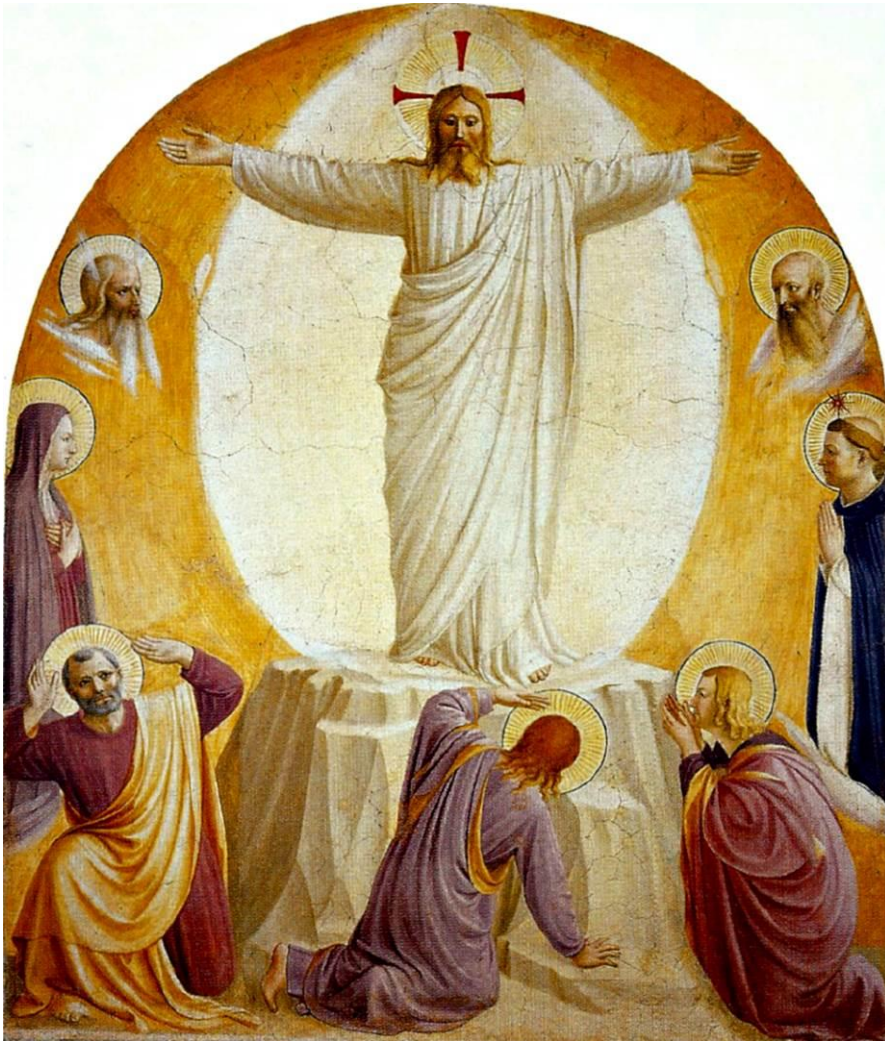


¶ SOLA SCRIPTURA ¶ SOLA GRATIA ¶ SOLA FIDE

# 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

February 19, 2023

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.

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 & Preacher	The Rev. Charles Varsogea
Liturgist	Tom Connell
Organist	Anne Bennet
Acolytes	Lazarus Gregory, George Newman

## Hallelujah! Praise Yahweh!

The Hebrew word "Hallelujah" means "Praise Yahweh." ("Alleluia" is the Greek spelling.) The divine name Yahweh appears frequently in the Old Testament. In English, it is translated as "LORD" in capital letters. Hallelujah is a word of joy and gladness and an expression of thankful praise to the one true God.

In the Divine Service, a joyous triple "Hallelujah" follows the Epistle reading (the reading from the New Testament letters) and prepares us for the Gospel reading. The first half of the service reaches its highest point as we hear the very words and deeds of Jesus in the Holy Gospel.

