

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

A Day of Consecration to the Lord



*He died for all that those who live
might live no longer for themselves but for Him.*

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, MA

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

1 Hager Park Road
(Junction 140, 2, and 2A)
Westminster, MA 01473

Our Savior Lutheran Church

July 23, 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 for children under three years old, 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	The Rev. Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Paul Dwiggins
Organist	Mary Gregory
Acolytes	Simeon Gregory
	Andrew Gull

Prayer for Worship

For spiritual renewal: Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect of the Week: O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Of individual consecration (Romans 14:7): Lord Jesus Christ, I live to You; I die to You; living or dying, I am Yours. Amen.

Of dedication as a congregation: Lord God, heavenly Father, the unfailing giver of every good gift, we implore You to dwell continually among us with Your holy Word and Sacraments, so that by Your grace we poor sinners may be turned to You and saved eternally; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Cover Illustration

Luther's Rose

OPENING HYMN—TUNE & TEXT: LSB 647

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head,
You are her one Foundation.
In You she trusts, before You bows,
And waits for Your salvation.
Built on this Rock secure,
Your Church shall endure
Though all the world decay
And all things pass away.
O hear, O hear us, Jesus!</p> <p>2 O Lord, let this, Your little flock,
Your name alone confessing,
Continue in Your loving care,
True unity possessing.
Your Sacraments, O Lord,
And Your Holy Word
To us, Lord, pure retain.
Grant that they may remain
Our only strength and comfort.</p> | <p>3 Help us to serve You evermore
With hearts both pure and lowly;
And may Your Word, that light divine,
Shine on in splendor holy
That we repentance show,
In faith ever grow;
The pow'r of sin destroy
And evils that annoy
O make us faithful Christians!</p> <p>4 And for Your Gospel let us dare
To sacrifice all treasure;
Teach us to bear Your blessed cross,
To find in You all pleasure.
O grant us steadfastness
In joy and distress,
Lest we, Lord, You forsake.
Let us by grace partake
Of endless joy and glory.</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.

God's Ten Commandments

selections from Exodus 20

from the Small Catechism

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

- I. *You shall have no other gods.*
- II. *You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.*
- III. *Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.*
- IV. *Honor your father and your mother.*
- V. *You shall not murder.*
- VI. *You shall not commit adultery.*
- VII. *You shall not steal.*

VIII. *You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.*

IX. *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*

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

I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for following in the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

This is the Law of the Lord.

Christ died for all that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for Him.

2 Corinthians 5:15

The Apostles' Creed

various biblical references

from the Small Catechism

This shall be so, for I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this, it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way, He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church, He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day, He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

HYMN STANZA—TUNE: LSB 430—TEXT: RMH

**Your deeds, not mine, O Christ, bring gladness to my heart.
They tell me all is done; they make my fears depart.
None can atone but You alone. To whom but You, then, can I go?**

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9b–13; [1 Chronicles 29:11]

from the Small Catechism

Let us pray:

Our Father who art in heaven:

With these words, You tenderly invite us to believe that You are our true Father and that we are Your true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask You as dear children ask their dear father.

Hallowed be Thy name.

Your name is holy in itself, but we pray that it may be kept holy among us also. Let Your Word be taught in its truth and purity, and let us, as Your children, lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven. But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to Your Word profanes Your name among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

Thy kingdom come.

Your kingdom comes by its own power without our prayer, but let it come to us also. Give us Your Holy Spirit, so that by Your grace we believe Your Holy Word and lead godly lives, here in time and hereafter in eternity.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

You do Your good and gracious will even without our prayer, but, Father, do Your will among us also: Break and hinder every plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow Your name or let Your kingdom come. Strengthen and keep us firm in Your Word and faith until we die, because this is Your good and gracious will.

Give us this day our daily bread.

You certainly give daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people. Lead us to realize this and to receive with thanksgiving our daily bread, including everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, possessions, believing husbands and wives, believing children, believing workers, believing and faithful superiors, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and other things like these.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Father in heaven, we pray that You would not look at our sins or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that You would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. And help us to sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation.

You tempt no one, but we pray that You would guard and protect us so that the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature will not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, or other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, grant that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

But deliver us from evil.

Father in heaven, rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed death and take us from this valley of sorrow to Yourself in heaven.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

We are certain that what we have asked pleases You, Father, and that You have heard us, because You Yourself have commanded us to pray in this way and have promised to hear us.

Amen, amen. Yes, yes, it shall be so!

HYMN STANZA—TUNE: LSB 430—TEXT: RMH

Your wounds, not mine, O Christ, can heal my battered soul.

Your pain, not mine, contains the cure that makes me whole.

None can atone but You alone. To whom but You, then, can I go?

