

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 27, 2022

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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. 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

Celebrant
Liturgist
Organist
Acolytes

Rev. Peter Gregory
Tim Terhune
Anne Bennet
Josiah Paradis
Landon Vega

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

Prayer of repentance: Father, I have sinned against heaven and before You. I am no longer worthy to be called Your child. Amen (Luke 15:21)

For the fruit of Christ's redemption: Merciful Father, You have given Your only Son as the sacrifice for sinners. Grant us grace to receive the fruits of His redeeming work with thanksgiving and daily to follow in His way; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For grace in returning to the Lord: Lord God, our heavenly Father, You stood afar off, waiting to see Your prodigals appear at the gate. Then, running to us, You overwhelmed us with grace and invited us to sit at table, to rejoice at our homecoming. Help us to repent of our sins and strip us of every thought that we might merit Your salvation. Then bring us home to be with You at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Cover Image

"Retour de l'Enfant Prodigue" (quatrième planche)
print by Jean Louis Forain (1909)

> 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 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.

The Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

Amen.

THE INTROIT

Psalms 51:1–6; antiphon: v. 1

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,
so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,
and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

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.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.



1 All man - kind fell in Ad - am's fall; One com - mon
 2 Through all our pow'rs cor - rup - tion creeps And us in
 3 From hearts de - praved, to e - vil prone, Flow thoughts and
 4 But Christ, the sec - ond Ad - am, came To bear our



sin in - fects us all. From one to all the
 dread - ful bond - age keeps; In guilt we draw our
 deeds of sin a - lone; God's im - age lost, the
 sin and woe and shame, To be our life, our



curse de - scends, And o - ver all God's wrath im - pends.
 in - fant breath And reap its fruits of woe and death.
 dark - ened soul Seeks not nor finds its heav'n - ly goal.
 light, our way, Our on - ly hope, our on - ly stay.

- 5 As by one man all mankind fell
 And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
 So by one Man, who took our place,
 We all were justified by grace.
- 6 We thank You, Christ; new life is ours,
 New light, new hope, new strength, new pow'rs.
 This grace our ev'ry way attend
 Until we reach our journey's end.

Text and tune: Public domain

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: Isaiah 12:1–6

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 32; antiphon v. 11

*Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!*

*Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.*

*Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

*For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.*

*For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.*

*I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

*Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.*

*You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble;
You surround me with shouts of deliverance.*

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.*

*Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.*

*Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.*

*Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!*

**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.**

*Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!*

from the Letters: 2 Corinthians 5:16–21

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE

Luke 15:22a, 24a

*The father said to his servants, "This my son was dead, and is alive again;
he was lost, and is found."*

from the Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

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: TLH 245 – TEXT: LSB 571

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.</p> <p>2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.</p> <p>3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.</p> | <p>4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.</p> <p>5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.</p> <p>△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!</p> |
|---|--|

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The Sermon

Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

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

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.

*It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

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.

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

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 132:8–18 (antiphon: verse 13)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 556, STANZAS 1–8

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

- 3 My own good works all came to naught,
 No grace or merit gaining;
 Free will against God's judgment fought,
 Dead to all good remaining.
 My fears increased till sheer despair
 Left only death to be my share;
 The pangs of hell I suffered.
- 4 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.
- 5 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."
- 6 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.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me,
 I am your rock and castle.
 Your ransom I Myself will be;
 For you I strive and wrestle.
 For I am yours, and you are Mine,
 And where I am you may remain;
 The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood,
 Me of My life bereaving,
 All this I suffer for your good;
 Be steadfast and believing.
 Life will from death the vict'ry win;
 My innocence shall bear your sin,
 And you are blest forever.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 151 – TEXT: LSB 420

- 1 Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 Who, Thyself for me once giving to the darkest depths of woe:
 Through Thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
 Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee, O Thou sinless Son of God!
 Thus didst Thou my soul deliver from the bonds of sin forever.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 3 Thou hast borne the smiting only that my wounds might all be whole;
 Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, rest to give my weary soul;
 Yea, the curse of God enduring, blessing unto me securing.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

- 4 Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,
 Treating Thee with shameful scorn
 And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.
 All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,
 That as Thine Thou mightest own me
 And with heav'nly glory crown me.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,
 That from pain I might be free;
 Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:
 Thence I gain security;
 Comfortless Thy soul did languish
 Me to comfort in my anguish.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction
 And hast borne it patiently,
 Even death by crucifixion,
 Fully to atone for me;
 Thou didst choose to be tormented
 That my doom should be prevented.
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
 For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
 For Thine anguish in the Garden,
 I will thank Thee evermore,
 Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
 For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
 For that last triumphant cry,
 And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Public domain

THE POST-COMMUNION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 385, STANZA 4

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.

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 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.

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	Genesis 41:28–57	Mark 11:20–33
M	Genesis 42:1–34, 38	Mark 12:1–12
Tu	Genesis 43:1–28	Mark 12:13–27
W	Gen. 44:1–18, 32–34	Mark 12:28–44
Th	Gen. 45:1–20, 24–28	Mark 13:1–23
F	Genesis 47:1–31	Mark 13:24–37
Sa	Gen. 49:29–50:7, 14–26	Mark 14:1–11

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:

8. *How many Gods are there?* Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9. *What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?* He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

10. *Did the Father also die for you?* He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.

11. *How do you know this?* From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

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

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs. LSB 571:3

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for the Fifth Sun. in Lent, April 3

Isaiah 43:16–21; Psalm 126;
Philippians 3:4b–14; Luke 20:9–20