

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

Lenten Divine Service



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, MA

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

Lenten Divine Service Wednesday, February 28, AD 2024

> *The liturgy is spoken. The two hymns and the Agnus Dei will be sung.* <

THE LITANY

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **have mercy.**

O Lord, **have mercy.**

O Christ, **hear us.**

God the Father in heaven, **have mercy.**

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **have mercy.**

God the Holy Spirit, **have mercy.**

Be gracious to us. **Spare us, good Lord.**

Be gracious to us. **Help us, good Lord.**

From all sin, from all error, from all evil; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death; from pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion; from lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:

Good lord, deliver us.

*By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter: **Help us, good Lord.***

*In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment: **Help us, good Lord.***

*We poor sinners implore You **to hear us, O Lord.***

*To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living; to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived; to beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.***

*To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.***

*To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need; to direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people; to watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel; to grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them; to strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.***

*To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers: **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.***

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, **we implore You to hear us, good Lord.***

*Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **have mercy.***

*Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **have mercy.***

*Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **grant us Your peace.***

*O Christ, **hear us.***

*O Lord, **have mercy.***

*O Christ, **have mercy.***

*O Lord, **have mercy. Amen.***

THE LITANY COLLECT

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name.

Deliver us and purge away our sins for Your name's sake.

*Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all its members. Mercifully grant that, by Your grace, we may serve You in true faith; 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

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10–20

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before Me
I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.

For every beast of the forest is Mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is Mine.

“If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are Mine.

Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,

and call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

But to the wicked God says:

“What right have you to recite My statutes or take My covenant on your lips?

For you hate discipline, and you cast My words behind you.

If you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you keep company with adulterers.

“You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit.

You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother’s son.

These things you have done, and I have been silent; you thought that I was one like yourself.

But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.

“Mark this, then, you who forget God, lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver!

The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies Me;

to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!”

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 Gospel Reading: Mark 8:11–26

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

The Sermon

The Pharisees Demand a Sign

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 610

1 Lord Jesus, think on me

And purge away my sin;

From worldly passions set me free

And make me pure within.

2 Lord Jesus, think on me,

By anxious thoughts oppressed;

Let me Your loving servant be

And taste Your promised rest.

3 Lord Jesus, think on me
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery,
O be my health and life!

4 Lord Jesus, think on me
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point out Your chosen way.

5 Lord Jesus, think on me
That, when this life is past,
I may th'eternal brightness see
And share Your joy at last.

Text: Public domain

The Prayer of the Church

after each petition:

Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

2 Timothy 4:22

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.

*It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

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.

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Institution

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

THE PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

John 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.**

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 POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

*Let us pray. 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.***

THE BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

Amen.

- 1 O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,
What dark transgression?**
- 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee; they crucify Thee.**
- 3 Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit, this I do merit.**
- 4 What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.**
- 5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted; God is committed.**

Preacher & Celebrant: Rev Peter F. Gregory

Liturgist: Tom Connell (7:00 pm) • Acolyte: Simeon Gregory (7:00 pm)

Organist: Judy Greenlees (12:00 pm); Mary Gregory (7:00 pm)

Lenten Midweek Services— February 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20

Wednesday Services • 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m. | Lenten Suppers • 6:00 p.m.

This year the Wednesday Divine Services will provide a link to our Sunday readings, especially the reading of the Holy Gospel.

The First Week in Lent, February 18–24

Sunday: The Temptation of Our Lord, Mark 1:9–15

Wednesday: Psalm 138; 2 Samuel 14:4–7; The Syrophenician Woman's Faith, Mark 7:24–30

The Second Week in Lent, February 25–March 2

Sunday: Bearing the Cross of Christ, Mark 8:27–38

Wednesday: Psalm 50:8–23; Isaiah 1:10–20; The Pharisees Demand a Sign, Mark 8:11–26

The Third Week in Lent, March 3–9

Sunday: The Cleansing of the Temple, John 2:13–25

Wednesday: Psalm 147:1–12, 19–20; Deuteronomy 4:15–31; Jesus and Nicodemus, John 3:1–13

The Fourth Week in Lent, March 10–16

Sunday: The Son of Man Is Lifted Up, John 3:14–21

Wednesday: Psalm 34:1–14; Exodus 32:7–14; Jesus and the Jews, John 8:34–47

The Fifth Week in Lent, March 17–23

Sunday: The Lord Has Come to Serve, Mark 10:32–45

Wednesday: Psalm 102:1–2, 11–22; Hebrews 9:15–24; The Parable of the Tenants, Mark 12:1–12

Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24

Divine Service at 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Divine Services at 12:00 noon • 7:00 pm

Good Friday, March 29

Chief Service • 12:00 noon † Tenebrae Vespers • 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday, March 30

Matins • 9:00 am † Easter Vigil • 7:00 pm

The Resurrection of Our Lord, Sunday, March 31

Easter Breakfast begins at 8:00 am • Divine Service at 10:00 am

Visitor, you are very welcome here.

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