



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

February 11, AD 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 & Celebra	nt	Pastor Peter Gregory
Liturgist		Doug Newman
Crucifer		Eli Roach
Organist		Anne Bennet
Children's Choir D	irector	Kelley Newman
Acolytes	George N	ewman, Landon Vega

Prayers for Worship

For right reception of the Lord's Supper: Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation we come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

To be led by God: God of all mercies, Lord of all might, give us an abundance of your goodness, remove our feet from evil, and lead us on the path which leads to you; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

The Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we lead a chaste and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

Questions for self-examination

- Am I chaste?
- Have I held in highest regard God's gift of sexuality or have I debased it in any way by my thoughts, words, or conduct?
- Have I desired or cultivated an emotional or physical relationship with someone who is not my spouse?

Cover Illustration

The Transfiguration of Jesus (14th century icon).

The Transfiguration	of Our Lord	Fo	ebruary 4 A	D 2024
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THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN– TUNE: TLH 473 & TEXT: RMH > If able, please stand and face the crucifix for the procession. <

- The humble veil is parted: The Light of Light appears. This Man, so lowly-hearted, is Lord of countless years. Fall down! Fall down and fear Him as Baal and Pharaoh fell! Know He is God and hear Him, the Lord Immanuel.
- 2 Soon men will tear asunder the veil of flesh He wears, The God of fire and thunder be seen in blood and tears. Behold the love outflowing that cancels all our shame. This Pow'r beyond all knowing our Sacrifice became.
- 3 For Your transfiguration, my Christ, be glorified, My Light and my Salvation, my Maker crucified. Transfigure me, O Jesus, while I this vision share; Transfigure me, O Jesus, till I Your likeness bear.
- 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!

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

THE INVOCATION 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

The Absolution

Amen.

THE INTROIT

Psalm 99:9, 1-5

[John 20:19-23]

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The LORD is great in Zion;

He is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise Your great and awesome name! **Holy is He!**

The King in His might loves justice.

You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at His footstool! **Holy is He!**

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 God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. 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.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same 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: 2 Kings 2:1–12

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 50:1-6; antiphon v. 2

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, **God shines forth.**

The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth

from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,

God shines forth.

Our God comes; He does not keep silence;

before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.

He calls to the heavens above

and to the earth, that He may judge His people:

"Gather to Me My faithful ones,

who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!"

The heavens declare His righteousness, **for God Himself is judge!**

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.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, **God shines forth.**

from the Letters: 2 Corinthians 3:12–13; 4:1–6 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 9:2–9 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 worshipped 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.

> The children's choir sings the first two stanzas, then the organ and congregation join on stanza 3. <

- 1 O wondrous type! O vision fair of glory that the Church may share, Which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun He glows!
- 2 With Moses and Elijah nigh th'incarnate Lord holds converse high; And from the cloud the Holy One bears record to the only Son.



The Sermon

Mark 9:2-9

THE OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

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.

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	[1 Timothy 2:1–4]
after each petition:	
Lord, in Your mercy,	
hear our prayer.	
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]

THE PROPER PREFACE

It is good and right that we do.

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, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. 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

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 The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

John 20:19

Iohn 1:29

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.

THE AGNUS DEI

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 2 (antiphon: v. 7)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: LSB 373 & TEXT: RMH

- Heaven's Glory glad and bright, shining on the barren height: Christ reveals His matchless worth to poor sinners still on earth. Weak and foolish, yet they see in the dark His majesty. Let me learn with them the price of His coming sacrifice.
- 2 Did He hold this glory in, shedding blood instead for sin? Was this Splendor crucified? Was it God the Son who died? Shamed and cursed, in weakness veiled, naked on a cross impaled. Lord of Glory—can it be? Yes, He spent Himself for me.
- 3 Jesus, burn away my pride by Your glory crucified; By Your love for me within, Lord, consume my love of sin Like th'apostles flood my sight with Your mercy and Your might Till, like them, I rise to see only You who died for me.

1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light, Aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's race, King David's son, Our Lord and master, You have won Our hearts to serve You only! Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious, rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!

2 Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine; There light a flame undying! In Your one body let us be As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying. Now, though daily earth's deep sadness May perplex us and distress us,

Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls from God above A ray of purest pleasure. Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.

You are our dearest treasure! Let Your mercy warm and cheer us!

O draw near us! For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us. 4 Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun Was this old earth's foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love To live in Him here and above: This is Your great salvation.
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving life forever, Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned, Our voices gladly blending! For Christ goes with us all the way— Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story! Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last, The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace, Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

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THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

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 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

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 680

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

2 Timothy 4:22

[Psalm 103:1]

- 4 Thine the kingdom, Thine the prize, Thine the wonderful 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.
- 5 Thine the glory in the night, no more dying, only light.
 5 Thine the river, Thine the tree, then the Lamb eternally,
 7 Then the holy, holy, holy celebration jubilee,
 7 Thine the splendor, Thine the brightness, only Thee, only Thee.

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Hallelujah! Praise Yahweh!

The Hebrew word *hallelu-yah* means "Praise Yah[weh]." ("Alleluia" is the Greek spelling.) The divine name *Yahweh* appears frequently in the Old Testament. In English, it is translated as "LORD" in capital letters. Hallelujah is a word of joy and gladness and an expression of thankful praise to the one true God.

In the Divine Service, a joyous triple "Hallelujah" follows the Epistle reading (the reading from the New Testament letters) and prepares us for the Gospel reading. The first half of the service reaches its highest point as we hear the very words and deeds of Jesus in the Holy Gospel.

An ancient Church custom is to refrain from using "Hallelujah" during the season of Lent. This practice sets apart the penitential Lenten season from the exuberance of the Easter season that follows.

On this Last Sunday in Epiphany, sing joyfully the hallelujahs/alleluias! This word of praise will not be heard again in church until it bursts forth from the grave with Jesus on Easter. Today we bid "farewell" to hallelujah until we meet again in the joy of the resurrection.

"Praise the Lord! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being." *Psalm 146:1–2*

Alleluia! Praise the LORD!

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	Job 7:1–21	John 4:7–26
Μ	Job 8:1–22	John 4:27–45
Tu	Job 9:1–35	John 4:46–54
On As	h Wednesday, the readings cha	nge to Genesis & Mark:
W	Genesis 1:1–19	Mark 1:1–13
Th	Genesis 1:20-2:3	Mark 1:14–28
F	Genesis 2:4–25	Mark 1:29–45
Sa	Genesis 3:1–24	Mark 2:1–17

The Table of Duties

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

Of Citizens

Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. Rom. 13:5–7

I urge, then, first of all, that request, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior. 1 Tim. 2:1–3

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good. Titus 3:1

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

Hymn

Sing or speak LSB 413, stanza 1, on p. 5 of the bulletin, which describes Christ's transfiguration.

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, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen. mighty power; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for Ash Wednesday, February 14 Joel 2:12–19; Ps. 51; 1 Cor. 5:20b–6:10; Matt. 6:1–6, 16–21

Readings for the First Sunday in Lent, February 18 Genesis 22:1–18; Psalms 32 (v. 7) & 118:1–13 (v. 5); James 1:12–18; Mark 1:9–15