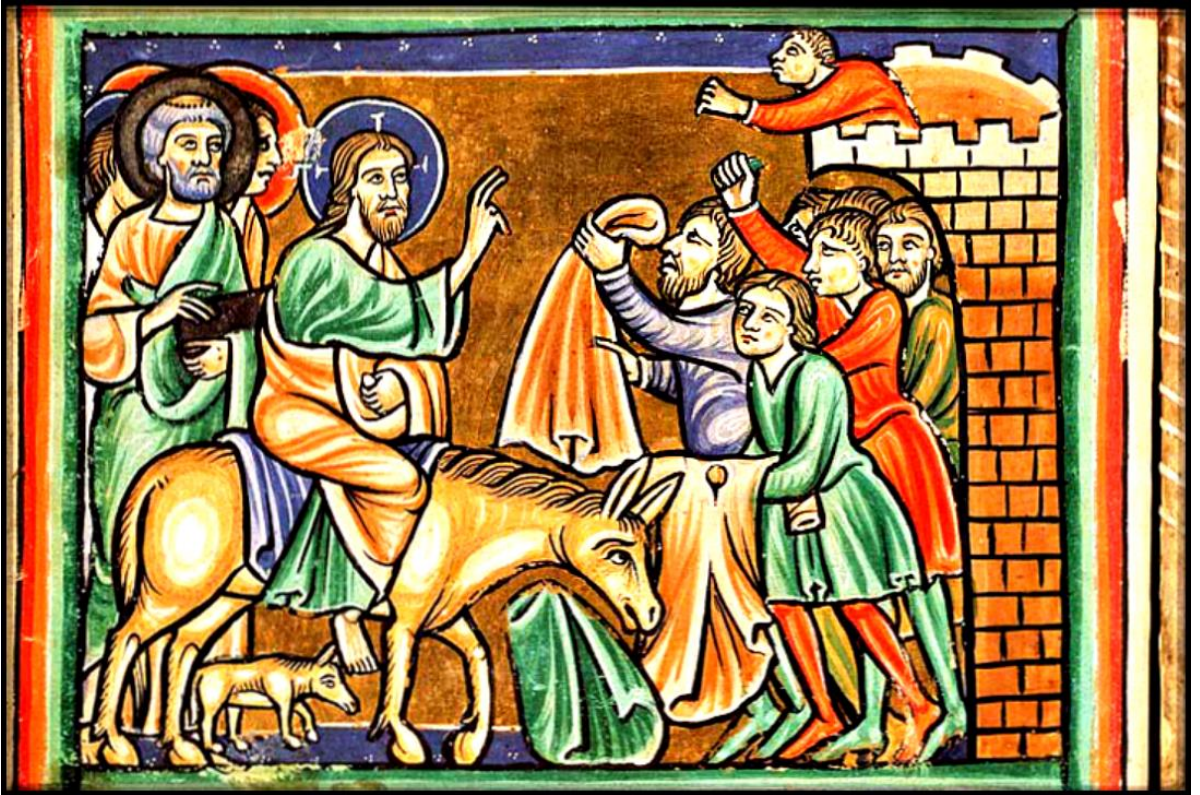


SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

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

December 1, 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

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Paul Dwiggins
Organist	Anne Bennet
Acolytes	Jack Gould, William Jackson

Advent Note

During Advent, the Divine Service changes. We use a different confession of sin. The Gloria in Excelsis (first sung by the angels to the shepherds when Jesus was born) waits for Christmas. Hymn stanzas replace the Sanctus and Nunc Dimittis. The liturgy for Holy Communion is shorter. These changes mark this as a season of repentant joy in preparation for the glorious celebration of our Lord's birth beginning on Christmas Eve.

Prayers for Worship

For right reception of the Lord's Supper: Come, King Jesus, grant us Your righteousness and save us. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

The Second Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

Questions for self-examination

- How are my prayers?
- Am I diligent and sincere my prayers, or have I been lazy, bored, or distracted?
- Do I trust that the Lord God will answer my prayers according to His good and gracious will?

Cover Illustration

Entrance into Jerusalem, unknown artist,
from the National Library of the Netherlands..

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE:TLH 68 & TEXT: LSB 331, STANZAS 1, 3, 5, 6

1 **The advent of our King**
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

2 **O Zion’s daughter, rise**
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

3 **Before the dawning day**
Let sin’s dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 4 **All glory to the Son,**
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

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Liturgy for the
confession of sin
is spoken.

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 to the Lord,
and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and self-examination.

Almighty God, our Maker and our Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Declaration of Grace

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

Amen.

Behold, your King is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.

Who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?

Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD?

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before You.

Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face,

who exult in Your name all the day
and in Your righteousness are exalted.