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

from the Small Catechism

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 28:19

Baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

Mark 16:16

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word, the water is plain water and no baptism. But with the word of God it is a baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit.

St. Paul says in Titus chapter three: “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.”

Titus 3:5–8

HYMN STANZA—TUNE: LSB 430—TEXT: RMH

**Your cross, not mine, O Christ, has borne the awful load
Of sins that none could bear but the incarnate God.
None can atone but You alone. To whom but You, then, can I go?**

The Sermon

Scripture from the Small Catechism; Romans 14:7–9 & Galatians 3:23–4:7

Confession and the Office of the Keys

from the Small Catechism

Confession has two parts: first, that we confess our sins,

and, second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant, as long as they do not repent.

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

John 20:22–23

From these words, I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command—in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better—this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

You have seen me, O God, and my ways were not hidden from You.

All I have done was plain in Your sight.

*When I rested in sin and not in Your word,
When I left it to others to work for the spread of Your word,
When I judged the way others served You,
When I worked for You as though it were a burden,*

Forgive me.

*When I held back time, using it not as Your gift but selfishly,
When I held back money, spending it not as Your gift but as my possession,
When I held back Your Gospel to myself, and neglected the lost ones You love,*

Forgive me.

*When I did not learn Your word,
When I held back my trust from Your word and believed this world instead,*

Forgive me.

For Jesus' sake, because He has done what I should have done and has paid what I should have paid, and because He is praying for me now, open my mind to Your word and fill me with Your Spirit and Your love. And so that I can offer myself to You without shame, serve You gladly, and be consecrated to Your holy word with everything I am and have,

I ask for grace. I want to do better.

The Absolution

following the absolution of the congregation, the Pastor says:

And will you also forgive your sinful pastor all my sins against you? Then answer, "In the name of Jesus, I forgive you."

HYMN STANZA—TUNE: LSB 430—TEXT: RMH

**Your death, not mine, O Christ, has paid the ransom due.
Ten thousand deaths like mine would have been all too few.
None can atone but You alone. To whom but You, then, can I go?**

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 Renewal of Pastoral Vows and the Congregational Promise

The Renewal of Confirmation Vows and the Prayer of Consecration

The Prayer of the Church

*the prayer concludes with the words:
. . . one God, now and forever.*

Amen.

HYMN STANZA—TUNE: LSB 430—TEXT: RMH

Your righteousness, O Christ, alone can cover me.

Your goodness is enough to win eternity!

None can atone but You alone.

To whom but You, then, can I go?

The Sacrament of the Altar

from the Small Catechism

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Mt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:19–20; 1 Cor 11:23–25

This 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 drink.

These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

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 119:57–64 (antiphon: verse 89)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be-
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 685

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.</p> | <p>2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.</p> |
|--|---|

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

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THE POST-COMMUNION HYMN—TUNE: TLH 371—TEXT: RMH

- 1 To whom but You, Lord, shall I go? With whom but You, Lord, can I live?
To whom but You who loved me so shall I my soul and body give?
- 2 To whom but You, Lord, shall I go? I, so much less than You deserve,
All so much less than what I owe, yet, whom but You, Lord, shall I serve?
- 3 For You my hours, my strength, my breath—so small a gift, since now I know
That if I serve You by my death, to whom but You, Lord, shall I go?

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this healing gift, and we ask You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through this Sacrament in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

Go in peace. Go forth in love.

*Make disciples for our Lord Jesus Christ until you go to Him or He comes for you.
The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

THE CLOSING HYMN—TUNE: A CAPPELLA—TEXT: LSB 805

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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	1 Sam 6:19–7:17	Acts 19:1–22
M	1 Samuel 8:1–22	Acts 21:15–36
Tu	1 Samuel 9:1–27	Acts 21:37–22:16
W	1 Samuel 10:1–27	Acts 22:17–29
Th	1 Samuel 12:1–25	Acts 22:30–23:11
F	1 Samuel 13:1–18	Acts 23:12–35
Sa	1 Samuel 14:47–15:9	Acts 24:1–23

The Ten Commandments

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

The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust
in God above all things.

The Second Commandment

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

What does this mean? We should fear and love God
so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie,
or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every
trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God
so that we do not despise preaching and His Word,
but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

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

Verse for Meditation

Forever, O LORD, Your word is firmly fixed
in the heavens.

Psalm 119:89

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

Your deeds, not mine, O Christ,
Bring gladness to my heart.
They tell me all is done;
They make my fears depart.
None can atone but You alone.
To whom but You, then, can I go?

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, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by
Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final
judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of
living here and dwell with You in perfect joy
hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for next Sunday, July 30

Deuteronomy 7:6–9; Psalms 125 (v. 2) & 56 (v. 4);
Romans 8:18–39; Matthew 13:44–52