

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 18, AD 2026

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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, there is a nursery available in the basement during service and Bible class.

Out of courtesy to your brothers and sisters, please silence your cell phone 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 and lower elementary meet in the basement, elementary students in the teller room and Pastor's study, junior high and high school at the parsonage, and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Patrick Jackson
Organist	Anne Bennet
Acolytes	William Jackson, Liam McGuire

Prayers for Worship

Before communing: Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this Holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after communing: 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.

Preparation for Confession

The Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Questions for self-examination

- What is my attitude toward authority?
- Do I pray for parents, leaders of the nations, schools, and church?
- Do I grumble about work given me to do?
- Have I helped make it easier for those who carry responsibilities for governing?

Cover Illustration

The Apse Mosaic (1220) from the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, Rome. Note St. Peter to Jesus' left.

THE OPENING HYMN— TUNE: TLH 375 & TEXT: LSB 596., STANZAS 1, 4–6

- | | |
|--|--|
| <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 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.</p> | <p>3 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.</p> <p>4 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!</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 to 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.

THE INTROIT

Psalms 119:46; 89:1, 5, 15–16

I will speak of Your testimonies before kings, O Lord,
and shall not be put to shame.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O LORD,
Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

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.

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 OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

> Silence for personal prayers. <

Heavenly Father, You revealed to the apostle Peter the blessed truth that Your Son Jesus is the Christ. Strengthen us by the proclamation of this truth that we too may joyfully confess that there is salvation in no one else; 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

the First Reading: Acts 4:8–13

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 118:19–29; antiphon v. 26

Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless You from the house of the LORD.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

The Stone that the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless You from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us.

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

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.

Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless You from the house of the LORD.

the Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:1–15

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE HALLELUJAH

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

the Holy Gospel: Mark 8:27–9:1

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 512, STANZAS 1, 3–5

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 At the name of Jesus | 2 Humbled for a season, |
| Ev'ry knee shall bow, | To receive a name |
| Ev'ry tongue confess Him | From the lips of sinners |
| King of glory now. | Unto whom He came, |
| 'Tis the Father's pleasure | Faithfully He bore it |
| We should call Him Lord, | Spotless to the last, |
| Who from the beginning | Brought it back victorious |
| Was the mighty Word. | When from death He passed; |

3 Bore it up triumphant
With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures
To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead,
To the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory
Of that perfect rest.

4 In your hearts enthrone Him;
There let Him subdue
All that is not holy,
All that is not true:
Crown Him as your captain
In temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you
In its light and pow'r.

The Sermon

Acts 4:8–13

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 512, STANZAS 6–7

5 Christians, this Lord Jesus
Shall return again
In His Father's glory,
With His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire
Meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him
King of glory now.

△ 6 Glory then to Jesus,
Who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness
Brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father;
In the Spirit's love
Praise we all together
Him who reigns above.

Text: Public domain

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

after each petition:

... let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

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.

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; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Peter, 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.*

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 on Holy Communion: All who receive Holy Communion here must first be baptized and instructed. Our pastor will be very glad to provide this instruction for 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 19 (antiphon: v. 14)



1 "Come, fol - low Me," the Sav - ior spake, "All in My
 2 "I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly
 3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with
 4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your
 5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,
 life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;
 love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex - press,
 soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,
 cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
 I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
 With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My
 From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
 In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.
 well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.
 strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.
 of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
 bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text and tune: Public domain

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|--|--|
| <p>1 Joyful fear and trembling praise,
 O Lord Christ, to You we raise,
 Like the Gentiles from afar
 Summoned by the calling star.
 Righteous Branch of Jesse's Stem,
 Shepherd-King of Bethlehem,
 Pow'r and love around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!</p> | <p>2 Baptized here for us below
 In earth's water and earth's woe,
 Filled with might and full of grace
 In the Holy Ghost's embrace,
 Underneath the tearing sky,
 God's Beloved from on high!
 Pow'r and love around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!</p> |
|--|--|

- 3 Son of Man and sinners' King,
 All our sorrows carrying,
 In Your mercy making whole
 Crippled limb and crippled soul,
 God of God and Light of Light,
 Granting eyes and spirits sight,
 Pow'r and love around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!
- 4 Christ, who hearts and bodies fed
 Sudden wine and wondrous bread,
 Christ, who walked upon the sea,
 Stilling storms in majesty,
 Christ, who spoke and demons fled,
 Christ, who spoke and waked the dead,
 Pow'r and love around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine

- 5 Grant us grace to see You, Lord,
 Mirrored in Your Holy Word.
 May we imitate You here
 And be pure when You appear
 That we all like You may be
 At Your Great Epiphany,
 And like stars around You shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!
- 6 Sun and moon will darkened be.
 Stars will fall; the skies will flee.
 All will then the trumpet hear.
 All will see their God appear.
 All will kneel and all confess,
 "Christ is Lord!" in dread or bliss;
 Like the lightning You will shine,
 God Incarnate! Man Divine!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 644

- 1 The Church's one foundation
 Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
 She is His new creation
 By water and the Word.
 From heav'n He came and sought her
 To be His holy bride;
 With His own blood He bought her,
 And for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
 Yet one o'er all the earth;
 Her charter of salvation:
 One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 One holy name she blesses,
 Partakes one holy food,
 And to one hope she presses
 With ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder
 The world sees her oppressed,
 By schisms rent asunder,
 By heresies distressed,
 Yet saints their watch are keeping;
 Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 And soon the night of weeping
 Shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation
 And tumult of her war
 She waits the consummation
 Of peace forevermore
 Till with the vision glorious
 Her longing eyes are blest,
 And the great Church victorious
 Shall be the Church at rest.

Text: Public domain

**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. We thank You, All-Powerful God, for refreshing us with this healing gift, and we pray:
Father of mercy, by this Holy Food make us strong in faith toward You, and in deep love for each other, that
through us other beloved sinners may kneel to You and receive with us grace and life in 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 CLOSING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 588

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.</p> | <p>2 Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven’s gates to open wide.
He has washed away my sin,
Lets His little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.</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
Jan 18	Ezekiel 40:1–4; 43:1–12	Romans 8:18–39
Jan 19	Ezekiel 44:1–16, 23–29	Romans 9:1–18
Jan 20	Ezekiel 47:1–14, 21–23	Romans 9:19–33
Jan 21	Joel 1:1–20	Romans 10:1–21
Jan 22	Joel 2:1–17	Romans 11:1–24
Jan 23	Joel 2:18–32	Rom. 11:25–12:13
Jan 24	Joel 3:1–21	Rom. 12:14–13:14

The Table of Duties

*Certain passages of Scripture for various holy orders and positions,
admonishing them about their duties and responsibilities.*

To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers

The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 1 Tim. 3:2–4

He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 1 Tim. 3:6

He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. Titus 1:9

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Verse for Meditation

Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God." Matthew 16:16

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

Glory then to Jesus, who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father; in the Spirit's love
Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

LSB 512:7

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings for the Conversion of St. Paul, Jan. 25

Acts 9:1–22; Psalms 67 (v. 5) & 46 (v. 7);
Galatians 1:11–24; Matthew 19:27–30