

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

April 30, 2023

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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

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Preacher & Celebrant | Rev. Peter Gregory |
| Liturgist | Tom Connell |
| Crucifer | Eli Roach |
| Organist | Anne Bennet |
| Acolytes | Mason Suprenant, Matthew Connell |

Prayer for Worship

Psalm 28:1–2, 7–9: To You, O LORD, I call; my Rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if You be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit. Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to You for help, when I lift up my hands toward Your most holy sanctuary. The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. The LORD is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their Shepherd and carry them forever.

For pastors and their flocks: O almighty God, by Your Son, our Savior, You have always given to Your Church on earth faithful shepherds to guide and feed Your flock. Therefore we pray, make all pastors diligent to preach Your holy Word and to administer Your means of grace, and grant Your people wisdom to follow in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now forever. Amen.

To our Shepherd: O ever be our guide, our Shepherd, and our pride, our staff and song. Jesus, O Christ of God, by Your enduring Word lead us where You have trod; make our faith strong. Amen. (LSB 864:4)

Cover Illustration

Mosaic of *Christ as the Good Shepherd*
from the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia,
Ravenna, Italy, ca. AD 425.

> Please stand and face the processional crucifix at the entrance to the nave. <

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN – TUNE: TLH 239 – TEXT: LSB 864

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Shepherd of tender youth, Guiding in love and truth Through devious ways; Christ, our triumphant King, We come Your name to sing And here our children bring To join Your praise.</p> <p>2 You are the holy Lord, O all-subduing Word, Healer of strife. Yourself You did abase That from sin’s deep disgrace You so might save our race And give us life.</p> | <p>3 You are the great High Priest; You have prepared the feast Of holy love; And in our mortal pain None calls on You in vain; Our plea do not disdain; Help from above.</p> <p>4 O ever be our guide, Our shepherd, and our pride, Our staff and song. Jesus, O Christ of God, By Your enduring Word Lead us where You have trod; Make our faith strong.</p> <p>5 So now, and till we die, Sound we Your praises high and joyful sing: Infants and all the throng, who to the Church belong, Unite to swell the song to Christ, our king!</p> |
|---|--|

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THE INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

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

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with sincere hearts to confess our sins to God, our Father, and to plead in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ for His forgiveness.

*Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.*

Psalm 124:8

*I said, I will confess my transgressions unto 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

John 10:14, 15b; Psalm 95:1–3, 6–7a

I AM the Good Shepherd.

I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

For He is our God,

and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

THE GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

THE KYRIE

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory to God on high:

and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,

We glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

**You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
 You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
 You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
 For You only are holy; You only are the Lord.
 You only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

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

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same 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

the First Reading: Acts 2:42–47

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 436/LSB 710

1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.

(Continued on the next page.)

4 My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

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the Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19–25

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE TRIPLE ALLELUIA FOR EASTER

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

the Reading of the Holy Gospel: John 10:1–10

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 worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 709

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine forever. | 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me, Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me. |
| 2 Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth. | 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth! |
| 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me And on His shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me. | 6 And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever! |

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The Sermon

John 10:1–10

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE: TLH 659 -- TEXT: LSB 774

Feed Thy children, God most holy; comfort sinners poor and lowly.
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven, bless the food Thou here hast given!
As these gifts the body nourish, may our souls in graces flourish
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor at Thy feast due thanks we render.

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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 Receiving of New Member by Adult Confirmation

Andrew Bergeron with daughter Madison

The Prayer of the Church

after each petition:

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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 on Holy Communion: In the Lord's Supper, the Risen Christ is at once the Giver and the Gift! By His promise His very body and blood are really present, so that we come into direct communion with the exalted Christ and His forgiveness. As we do so, we also bear witness to the oneness in doctrine of those who receive the Sacrament together. For this reason, we kindly ask guests to speak with pastor before communing so that all who receive Holy Communion with us might first be properly instructed. Those who have not been instructed may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.

Jeremiah 31:10–14 (antiphon: verse 10b)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 312 – TEXT: LSB 625

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread, May I in grace possess You. Let me with holy food be fed, In hunger I address You. Prepare me well for You, O Lord, And, humbly by my prayer implored, Give me Your grace and mercy.</p> | <p>3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, For full and free remission I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition. Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily, Assured of Your full pardon.</p> |
| <p>2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me; Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me. Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek, To share Your cup of healing.</p> | <p>4 I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me; In all my guilty heart's discord, O Lord, do not forsake me. In my distress this comforts me That You receive me graciously, O Christ, my Lord of mercy!</p> |

Text: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 457

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!**

(Continued on the next page.)

2 Have we trials and temptations?
 Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged—
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Can we find a friend so faithful
 Who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
 Cumbered with a load of care?
 Precious Savior, still our refuge—
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
 Thou wilt find a solace there.

Text: Public domain

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

**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 Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have given us a remembrance of Your passion.
Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption
may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father 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 on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

THE CLOSING HYMN – TLH 648/LSB 740

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am; For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my need and well provides me, Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.</p> | <p>2 Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay. When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me; When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.</p> |
| <p>3 Who so happy as I am, even now the Shepherd's lamb? And when my short life is ended, by His angel host attended, He shall fold me to His breast, there within His arms to rest.</p> | |

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 | Lev. 8:1–13, 30–36 | Luke 9:1–17 |
| M | Leviticus 9:1–24 | Luke 9:18–36 |
| Tu | Leviticus 10:1–20 | Luke 9:37–62 |
| W | Leviticus 16:1–24 | Luke 10:1–22 |
| Th | Leviticus 17:1–16 | Luke 10:23–42 |
| F | Lev. 18:1–7, 20–19:8 | Luke 11:1–13 |
| Sa | Lev. 19:9–18, 26–37 | Luke 11:14–36 |

The Sacrament of the Altar

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

What is the Sacrament of the Altar? It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

From the Large Catechism: Just as we have said that Baptism is not simple water, so here also we say that though the Sacrament is bread and wine, it is not mere bread and wine, such as are ordinarily received at the table. But this is bread and wine included in, and connected with, God's Word. It is the Word, I say, that makes and sets this Sacrament apart. So it is not mere bread and wine, but is, and is called, Christ's body and blood. For it is said, "When the Word is joined to the element or natural substance, it becomes a Sacrament."

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org.
LC V, 9–10.

Verse for Meditation

I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd
lays down His life for the sheep. *John 10:11*

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

LSB 709:6

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

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 7

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a; 51–60;
Psalm 146 (v. 2) & Isaiah 12:1–6 (v 5);
1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–14