

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✕ SOLA GRATIA ✕ SOLA FIDE

*Oh, give thanks to the
LORD, for He is good!*



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

November 22, 2023

office@oursaviorlcms.com
church: 978-874-2479
www.oursaviorlcms.com

Visitor, it is our joy to have you 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 are most welcome to 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 but there is also a nursery located in the basement, if needed, where parents can take their children. It is staffed by church members on Sundays but not this evening.

Advent Services & Events

Sunday Divine Services ▪ 10:00 am

December 3, 10, 17, & 24

Bible Study for children and adults after service

Living Nativity ▪ 6:00–8:00 pm

Saturday, December 2, and Sunday, December 3

Wednesdays Services ▪ 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm

December 6, 13, 20

suppers served 6:00–6:45 pm

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Vespers ▪ 4:00 pm

Christ Eve Lessons & Carols ▪ 8:00 pm

Christmas Day Divine Service ▪ 11:00 am

Sunday, December 31

Divine Service ▪ 10:00 am

followed by Christmas Hymn Sing

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher

The Rev. Peter Gregory

Liturgist

Ray Arsenaault

Organist

Anne Bennet

Acolyte

Nate Newman

Simeon Gregory

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we, Your unworthy servants, give You humble and hearty thanks for all the goodness and loving-kindness that You bestow on us. We praise You for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. But above all, we bless You for Your boundless love in the redemption of the world by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We implore You to give us a right understanding of all Your mercies that our hearts may ever be deeply thankful and that we may show forth Your praise with both our lips and our lives. Direct our lives in ways of holiness and righteousness all our days that we may enjoy the testimony of a good conscience and the hope of Your favor, be sustained and comforted in every time of trouble, and finally be received into Your everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanks be to God!

> *The liturgy is spoken.* <

OPENING VERSES

*O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare Your praise.*

*Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
make haste to help me, O Lord.*

**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.
Praise to You, O Christ. Hallelujah!**

BENEDICITE OMNIA OPERA

The Benedicite, Omnia Opera, which means "Bless [the Lord], all you works" are words of praise from "The Song of the Three Young Men," a tradition connected with the account of the fiery furnace in Daniel 3.

O all works of the Lord, bless the Lord! Praise Him and magnify Him forever.

Men: O angels of the Lord, bless the Lord!

Women: O heavens, bless the Lord!

Men: O waters above the skies, bless the Lord!

Women: O powers of the Lord, bless the Lord!

Men: O sun and moon, bless the Lord!

Women: O stars of heaven, bless the Lord!

O all works of the Lord, bless the Lord! Praise Him and magnify Him forever.

Men: O showers and dew, bless the Lord!

Women: O winds of God, bless the Lord!

Men: O fire and heat, bless the Lord!

Women: O winter and summer, bless the Lord!

Men: O dews and frost, bless the Lord!

Women: O frost and cold, bless the Lord!

Men: O ice and snow, bless the Lord!

Women: O nights and days, bless the Lord!

Men: O light and darkness, bless the Lord!

Women: O lightning and clouds, bless the Lord!

Men: O let the earth bless the Lord!

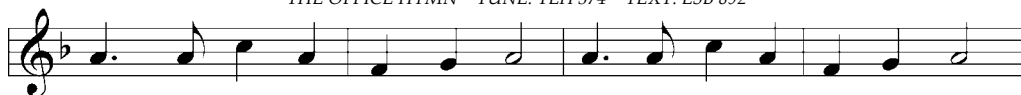
Women: O mountains and hills, bless the Lord!

O all works of the Lord, bless the Lord! Praise Him and magnify Him forever.

Men: *O all green things on earth, bless the Lord!*
 Women: *O wells and springs, bless the Lord!*
 Men: *O seas and rivers, bless the Lord!*
 Women: *O whales and all that move in the seas, bless the Lord!*
 Men: *O all birds that fly in the air, bless the Lord!*
 Women: *O all wild animals and cattle, bless the Lord!*
 Men: *O children of men, bless the Lord!*
 Women: *O Israel, bless the Lord!*
 Men: *O priests of the Lord, bless the Lord!*
 Women: *O servants of the Lord, bless the Lord!*
 Men: *O spirits and souls of the righteous, bless the Lord!*
 Women: *O holy and humble hearts, bless the Lord!*

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit: Praise Him and magnify Him forever.

THE OFFICE HYMN—TUNE: TLH 574—TEXT: LSB 892



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home,
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har - vest home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,
 Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
 There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

The Reading of God's Word

The Old Testament: Deuteronomy 8:1–10

After the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 67; antiphon: v. 7

God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear Him!

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face to shine upon us,*

*that Your way may be known on earth,
Your saving power among all nations.*

*Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!*

*Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.*

*Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!*

*The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.*

*God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear 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.**

God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear Him!

The Letters: Philippians 4:6–20

After the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF RESPONSE – TUNE: TLH 127 – TEXT: FOR THE BEAUTY

- 1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Christ our God, to You we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.**

(Continued on the next page.)

- 2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Stone and leaf and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,
Christ our God, to You we raise, this, our hymn of grateful praise.
- 3 For the Autumn of the year swiftly passing from our eyes,
For the Summer drawing near in the endless Paradise,
Christ our God, to You we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

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The Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11–19

After the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSORY

Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE: TLH 568 – TEXT: LSB 785

- 1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.
- 2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o’ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.
- 3 With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

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The Sermon

Philippians 4:6–13

What is the First Article of the Apostles' Creed?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

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 dangers 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.

SUNG RESPONSE – TUNE: OLD HUNDREDTH (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.

Presentation of Thankofferings

I will offer the thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

O LORD, my strength, I love You.

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Each petition concludes with:

Let us give thanks to the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

*O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

THE BENEDICAMUS

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE BENEDICTION

*The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART – TUNE: TLH 36 – TEXT: LSB 895

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|---|--|
| <p>1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.</p> | <p>2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!</p> |
| <p>△ 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.</p> | |

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Flowers for today's service are given in memory of Keith Otto by his sisters.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving Day!