

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

November 26, 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 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	Jeremy Henrikson
Organist	Anne Bennet
Crucifer	Josiah Paradis
Acolytes	Andrew Gull, George Newman

Prayers for Worship

The Prayer of the Waiting Bride, the Church: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen. (Revelation 22:20)

Approaching our last hour: Into Your hands, O Lord, I commit my spirit. (Luke 23:46/Psalm 31:5)

With an eye toward the end: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

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.

Questions for self-examination

- What is my attitude toward worship?
- Do I honor the Word of God highly by studying it gladly, learning it by heart, and living it? Do I despise the Word of God by neglect, paying no attention to it when it is read or preached?

Cover Illustration

Icon of Christ enthroned in glory.

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 621

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.

2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.

4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Text and tune: Public domain

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, because we must all appear before the judgment throne of Christ, and because we must not be found in sin when He returns, and above all, because He Himself has shed His blood to grant us pardon and to seal us for that Day, let us draw near with sincere hearts to confess our sins to Him, and to plead for the mercy He Himself has bought for us.

> Silence for reflection and self-examination. <

Lord Jesus Christ, our Judge and our Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Therefore, we flee to find refuge in Your holy wounds, looking and pleading for Your grace now and on the Day of Judgment.

Merciful Savior, You bore our judgment on the cross to save us from damnation. Have mercy on us and forgive us all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, so that we may await Your coming with joy, stand before You without fear, and by Your grace alone enter with You into the endless world to come. Amen.

The Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

Amen

*In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.*

*O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!*

*Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before You.*

*And now, O LORD, for what do I wait?
My hope is in You.*

*Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Do not make me the scorn of the fool!*

*Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not Your peace at my tears!
For I am a sojourner with You, a guest, like all my fathers.*

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. Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through 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: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 95:1–7a; antiphon: v. 7a

He is our God,

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

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.

In His hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are His also.

The sea is His, for He made it,

and His hands formed the dry land.

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.

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.

He is our God,

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

from the Letters: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31–46

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE LITANY CREED

He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Refrain: I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

*As the lightning flashes from east to west, the Son of Man will come in His Father's glory with His holy angels to reward everyone according to what each has done. He will come like a thief in the night; one will be taken and the other left. **Refrain***

*The skies will disappear with a roar, the elements will disintegrate in the heat, and the earth and everything on it will be burned. **Refrain***

*He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call and gather His chosen from the four winds. We will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. **Refrain***

*We will all stand before Christ's judgment seat. Each of us will give an account of himself to God. **Refrain***

*He will say to those on His left, "Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." **Refrain***

*He will say to those on his right, "Come, you blessed of My Father! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world." **Refrain***

*He will change our lowly bodies to be like His own glorious body; we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **Refrain***

*We look for new heavens and a new earth, the home of righteousness. Then the righteous shall shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom, and we shall be with the Lord forever, whose kingdom shall have no end. **Refrain***

*Great, we confess, is the mystery of our faith: Jesus died. **Jesus died.***

*Jesus rose! **Jesus rose!***

*Jesus will come again! **Jesus will come again!***

I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

- 1 At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess Him King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.
- 2 At His voice creation sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces, all the hosts of light,
Thrones and bright dominions, stars upon their way,
All the heav'nly orders in their great array.
- 3 Humbled for a season, to receive a name
From the lips of sinners unto whom He came,
Faithfully He bore it spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious when from death He passed;
- 4 Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures to the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.
- 5 In your hearts enthrone Him; there let Him subdue
All that is not holy, all that is not true:
Crown Him as your captain in temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you in its light and pow'r.
- 6 Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again
In His Father's glory, with His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.
- △ 7 Glory then to Jesus, who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father; in the Spirit's love
Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

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The Sermon
Matthew 25:31–46

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 O Jesus, Lord, how long, how long?
When will You come with shout and song
And take us by Your mighty hand
From exile to our native land?</p> <p>2 How long in longing we have been,
How lonely, Lord, how sick of sin
Until Your beauty fills our eyes
And sets afire these empty skies.</p> | <p>3 Oh, burst, you clouds! Rain down the King!
Torrential love and mercy bring!
O heavy skies, dissolve in light
And blaze with glory glad and bright!</p> <p>4 O Savior, rend the heavens wide!
Come down, come down with mighty stride!
Break down the doors, the walls destroy
And lift us out to You and joy!</p> |
|---|--|

Text and tune: Public domain

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 Members by Adult Confirmation, Transfer, & Reaffirmation of Faith

Amy Gibson, Kaleshia Jackson, Greg & Kim Smith with Natalie & Lana, Stan & Mary Lou Thompson

The Prayer of the Church

each petition concludes:

. . . 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. In the communion of all Your saints gathered into the one body of Your Son, You have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, encouraged by their faith and strengthened by their fellowship, may run with perseverance the race that is set before us, and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore with angels and arch-angels and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**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.**

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 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. <

The Te Deum Laudamus – We Praise You, O God

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 56 – TEXT: TLH 56, ALT.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring,
 Came in peace from realms on high,
 Came in flesh for our redemption,
 Lowly came to earth to die.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Came in deep humility.</p> | <p>2 Jesus came from death triumphant,
 Mighty, brilliant as the morn
 To the house where, hid in darkness,
 His disciples sat forlorn.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Jesus came and joy was born.</p> |
|---|---|

3 Jesus comes by Word and Water,
 In and under Bread and Wine!
 Jesus comes, the Host and Banquet,
 Gladly calling, "Come and dine!"
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

I am His and He is mine.

