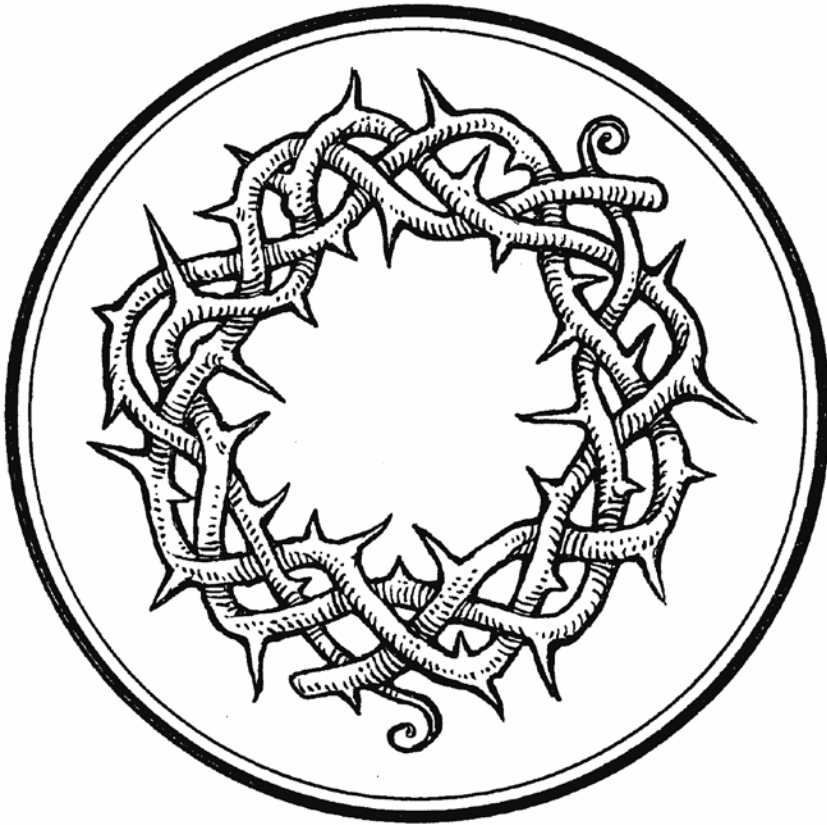


SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

Lenten Divine Service



Our Savior Lutheran Church

Westminster, MA

SCRIPTURE ALONE ✘ GRACE ALONE ✘ FAITH ALONE

Lenten Divine ServiceWednesday, March 6, 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

O Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.

Do not reward us according to our iniquities.

*O God, merciful Father, You have promised to hear the prayers of all who in repentance call out to You. Graciously hear us so that all evils which beset us may be of no avail, that we, Your servants, may evermore give thanks to You in Your holy Church; 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: Deuteronomy 4:15–31

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; He gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure.

The LORD lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!

He covers the heavens with clouds; He prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass grow on the hills.

He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.

His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor His pleasure in the legs of a man,

but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His steadfast love.

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

He declares His word to Jacob, His statutes and just decrees to Israel.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know His just decrees.

Praise the 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.

The Gospel Reading: John 3:1–13

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

The Sermon

Jesus and Nicodemus

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 423

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all.</p> | <p>2 Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner's deep distress.</p> |
|---|--|

**3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning with more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning to behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never from the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, dwell the cross, the Crucified.**

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.

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.

*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.

HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 596

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 All Christians who have been baptized,
Who know the God of heaven,
And in whose daily life is prized
The name of Christ once given:
Consider now what God has done,
The gifts He gives to ev'ryone
Baptized into Christ Jesus!</p> | <p>2 You were before your day of birth,
Indeed, from your conception,
Condemned and lost with all the earth,
None good, without exception.
For like your parents' flesh and blood,
Turned inward from the highest good,
You constantly denied Him.</p> |
|--|---|

**3 But all of that was washed away—
Immersed and drowned forever.
The water of your Baptism day
Restored again whatever
Old Adam and his sin destroyed
And all our sinful selves employed
According to our nature.**

**4 In Baptism we now put on Christ—
Our shame is fully covered
With all that He once sacrificed
And freely for us suffered.
For here the flood of His own blood
Now makes us holy, right, and good
Before our heav'nly Father.**

**5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift
And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift
In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul,
Your Baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.**

**6 So use it well! You are made new—
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do
Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!**

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Preacher & Celebrant: Rev Peter F. Gregory
Liturgist: Paul Dwigins (7:00 pm) • Acolyte: Nate Newman (7:00 pm)
Organist: Mary Gregory

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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