An ancient Church custom is to refrain from using "Hallelujah" during the season of Lent. This practice sets apart the penitential Lenten season from the exuberance of the Easter season that follows.

On this Last Sunday in Epiphany, sing joyfully the hallelujahs/alleluias! This word of praise will not be heard again in church until it bursts forth from the grave with Jesus on Easter. Today we bid "farewell" to hallelujah until we meet again in the joy of the resurrection.

"Praise the Lord! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being." *Psalms 146:1-2*

## Alleluia! Praise the LORD!

## Cover Image

*The Transfiguration*  
by Fra Angelico (ca. 1440-1442).

OPENING HYMN – TUNE: TLH 473 – TEXT: RMH

- 1 **The humble veil is parted: The Light of Light appears.  
This Man, so lowly-hearted, is Lord of countless years.  
Fall down! Fall down and fear Him as Baal and Pharaoh fell!  
Know He is God and hear Him, the Lord Immanuel.**
- 2 **Soon men will tear asunder the veil of flesh He wears,  
The God of fire and thunder be seen in blood and tears.  
Behold the love outflowing that cancels all our shame.  
This Pow’r beyond all knowing our Sacrifice became.**
- 3 **For Your transfiguration, my Christ, be glorified,  
My Light and my Salvation, my Maker crucified.  
Transfigure me, O Jesus, while I this vision share;  
Transfigure me, O Jesus, till I Your likeness bear.**
- 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!**

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 99:9, 1–5

*Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain;*  
**for the LORD our God is holy!**

*The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!*

**He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**

*The LORD is great in Zion;*

**He is exalted over all the peoples.**

*Let them praise Your great and awesome name!*

**Holy is He!**

*The King in His might loves justice.*

**You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

*Exalt the LORD our God; worship at His footstool!*

**Holy is He!**

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

## THE COLLECT

*Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, 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: Exodus 24:8–18*

*After the reading:*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM

*Psalm 2:6–12; antiphon v. 6*

*The LORD says, "As for Me, I have set My King  
 on Zion, My holy hill."*

*I will tell of the decree:*

**The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You.**

*Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage,  
 and the ends of the earth Your possession.*

*You shall break them with a rod of iron  
 and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."*

*Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
 be warned, O rulers of the earth.*

*Serve the LORD with fear,  
 and rejoice with trembling.*

*Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath is quickly kindled.  
 Blessèd are all who take refuge in Him.*

**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 says, "As for Me, I have set My King  
 on Zion, My holy hill."*

*from the Letters: 2 Peter 1:16–21*

*After the reading:*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*from the Holy Gospel: Matthew 17:1–9*

**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 worshipped 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.**

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair  
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh  
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray  
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high  
 Δ 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son

Of glo - ry that the Church may share,  
 The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high;  
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day  
 By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,  
 And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,

Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,  
 And from the cloud the Ho - ly One  
 What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove  
 For which in joy - ful strains we raise  
 We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace

Where bright - er than the sun He glows!  
 Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.  
 Who joy in God with per - fect love.  
 The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.  
 To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Sermon

*Matthew 17:1–9*

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.**

### *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.*  
**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 at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. 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.**



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 99 (antiphon: v. 9)*

*DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: LSB 373 – TEXT: RMH*

- 1 Heaven's Glory glad and bright, shining on the barren height:  
Christ reveals His matchless worth to poor sinners still on earth.  
Weak and foolish, yet they see in the dark His majesty.  
Let me learn with them the price of His coming sacrifice.
- 2 Did He hold this glory in, shedding blood instead for sin?  
Was this Splendor crucified? Was it God the Son who died?  
Shamed and cursed, in weakness veiled, naked on a cross impaled.  
Lord of Glory – can it be? Yes, He spent Himself for me.
- 3 Jesus, burn away my pride by Your glory crucified;  
By Your love for me within, Lord, consume my love of sin  
Like th'apostles flood my sight with Your mercy and Your might  
Till, like them, I rise to see only You who died for me.

*DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 657*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,<br/>Son of God and Son of Man!<br/>Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee,<br/>Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.</p>           | <p>3 Fair is the sunshine, 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.</p> |
| <p>2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,<br/>Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;<br/>Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,<br/>He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.</p> | <p>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!</p>                         |

**1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;**  
 His the scepter, His the throne;  
 Alleluia! His the triumph,  
 His the victory alone.  
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
 Thunder like a mighty flood:  
 “Jesus out of ev’ry nation  
 Has redeemed us by His blood.”

**3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,**  
 Here on earth our food, our stay;  
 Alleluia! Here the sinful  
 Flee to You from day to day.  
 Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
 Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea  
 Where the songs of all the sinless  
 Sweep across the crystal sea.

**2 Alleluia! Not as orphans**  
 Are we left in sorrow now;  
 Alleluia! He is near us;  
 Faith believes, nor questions how.  
 Though the cloud from sight received Him  
 When the forty days were o’er,  
 Shall our hearts forget His promise:  
 “I am with you evermore”?

**4 Alleluia! King eternal,**  
 Lord omnipotent we own;  
 Alleluia! Born of Mary,  
 Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.  
 As within the veil You entered,  
 Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,  
 Here on earth both priest and victim  
 In the eucharistic feast.

**5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;**  
 Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:  
 “Jesus out of ev’ry nation has redeemed us by His blood.”

Text: 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. 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 & TEXT: LSB 680

- 1 **Thine the Amen, Thine the praise, alleluias angels raise,  
Thine the everlasting head, Thine the breaking of the bread,  
Thine the glory, Thine the story, Thine the harvest, then the cup;  
Thine the vineyard, then the cup is lifted up, lifted up.**
- 2 **Thine the life eternally, Thine the promise—let there be.  
Thine the vision, Thine the tree; all the earth on bended knee,  
Gone the nailing, gone the railing, gone the pleading, gone the cry,  
Gone the sighing, gone the dying, what was loss lifted high.**
- 3 **Thine the truly, Thine the yes; Thine the table, we the guest.  
Thine the mercy all from Thee; Thine the glory yet to be.  
Then the ringing and the singing, then the end of all the war;  
Thine the living, Thine the loving evermore, evermore.**
- 4 **Thine the kingdom, Thine the prize, Thine the wonderful surprise;  
Thine the banquet, then the praise, then the justice of Thy ways.  
Thine the glory, Thine the story, then the welcome to the least,  
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast, at Thy feast.**
- 5 **Thine the glory in the night, no more dying, only light.  
Thine the river, Thine the tree, then the Lamb eternally,  
Then the holy, holy, holy celebration jubilee,  
Thine the splendor, Thine the brightness, only Thee, only Thee.**

# 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	Job 14:1–22	John 6:41–59
M	Job 15:1–23, 30–35	John 6:60–71
Tu	Job 16:1–22	John 7:1–13
	<i>On Ash Wednesday, the readings change to Genesis &amp; Mark:</i>	
W	Genesis 1:1–19	Mark 1:1–13
Th	Genesis 1:20–2:3	Mark 1:14–28
F	Genesis 2:4–25	Mark 1:29–45
Sa	Genesis 3:1–24	Mark 2:1–17

### The Lord's Prayer

*As the head of the family should teach it to his household.*

#### *The Sixth Petition*

And lead us not into temptation.

*What does this mean?* God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

*From the Large Catechism:* Great and grievous, indeed, are these dangers and temptations [of the flesh, the world, and the devil], which every Christian must bear. We bear them even though each one were alone by himself. So every hour that we are in this vile life, we are attacked on all sides, chased and hunted down. We are moved to cry out and to pray that God would not allow us to become weary and faint and to fall again into sin, shame, and unbelief. For otherwise it is impossible to overcome even the least temptation.

### Hymn

*Sing or speak LSB 413, stanza 1, on p. 5 of the bulletin,  
which describes Christ's transfiguration.*

### 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, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshadowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

### Readings for the First Sunday in Lent, February 26

Genesis 3:1–21; Pss. 32:1–7 (v. 7) & 118:1–13 (v. 5);  
Romans 5:12–19; Matthew 4:1–11