

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

January 12, AD 2025

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 Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Tim Terhune
Organist	Anne Bennet
Crucifer	Matthew Connell
Acolytes	Riley Albert, Andrew Gull

## Prayers for Worship

*Life as a baptized child of God:* Merciful Father, through Holy Baptism You called us to be Your people.

Grant that our lives may show the working of Your Holy Spirit in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, according to the image of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*Before communion:* Lord Jesus Christ, You are the bread of life. Grant us eternal life in Your body and blood and raise us up on the Last Day. Amen.

*After communion:* My eyes have seen your salvation, O Lord; a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. Amen.

## Preparation for Confession

The Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

*Questions for self-examination*

- Am I angry?
- Have I treated my neighbor's body and life as gifts of God to him?
- Have I injured my neighbor by ridicule, by neglecting to feed or clothe him, or by withholding compassion and comfort from him?

## Cover Illustration

*The Baptism of Christ* by Andrea del Verrocchio & Leonardo da Vinci (CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=45635519>)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN – TUNE: TLH 298 & TEXT: LSB 590

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1 Baptized into Your name most holy,<br/>O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,<br/>I claim a place, though weak and lowly,<br/>Among Your saints, Your chosen host.<br/>Buried with Christ and dead to sin,<br/>Your Spirit now shall live within.</b></p> <p><b>2 My loving Father, here You take me<br/>To be henceforth Your child and heir.<br/>My faithful Savior, here You make me<br/>The fruit of all Your sorrows share.<br/>O Holy Spirit, comfort me<br/>When threat'ning clouds around I see.</b></p> | <p><b>3 My faithful God, You fail me never;<br/>Your promise surely will endure.<br/>O cast me not away forever<br/>If words and deeds become impure.<br/>Have mercy when I come defiled;<br/>Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.</b></p> <p><b>4 All that I am and love most dearly—<br/>Receive it all, O Lord, from me.<br/>Let me confess my faith sincerely;<br/>Help me Your faithful child to be!<br/>Let nothing that I am or own<br/>Serve any will but Yours alone.</b></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

*> Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination. <*

**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.**

*Behold My Servant, whom I uphold,  
My Chosen, in whom My soul delights.*

*I will tell of the decree:*

**The LORD said to Me, “You are My Son; today I have begotten You.**

*Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth Your possession.*

*You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”*

*Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.*

*Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling,  
for His wrath is quickly kindled.*

**Blessèd are all who take refuge in Him.**

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

## THE COLLECT

*Let us pray.*

> Silence for personal prayers. <

*Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; 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: Isaiah 43:1–7*

*After the reading:*

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM

*Psalm 29; antiphon v. 3*

*The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.*

*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

*The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.*

**The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

*The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.*

**He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

*The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.*

**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

*The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare,  
 and in His temple all cry, "Glory!"*

**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

*May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace!*

**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 voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.*

*from the Letters: Romans 6:1–11*

*After the reading:*

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

*THE HALLELUJAH*

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*from the Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15–22*

**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.**



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom  
 2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of  
 3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -  
 4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came God's own



heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the  
 God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the  
 tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 voice with words pro - found: "This is My Son," was



Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.  
 Fa - ther's will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.  
 heav'n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.  
 His de - cree, "The one I love, who pleas - es Me."

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|---|---|
| <p>5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight<br/>                 Anointed Christ in glorious sight<br/>                 As God's own choice, from Adam's fall<br/>                 To save the world and free us all.</p> | <p>6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;<br/>                 This man is Christ, our substitute!<br/>                 He was baptized in Jordan's stream,<br/>                 Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.</p> |
|---|---|

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## *The Sermon*

*Luke 3:15–22*

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]

**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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. 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, 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 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 85 (antiphon: v. 9)*

*DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: LSB 373 & TEXT: LSB 394, ALT.*

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|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Joyful fear and trembling praise,<br/>O Lord Christ, to You we raise,<br/>Like the Gentiles from afar<br/>Summoned by the calling star.<br/>Righteous Branch of Jesse's Stem,<br/>Shepherd-King of Bethlehem,<br/>Pow'r and love around You shine,<br/>God Incarnate! Man Divine!</b></p> | <p><b>4 Christ, who hearts and bodies fed<br/>Sudden wine and wondrous bread,<br/>Christ, who walked upon the sea,<br/>Stilling storms in majesty,<br/>Christ, who spoke and demons fled,<br/>Christ, who spoke and waked the dead,<br/>Pow'r and love around You shine,<br/>God Incarnate! Man Divine</b></p>     |
| <p><b>2 Baptized here for us below<br/>In earth's water and earth's woe,<br/>Filled with might and full of grace<br/>In the Holy Ghost's embrace,<br/>Underneath the tearing sky,<br/>God's Beloved from on high!<br/>Pow'r and love around You shine,<br/>God Incarnate! Man Divine!</b></p>     | <p><b>5 Grant us grace to see You, Lord,<br/>Mirrored in Your Holy Word.<br/>May we imitate You here<br/>And be pure when You appear<br/>That we all like You may be<br/>At Your Great Epiphany,<br/>And like stars around You shine,<br/>God Incarnate! Man Divine!</b></p>                                       |
| <p><b>3 Son of Man and sinners' King,<br/>All our sorrows carrying,<br/>In Your mercy making whole<br/>Crippled limb and crippled soul,<br/>God of God and Light of Light,<br/>Granting eyes and spirits sight,<br/>Pow'r and love around You shine,<br/>God Incarnate! Man Divine!</b></p>       | <p><b>6 Sun and moon will darkened be.<br/>Stars will fall; the skies will flee.<br/>All will then the trumpet hear.<br/>All will see their God appear.<br/>All will kneel and all confess,<br/>"Christ is Lord!" in dread or bliss;<br/>Like the lightning You will shine,<br/>God Incarnate! Man Divine!</b></p> |

