, and, according to Your will, end all conflicts in the world. Teach us to examine our hearts that we may recognize our own inclination toward envy, malice, hatred, and enmity. Help us, by Your Word and Spirit, to search our hearts and to root out the evil that would lead to strife and discord, so that in our lives we may be at peace with all people. Fill us with zeal for the work of Your Church and the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which alone can bring that peace which is beyond all understanding; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Cover Image

"The Barren Fig Tree" by Eugène Burnand (1850–1921).

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

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.**

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS: EXODUS 20

Thus says the LORD: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

> Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination through the Ten Commandments. <

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.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. Amen.

THE INTROIT

Psalm 5:4–8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6

*For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.*

*For You are not a God who delights in wickedness;
evil may not dwell with You.*

*The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes;
You hate all evildoers.*

*You destroy those who speak lies;
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.*

But I, through the abundance of Your steadfast love, will enter Your house.

I will bow down toward Your holy temple in the fear of You.

*Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;
make Your way straight before me.*

**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.**

*For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.*

HYMN – TUNE: TLH 144 – TEXT: LSB 421

- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|--|
| 1 | Jesus, grant that balm and healing
In Your holy wounds I find,
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling
Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within
Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning
Keep me from its first beginning. | 2 | Should some lust or sharp temptation
Fascinate my sinful mind,
Draw me to Your cross and passion,
And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard,
Let me then be on my guard,
Saying, "Christ for me was wounded,"
That the tempter flee confounded. |
|----------|---|----------|--|

3 If the world my heart entices
With the broad and easy road,
With seductive, sinful vices,
Let me weigh the awful load
You were willing to endure.
Help me flee all thoughts impure
And to master each temptation,
Calm in prayer and meditation.

4 Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me
By Your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm faint, Your cross revives me,
Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet
Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
For Your all-atoning passion
Has procured my soul's salvation.

5 O my God, my rock and tower,
Grant that in Your death I trust,
Knowing death has lost its power
Since You crushed it in the dust.
Savior, let Your agony
Ever help and comfort me;
When I die be my protection,
Light and life and resurrection.

Text: Public domain

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: Ezekiel 33:7–20

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalms 85; antiphon v. 8

*Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.
LORD, You were favorable to Your land;
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of Your people;
You covered all their sin.*

You withdrew all Your wrath;

You turned from Your hot anger.

Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

and put away Your indignation toward us!

Will You be angry with us forever?

Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

Will You not revive us again,

that Your people may rejoice in You?

Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,

and grant us Your salvation.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

that glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;

righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Faithfulness springs up from the ground,

and righteousness looks down from the sky.

Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him

and make his footsteps a way.

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.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

from the Letters: 1 Corinthians 10:1–13

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE

The Lord is patient toward you,

not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

2 Peter 3:9b, c

from the Holy Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

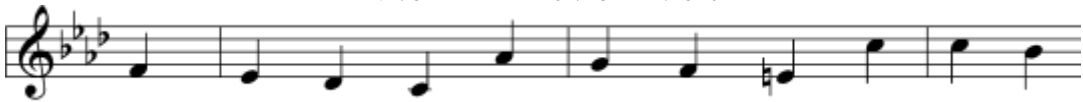
THE APOSTLES' CREED

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: LSB 614



1 "As sure - ly as I live," God said, "I would not
2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: "Go forth and
3 "All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly
4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will



see the sin - ner dead. I want him turned from
preach in ev - 'ry land; Be - stow on all My
par - don and ac - quit, And those whose sins you
loose, that shall be free; To My dear Church the



er - ror's ways, Re - pen - tant, liv - ing end - less days."
par - d'ning grace Who will re - pent and mend their ways.
will re - tain Con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.
keys are giv'n To o - pen, close the gates of heav'n."

5 The words which absolution give
Are His who died that we might live;
The minister whom Christ has sent
Is but His humble instrument.

6 When ministers lay on their hands,
Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
He who by grace the Word believes
The purchase of His blood receives.

(Continued on the next page.)

7 All praise to You, O Christ, shall be
For absolution full and free,
In which You show Your richest grace;
From false indulgence guard our race.

△ 8 Praise God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be
World without end, eternally!

Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Ezekiel 33:7–20

OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE: TLH 179 – TEXT: LSB 422

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!

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

Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

after each petition:

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

the prayer ends:

*We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.***

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.**

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee
With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me;
Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: Public domain

COLLECT FOR THE CHURCH

Let us pray. Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be restrained, but have the free rein it deserves and be proclaimed for the salvation of souls and for the joy and the strength of Christ's holy people, so that we serve You with steadfast faith and confess Your name to the end, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*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 159 – TEXT: LSB 436

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away;
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.</p> | <p>3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry;
Learn from Jesus Christ to die.</p> |
| <p>2 Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.</p> | <p>4 Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom.
Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes.
Savior, teach us so to rise.</p> |

Text: Public domain

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

Christian Questions & Answers

*Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther
for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.*

After confession and instruction in the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, Christians may ask themselves these questions:

1. *Do you believe that you are a sinner?* Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
2. *How do you know this?* From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
3. *Are you sorry for your sins?* Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
4. *What have you deserved from God because of your sins?* His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Rom. 6:21, 23.
5. *Do you hope to be saved?* Yes, that is my hope.
6. *In whom then do you trust?* In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
7. *Who is Christ?* The Son of God, true God and man.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org.

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

All praise to You, O Christ, shall be
For absolution full and free,
In which You show Your richest grace;
From false indulgence guard our race. *LSB 614:7*

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 Sun. in Lent, March 27

Isaiah 12:1–6; Psalm 32;

2 Corinthians 5:16–21; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32