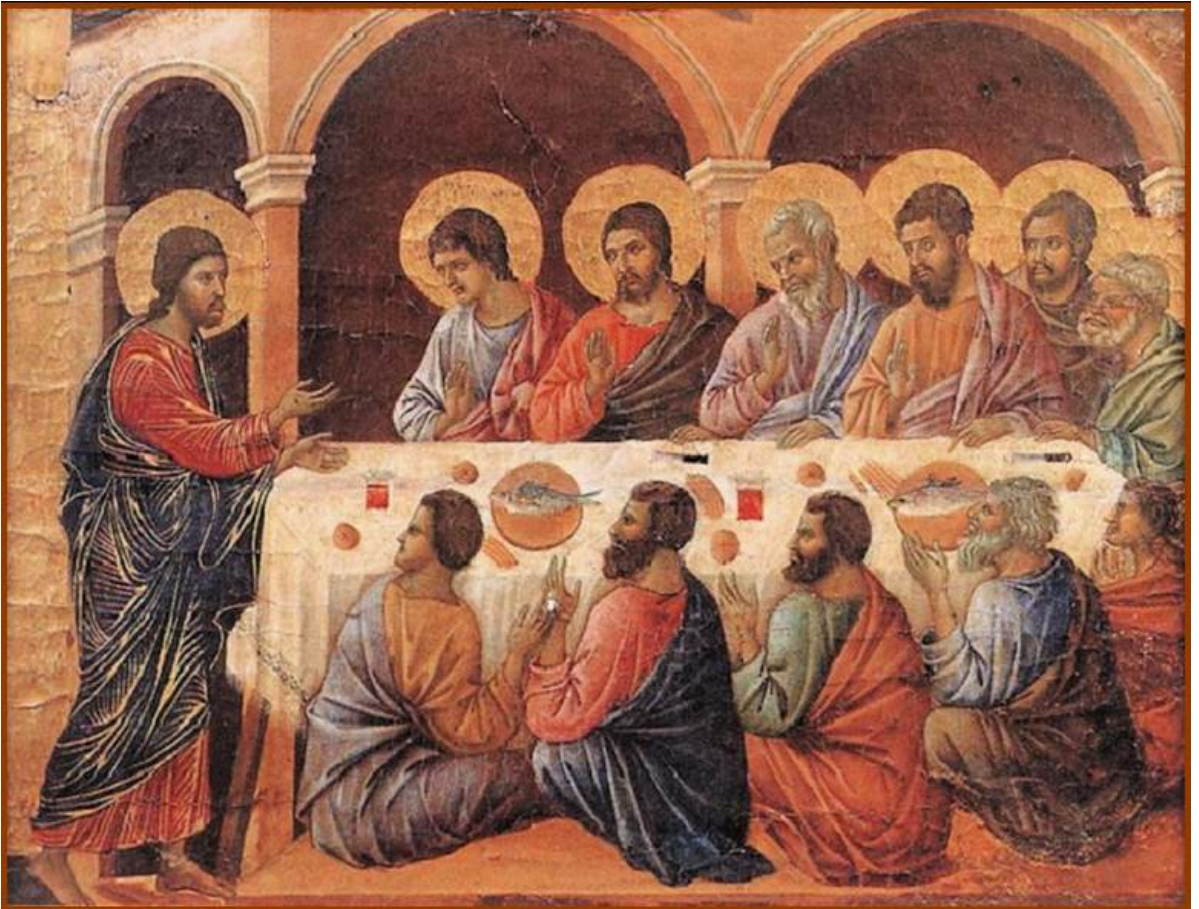


SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

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

April 14, AD 2024

office@oursaviorlcms.com
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 at the parsonage, and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Preacher & Celebrant | Pastor Ed Schneeflock |
| Liturgist | Doug Newman |
| Crucifer | Matthew Connell |
| Organist | Anne Bennet |
| Acolytes | William Jackson |
| | Landon Vega |

Prayers for Worship

For Christ to abide with us: Abide with us, Lord, and with Your whole Church. Abide with us through the end of the day, the end of our life, 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 Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Questions for self-examination

- Am I generous?
- Have I gotten anything in a dishonest way?
- Do I faithfully attend to the responsibilities of my vocations and work?

