SOLA SCRIPTURA 🗷 SOLA GRATIA 🗷 SOLA FIDE

Divine Service



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, Massachusetts

SCRIPTURE ALONE 🛎 GRACE ALONE 🛎 FAITH ALONE

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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

January 28, 2024

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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 at the parsonage, and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher & Celebrar	nt Pastor Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Jeremey Henrickson
Organist	Anne Bennet
Acolytes	Nate Newman, Liam McGuire

Prayers for Worship

For right reception of the Lord's Supper: O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins, and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament: Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

The Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

Questions for self-examination

- Am I angry?
- Have I injured my neighbor with violent actions, hitting and beating on my neighbor, spoken debasing and insulting words, using foul or dirty words to describe the neighbor, or murdered him with thoughts of anger, contempt, and hatred?

Cover Illustration

Christ Healing a Possessed Man print by Tobias Stimmer (1560–1584). © The Trustees of the British Museum The Fourth Sunday after the EpiphanyJanuary 28, 2024

OPENING HYMN – TUNE: LSB 373 & TEXT: LSB 394, ALT RMH, STS. 1–2, 4–5

- Joyful fear and trembling praise, O Lord Christ, to You we raise, Like the Gentiles from afar Summoned by the calling star. Righteous Branch of Jesse's Stem, Shepherd-King of Bethlehem, Pow'r and love around You shine, God Incarnate! Man Divine!
 Baptized here for us below In earth's water and earth's woe,
 - Filled with might and full of grace
 In the Holy Ghost's embrace,
 Underneath the tearing sky,
 God's Beloved from on high!
 Pow'r and love around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!
- 3 Christ, who hearts and bodies fed Sudden wine and wondrous bread,
 Christ, who walked upon the sea,
 Stilling storms in majesty,
 Christ, who spoke and demons fled,
 Christ, who spoke and waked the dead,
 Pow'r and love around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!
- 4 Grant us grace to see You, Lord, Mirrored in Your Holy Word.
 May we imitate You here And be pure when You appear That we all like You may be At Your Great Epiphany, And like stars around You shine, God Incarnate! Man Divine!

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.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

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.

Psalm 124:8

Psalm 32:5

[John 20:19-23]

Many are the sorrows of the wicked,

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,

whose sin is covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,

and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found;

surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

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

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

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Mark 10:47

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS 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 The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

2 Timothy 4:22

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through 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

from the Old Testament: Deuteronomy 18:15-22

After the reading: This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 111; antiphon v. 3

Full of splendor and majesty is [the Lord's] work, **and His righteousness endures forever.**

Praise the LORD! *I* will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD,

studied by all who delight in them.

Full of splendor and majesty is His work,

and His righteousness endures forever.

He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;

the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear Him;

He remembers His covenant forever.

He has shown His people the power of His works,

in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

The works of His hands are faithful and just; **all His precepts are trustworthy;**

they are established forever and ever,

to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. **Holy and awesome is His name!**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. **His praise endures forever!**

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.

Full of splendor and majesty is [the Lord's] work, **and His righteousness endures forever.**

from the Letters: 1 Corinthians 8:1–13 After the reading: This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospels: Mark 1:21–28

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. Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race, You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead: Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

2 As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be. 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.

4 Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race: By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one, Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

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The Sermon

Mark 1:21–28

THE OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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.

Installation & Recognition of Congregational Officers

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: Let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

THE PREFACEThe Lord be with you.2 Timothy 4:22And with your spirit.Colossians 3:11Lift up your hearts.[Colossians 3:1]We lift them up to the Lord.President 136]Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.[Psalm 136]It is good and right that we do.President 136]

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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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

Matthew 6:9-13

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

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 The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

John 20:19

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 107:10–16 (antiphon: v. 1)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 315 & TEXT: LSB 618

 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior, Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and strength forever, By them my hungry soul is fed. *Refrain*

refrain Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united;
I live in Thee and Thou in me.
No sorrow fills my soul, delighted
It finds its only joy in Thee. *Refrain*