4 He shall come in clouds of glory;
 We shall see Him with our eyes.
 He shall come, the Judge and Bridegroom;
 We in flesh, like Him, shall rise.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Singing through the shouting skies!

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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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – 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.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.
- 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.
- 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.
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Public domain

THE POST-COMMUNION HYMN – TUNE: 473 – TEXT: LSB RMH

- 1 Oh, let the veil be parted!
Oh, let the Lord appear,
The Man so lowly-hearted,
The God of countless years.
Let earth fall down and fear Him,
Who dooms to heav'n or hell;
Let all creation hear Him,
The Lord of Israel.
- 2 Once, sinners tore asunder
The veil of flesh He wears;
The God of fire and thunder
Poured forth in blood and tears.
Amazing love outflowing
That cancels all our shame;
The Pow'r beyond all knowing
Our Sacrifice became.
- 3 Now veiled in Word and Water,
In holy Bread and Wine,
The Lamb once led to slaughter
Fills ev'ry humblest shrine,
With gentle pardon sealing
The servants of the Lamb
Who long for the revealing
Of Christ, the Great I am.
- 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 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 Christ, our Life, our Lord, our Love, we thank You for coming to us veiled in bread and wine. Let what our bodies have received produce faith and love in our souls, that You may be pleased with us when You come unveiled to judge us, and never to leave us again.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus. 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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>4 Thine the kingdom Thine the prize
Thine the wonder full 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.</p> |
|---|--|

**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.**

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Note on the Last Sunday of the Church Year

also called Christ the King Sunday or The Sunday of the Second Coming

Yes, we Christians even have our own calendar! It starts on the First Sunday in Advent and goes through the Last Sunday of the Church Year, which is today.

The first half of the Church year, from Advent through Pentecost, we call “the Lord’s half-year” because it’s all about what Jesus *did*: from His first coming to Bethlehem to His pouring out the Lord Holy Spirit from heaven. It’s all about how He was born for us on Christmas, how He shone out here in Epiphany, how He suffered for us in Lent, how He died for us on Good Friday, how He rose again for us on Easter, then ascended into heaven as one of us, and finally poured out the wind and fire of the Spirit on His apostles for our sake. We spend an entire half-year studying and celebrating what Jesus Christ did for us once and for all, and we do it every year because we’ll never get done with how much He *did*.

The second half of the Church year, from Trinity Sunday through today, we call “the Church’s half-year” because it’s all about what Jesus *does* right now in the world in everybody who receives Him. It’s all about how He opens God to us and opens us to God and takes us in, that is, from the time He baptizes each of us and, through the Holy Spirit, gives us faith to receive all the forgiveness and eternal life He won and accomplished for us once and for all. It’s all about receiving His grace now and growing in grace now and spreading His grace now and sharing in the life of Jesus now. We spend an entire half year studying and celebrating what Jesus Christ *does* in us, and we do it every year because we’ll never get done with how much He still *does*.

And so it goes, Church year after Church year, round and round. You might think we were just going in circles, but then comes today, when we celebrate not just the last day of the Church Year but *the* Last Day of the world.

Because the truth is that we'll go round and round and round and round and *then* . . . we'll fly off suddenly into splendor when Jesus comes again. He'll end this whole creation and the whole new creation will start. Christians who've died will come from heaven with Him and rise from their graves alive and well, and we who are still alive will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord, to pass through the judgment safe with Him and then to enter, body and soul, what no one has ever seen or heard or imagined. Everything He *did* for us, once for all, and everything He *does* in us now—it's all for this. It's all for the moment when we see with our own eyes Christ the King—already reigning—and start the life we were made for. Everything Jesus did and everything He does—the Sunday of the Second Coming shouts what He did and does it all for.

Christ the King Sunday reminds us that things don't just go on and on. They stop. And then they start. The Last Sunday of the Church Year is practice for the Last Day of earth. It's a wedding rehearsal, one which could very well be interrupted by a trumpet blast and the Beginning of All Things New.

"But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared . . ."

Titus 3:4

written by Pastor R. M. Hintze; revised 2015 by Pastor Peter Gregory

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	Daniel 6:1–28	Revelation 22:1–21
M	Isaiah 1:1–28	1 Peter 1:1–21
Tu	Isaiah 2:1–22	1 Peter 1:13–25
W	Isaiah 5:1–25	1 Peter 2:1–12
Th	Isaiah 6:1–7:9	1 Peter 2:13–25
F	Isaiah 7:10–8:8	1 Peter 3:1–22
Sa	Isaiah 8:9–9:7	1 Peter 4:1–19

Christ's Return for Judgment

Our churches teach that at the end of the world Christ will appear for judgment and will raise all the dead. He will give the godly and elect eternal life and everlasting joys, but He will condemn the ungodly people and the devils to be tormented without end.

They condemn the Anabaptists, who think that there will be an end to the punishments of condemned men and devils. They also condemn those who are spreading certain [false] opinions, that before the resurrection of the dead the godly shall take possession of the kingdom of the world, the ungodly being everywhere suppressed.

The Augsburg Confession, Article XVII

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again
In His Father's glory, with His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

LSB 512:6

Verse for Meditation

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. *Revelation 22:13*

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

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the First Sunday in Advent, Dec. 3

Isaiah 64:1–9; Psalms 80:1–7 (v. 7) & 24 (v. 7);

1 Corinthians 1:3–9; Mark 11:1–10