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|--|--|
| <p>1 When all the world was cursed<br/>By Moses' condemnation,<br/>Saint John the Baptist came<br/>With words of consolation.<br/>With true forerunner's zeal<br/>The greater One he named,<br/>And Him, as yet unknown,<br/>As Savior he proclaimed.</p> <p>2 Before he yet was born,<br/>He leaped in joyful meeting,<br/>Confessing Him as Lord<br/>Whose mother he was greeting.<br/>By Jordan's rolling stream,<br/>A new Elijah bold,<br/>He testified of Him<br/>Of whom the prophets told:</p> | <p>3 Behold the Lamb of God<br/>That bears the world's transgression,<br/>Whose sacrifice removes<br/>The devil's dread oppression.<br/>Behold the Lamb of God,<br/>Who takes away our sin,<br/>Who for our peace and joy<br/>Will full atonement win.</p> <p>4 O grant, dear Lord of love,<br/>That we receive, rejoicing,<br/>The word proclaimed by John,<br/>Our true repentance voicing,<br/>That gladly we may walk<br/>Upon our Savior's way<br/>Until we live with Him<br/>In His eternal day.</p> |
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THE DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: TLH 131 & TEXT: LSB 399

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|---|--|
| <p>1 The star proclaims the King is here;<br/>But, Herod, why this senseless fear?<br/>For He who offers heav'nly birth<br/>Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.</p> <p>2 The eastern sages saw from far<br/>And followed on His guiding star;<br/>And, led by light, to light they trod<br/>And by their gifts confessed their God.</p> | <p>3 Within the Jordan's sacred flood<br/>The heav'nly Lamb in meekness stood<br/>That He, of whom no sin was known,<br/>Might cleanse His people from their own.</p> <p>4 And oh, what miracle divine,<br/>When water reddened into wine!<br/>He spoke the word, and forth it flowed<br/>In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.</p> |
|---|--|
- △ 5 For this Thy glad epiphany  
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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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 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

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 RECESSIONAL HYMN – TUNE: TLH 387 & TEXT: LSB 596, STANZAS 4–6

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|---|--|
| <p><b>1 In Baptism we now put on Christ—<br/>Our shame is fully covered<br/>With all that He once sacrificed<br/>And freely for us suffered.<br/>For here the flood of His own blood<br/>Now makes us holy, right, and good<br/>Before our heav'nly Father.</b></p> | <p><b>2 O Christian, firmly hold this gift<br/>And give God thanks forever!<br/>It gives the power to uplift<br/>In all that you endeavor.<br/>When nothing else revives your soul,<br/>Your Baptism stands and makes you whole<br/>And then in death completes you.</b></p> |
| <p><b>3 So use it well! You are made new—in Christ a new creation!<br/>As faithful Christians, live and do within your own vocation,<br/>Until that day when you possess His glorious robe of righteousness<br/>Bestowed on you forever!</b></p>                    |  |

# 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	Ezekiel 34:1–24	Romans 3:19–31
M	Ezekiel 36:13–28	Romans 4:1–25
Tu	Ezekiel 36:33–37:14	Romans 5:1–21
W	Ezekiel 37:15–28	Romans 6:1–23
Th	Ezekiel 38:1–23	Romans 7:1–20
F	Ezekiel 39:1–10, 17–29	Romans 7:21–8:17
Sa	Ezekiel 40:1–4; 43:1–12	Romans 8:18–39

### The Lord's Prayer

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

*What is the Third Petition?* Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.

*What does this mean?* The good and gracious will of  
God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in  
this petition that it may be done among us also. God's  
will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil  
plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our  
sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God's  
name or let His kingdom come; and when He  
strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith  
until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

*From the Large Catechism:* If we would be Christians,  
therefore, we must surely count on having the devil  
with all his angels and the world as our enemies and  
on their inflicting every possible misfortune and grief  
upon us. For where God's Word is preached,  
accepted, or believed, and bears fruit, there the  
blessed holy cross will not be far away. . . . We must  
remain steadfast, suffer patiently whatever befalls us,  
and let go whatever is taken from us.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org; LC III.65–66

### Hymn

*The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.*

Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme. *LSB 405:6*

### 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 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

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan  
River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and  
anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are  
baptized in His name faithful in their calling as  
Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting  
life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

### Readings for the Second Sun. after the Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1–5; Psalm 128 (v. 5) & 127 (v. 1a);  
1 Corinthians 12:1–11; John 2:1–11