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 Who can condemn me now? For surely The Lord is nigh, who justifies.
 No hell I fear, and thus securely
 With Jesus I to heaven rise. *Refrain*

- 4 Though death may threaten with disaster, It cannot rob me of my cheer;
 For He who is of death the master With aid and comfort e'er is near. *Refrain*
- 5 My heart has now become Thy dwelling, O blessèd, holy Trinity.
 With angels I, Thy praises telling, Shall live in joy eternally. *Refrain*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 395 & TEXT: LSB 696

- O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,
 Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:
 Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within
 A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.
- 2 Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing Whatever You command, My calling here fulfilling; That I do what I should While trusting You to bless The outcome for my good, For You must give success.

3 Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace Lest I offend the weak.

4 Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions, And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might To live in peace with all. 5 Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul That it may live forever;
And let my body have A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave; And let it sleep in peace. 6 And on that final day When all the dead are waking, Stretch out Your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame, And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN - TUNE & TEXT: LSB 818

 In Thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart. By Thee are given the gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art. Our souls Thou wakest, our bonds Thou breakest; Who trusts Thee surely has built securely; he stands forever: Alleluia! Our hearts are pining to see Thy shining, Dying or living to Thee are cleaving; naught can us sever: Alleluia!

2 Since He is ours, we fear no powers, not of earth nor sin nor death. He sees and blesses in worst distresses; he can change them with a breath. Wherefore the story tell of His glory with hearts and voices; all heav'n rejoices In Him forever: Alleluia! we shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness, love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

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THE NUNC DIMITTIS

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

Luke 2:29-32

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 The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

THE BENEDICAMUS Bless we the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Numbers 6:24-26

2 Timothy 4:22

[Psalm 103:1]

THE BENEDICTION

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 683

No thought can reach, 1 Je - sus, Thybound - less love to me no 2 O grant that noth - ing in my soul May dwell, but Thy pure 3 This love un - wea - ried I And daunt - less - ly pur - sue to 4 In suf-f'ring be Thy love my peace, weak-ness be In Thy U - nite my thank tongue de - clare; ful heart Thee, to Oh, may Thy love love a - lone: me whole. pos - sess may Thy love Thee Oh, - pire. mv hope re - new, as And when the storms life love pow'r: of shall cease. my And reign with-out ri - val there! Thine whol-ly, Thine a a crown! All cold-ness from My joy, my trea-sure, and my my Burn in my soul like heav'n-ly fire! And day and night, be hour, Be 0 Je - sus. in that fi - nal Thou my rod and lone L Be Thou a - lone my stant flame. am; con heart re - move; My ev 'ry act, word, thought be love. all my care То guard this sa - cred trea sure there. staff me safe - ly Thy and guide, And draw to side!

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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	Zechariah 6:1-7:14	Romans 16:17–27
М	Zechariah 8:1-23	2 Timothy 1:1-18
Tu	Zechariah 9:1–17	2 Timothy 2:1–26
W	Zechariah 10:1-11:3	2 Timothy 3:1–17
Th	Zechariah 11:4–17	2 Timothy 4:1-18
F	Zechariah 12:1–13:9	Titus 1:1–2:6
Sa	Zechariah 14:1–21	Titus 2:7–3:15

The Table of Duties

Certain passages of Scripture for various holy orders and positions, admonishing them about their duties and responsibilities.

What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors

The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. 1 Cor. 9:14

Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Gal. 6:6–7

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." 1 Tim. 5:17–18

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 1 Thess. 5:12–13

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

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

With Thee, Lord, I am now united; I live in Thee and Thou in me. No sorrow fills my soul, delighted It finds its only joy in Thee. Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

LSB 619:2

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, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for Feb. 4, the Fifth Sun. aft. Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21–31; Psalms 147 (v. 5 & 12); 1 Corinthians 9:16–27; Mark 1:29–39