For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Sung liturgy

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 SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

> Silence for personal prayers. <

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

from the Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14–16

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame;

they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;

for You I wait all the day long.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,

for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

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.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

from the Letters: 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HALLELUJAH AND VERSE

Psalm 24:7

Hallelujah! Lift up your heads, O gates!

And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospel: Luke 19:28–40

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Having heard the Word, what do you believe?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE: TLH 95 & TEXT: LSB 332, STANZAS 1–6

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.</p> <p>2 Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.</p> <p>3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne.</p> | <p>4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all
From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man,
His heroic course began.</p> <p>5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.</p> <p>6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.</p> |
|---|---|

The Sermon

Luke 19:28–40

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE: TLH 95 & TEXT: LSB 332, STANZA 8

- △ **7 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.**

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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:

Lord, in Your mercy:

hear our prayer.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are 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. In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near. With thankful hearts we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

CONSECRATION HYMN – TUNE: 62 & TEXT: LSB 357, STANZAS 1 & 7

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel! | 2 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel! |
|--|---|

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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 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 24 (antiphon: v. 7)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN—TUNE & TEXT: LSB 341, STANZAS 1-2, 4-5

- 1 **Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring; therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.**
- 2 **A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings; therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.**
- 3 **Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in and new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise for word and deed and grace!**
- 4 **Redeemer, come and open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine; Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame we offer to Thy name.**

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 336



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see;
Anxiously we wait for Thee.</p> <p>2 Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my guest divine!</p> | <p>3 My hosannas and my palms
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can,
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace,
Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.</p> <p>4 Hail! Hosanna, David's Son!
Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,
Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing:
Hail! Hosanna to our King.</p> |
|---|---|

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THE POST-COMMUNION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 58 & TEXT: LSB 334, STANZAS 2, 4

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Your Zion strews before You
Green boughs and fairest palms;
And I too will adore You
With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
For You with praises new
And from Your name shall never
Withhold the honor due.</p> | <p>2 Love caused Your incarnation;
Love brought You down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling,
That led You to embrace
In love, all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race.</p> |
|---|--|

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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. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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

2 Timothy 4:22

*The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.*

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

[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.

Numbers 6:24–26

HYMN TO DEPART – TUNE: TLH 395 & TEXT: LSB 696, STANZAS 1, 6

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 O God, my faithful God, | 2 And on that final day |
| True fountain ever flowing, | When all the dead are waking, |
| Without whom nothing is, | Stretch out Your mighty hand, |
| All perfect gifts bestowing: | My deathly slumber breaking. |
| Give me a healthy frame, | Then let me hear Your voice, |
| And may I have within | Redeem this earthly frame, |
| A conscience free from blame, | And bid me to rejoice |
| A soul unstained by sin. | With those who love Your name. |

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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	Isaiah 7:10–8:8	1 Peter 3:1–22
M	Isaiah 8:9–9:7	1 Peter 4:1–19
Tu	Isaiah 9:8–10:11	1 Peter 5:1–14
W	Isaiah 10:12–34	2 Peter 1:1–21
Th	Isaiah 11:1–12:6	2 Peter 2:1–22
F	Isaiah 14:1–23	2 Peter 3:1–18
Sa	Isaiah 24:1–13	1 John 1:1–2:14

The Apostles' Creed

As the head of the family should teach it to his household.

What is the Apostles' Creed? [see p. 7 of the bulletin]

From the Large Catechism: Although the whole world has sought painstakingly to learn what God is and what he thinks and does, yet it has never succeeded in the least. But here you have everything in richest measure. In these three articles God himself has revealed and opened to us the most profound depths of his fatherly heart, his sheer, unutterable love. He created us for this very purpose, to redeem and sanctify us. Moreover, having bestowed upon us everything in heaven and on earth, he has given us his Son and his Holy Spirit, through whom he brings us to himself. . . . [In short,] the Creed tells what God does for us and gives to us.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org;
LC II.63–64, 67

Verse for Meditation

I AM the Alpha and the Omega,
the first and the last,
the beginning and the end. *Revelation 22:13*

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul. *LSB 332:6*

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 God's name to be kept holy through pure teaching and holy living
- M For God's kingdom to come and increase through the gift of the Holy Spirit
- Tu For God to hinder every evil plan and purpose of the world, the devil, and the sinful nature
- W For daily bread and contentment in all things
- Th For forgiveness of our sins and of those who sin against us
- F For protection in the midst of temptation
- Sa For rescue from all evils of body and soul and, when our last hour comes, a blessed end hearts and minds to God's Word

The Lord's Prayer

Collect of the Week

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the Second Sunday in Advent, Dec. 8

Malachi 3:1–7b; Pss. 66:1–12 (v. 12b) & 50:1–15 (v. 15)
Philippians 1:2–11; Luke 3:1–20