Cover Illustration

The Appearance of Christ to the Apostles at Supper
from the Maestà altarpiece
by Duccio di Buoninsegna (1308–1311)
in the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo in Siena, Italy.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

> *Please stand and face the processional crucifix at the entrance to the nave.* <

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – TUNE: TLH 208 & TEXT: LSB 475

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> | <p>3 Praise we in songs of victory That love, that life which cannot die, And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> |
| <p>2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to strew His way; Let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> | <p>4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> |

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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. *Psalm 124:8*

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the guilt of my sin. *Psalm 32:5*

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.

The Absolution *[John 20:19-23]*
Amen.

In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to You for help,
and You have healed me.

O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,
and give thanks to His holy name.

For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

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. O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; 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

the First Reading: Acts 3:11–21

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 4; antiphon v. 7

You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for Himself;
the LORD hears when I call to Him.

Be angry, and do not sin;
ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?"
Lift up the light of Your face upon us, O LORD!"

You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

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.

You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

the Second Reading: 1 John 3:1–7

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE TRIPLE ALLELUIA FOR EASTER

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

from the Holy Gospel: Luke 24:36–49

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.

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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The Sermon

Luke 24:44–49

THE OFFERTORY

Psalms 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

Psalms 116:17; 18:1

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:

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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, 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

John 20:19

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 on Holy Communion: In the Lord's Supper, the Risen Christ is at once the Giver and the Gift! By His promise His very body and blood are really present, so that we come into direct communion with the exalted Christ and His forgiveness. As we do so, we also bear witness to the oneness in doctrine of those who receive the Sacrament together. For this reason, we kindly ask guests to speak with pastor before communing so that all who receive Holy Communion with us might first be properly instructed. Those who have not been instructed may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.

Isaiah 12:1–6 (antiphon: verse 5)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 188, STANZAS 1, 3–5

This hymn can also be sung from The Lutheran Hymnal #188.

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|--|---|
| <p>1 Hallelujah! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One; From the gloomy house of death Forth the Conqueror has come, Bright Forerunner to the skies Of His people, yet to rise.</p> | <p>4 Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, Life eternal waits for thee; Joined to Him, thy living Head, Where He is, thou, too, shalt be, With Himself at His right hand, Victor over death shalt stand.</p> |
| <p>2 Jesus lives! Let all rejoice; Praise Him, ransomed ones of earth. Praise Him in a nobler song, Cherubim of heav'nly birth. Praise the Victor King, whose sway Sin and death and hell obey.</p> | <p>5 Jesus lives! To Him my heart Draws with ever new delight. Earthly vanities, depart, Hinder not my heavenward flight! Let this spirit ever rise To its Magnet in the skies.</p> |
| <p>3 Jesus lives! Why weepst thou? Why that sad and frequent sigh? He who died our Brother here Lives our Brother still on high, Lives forever to bestow Blessings on His Church below.</p> | <p>6 Hallelujah, angels sing! Join us in our hymn of praise; Let your chorus swell the strain Which our feebler voices raise: Glory to our God above And on earth His peace and love!</p> |

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 725

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather; Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.</p> <p>2 God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish. From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.</p> | <p>3 Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever; Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.</p> <p>4 Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh; His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.</p> |
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DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 465

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life and by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above
That we conquer through Your triumph;
Grant grace sufficient for life's day that by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- △ 4 Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God,
All the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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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

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 Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have given us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.*

THE CLOSING HYMN – TUNE: TLH 200 & TEXT: LSB 461, STANZAS 5, 6, 8

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears; He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.</p> | <p>2 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end; He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.</p> |
| <p>3 He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!</p> | |

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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.

| | | |
|----|-----------------------|--------------|
| Su | Exodus 32:15–35 | Luke 6:39–49 |
| M | Exodus 33:1–23 | Luke 7:1–17 |
| Tu | Exodus 34:1–28 | Luke 7:18–35 |
| W | Exodus 34:29–35:21 | Luke 7:36–50 |
| Th | Ex. 38:21–39:8, 22–31 | Luke 8:1–21 |
| F | Ex. 39:32–40:16 | Luke 8:22–39 |
| Sa | Exodus 40:17–38 | Luke 8:40–56 |

Christian Questions & Answers

*Prepared by Dr. Martin Luther
for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.*

After confession and instruction in the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, Christians may ask themselves these questions:

8. *How many Gods are there?* Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9. *What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?*
He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

10. *Did the Father also die for you?* He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.

11. *How do you know this?* From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

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

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives! LSB 461:8

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, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 21

Acts 4:1–12; Psalm 23 (v. 6) KJV & 1 Peter 2:21–25
(vv 24–25); 1 John 3:16–24; John 10:11–18