

SOLA SCRIPTURA ✘ SOLA GRATIA ✘ SOLA FIDE

# Service of the Word



*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 12, 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	Patrick Jackson, Elder
Liturgist	Paul Woelmer
Organist	Anne Bennet
Crucifer	Eli Roach
Acolytes	William Jackson, Liam McGuire

## Prayer for Worship

*For peace:* Almighty God, through the resurrection of Your Son You have secured peace for our troubled consciences. Grant us this peace evermore that trusting in the merit of Your Son we may come at last to the perfect peace of heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*For hope:* Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Preparation for Confession

The Eighth Commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

*Questions for self-examination*

- Am I bitter?
- Do I speak the truth or have I lied in any way?
- Do I gossip or take pleasure in talking about the faults and mistakes of others?

## Cover Illustration

*The Incredulity of Saint Thomas*  
by Caravaggio (c 1602–1603). Public Domain.

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*> If able, please stand and face the processional crucifix. <*

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN—TUNE: ST. KEVIN & TEXT: TLH 204, ALT.*

- 1 **Come, believers, sing the song of triumphant gladness!**  
**God has brought His Israel into joy from sadness,**  
**Freed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters,**  
**On dry ground He leads us out through the Red Sea waters!**
- 2 **All the night of death gone by—Passover resounding!**  
**From this world into the sky—Exodus astounding!**  
**He was dead but, see, He lives, scars and triumph showing!**  
**All He is to us He gives, endless life bestowing!**
- 3 **Spring has come for souls today: Christ has burst His prison,**  
**And from three days’ sleep in death, like the sun has risen!**  
**All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying**  
**From His light, to whom we give love and praise undying!**
- 4 **Hallelujah! Now we cry to our King Immortal**  
**Who was lifted once to die, then through Heaven’s portal!**  
**Now He stands among His own, banishing our sadness!**  
**Come, believers, sing the song of triumphant gladness!**

*Text: Public Domain*

*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 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, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven.*

**Amen.**

THE INTROIT

*Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3*

*Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation —*  
**if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

*Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;*  
**make known His deeds among the peoples!**

*Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;*  
**tell of all His wondrous works!**

*Glory in His holy name;*  
**let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**

*Seek the LORD and His strength;*  
**seek His presence continually!**

*Remember the wondrous works that He has done,*  
**His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.**

*He remembers His covenant forever,*  
**the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.**

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 COLLECT

*Let us pray. > Silence for personal prayers. <*

*Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 5:29–42*

*After the reading:*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

*Psalm 148; antiphon v. 3*

*Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;*

*His majesty is above earth and heaven.*

*Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!*

**Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!**

*Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!*

**Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

*Let them praise the name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created.*

**And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

*Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!*

*Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!*

**Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!**

*Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!*

**Young men and maidens together, old men and children!**

*Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.*

**He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to Him. 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.**

*Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.*

*the Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3–9*

*After the reading:*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God. to God.**

*THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH*

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*the Holy Gospel: John 20:19–31*

**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 201 & TEXT: LSB 490*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!<br/>Death no longer can appall me;<br/>Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!<br/>From the grave will Christ recall me.<br/>Brighter scenes will then commence;<br/>This shall be my confidence.</b></p> | <p><b>2 Jesus lives! To Him the throne<br/>High above all things is given.<br/>I shall go where He is gone,<br/>Live and reign with Him in heaven.<br/>God is faithful; doubtings, hence!<br/>This shall be my confidence.</b></p> |
|---|--|

3 Jesus lives! For me He died,  
Hence will I, to Jesus living,  
Pure in heart and act abide,  
Praise to Him and glory giving.  
All I need God will dispense;  
This shall be my confidence.

4 Jesus lives! I know full well  
Nothing me from Him shall sever.  
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell  
Part me now from Christ forever.  
God will be my sure defense;  
This shall be my confidence.

5 Jesus lives! And now is death  
But the gate of life immortal;  
This shall calm my trembling breath  
When I pass its gloomy portal.  
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:  
Jesus is my confidence!

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## The Sermon

*John 20:19–31*

HYMN OF RESPONSE – TUNE: TLH 208 & TEXT: LSB 475

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!

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!

3 Praise we in songs of victory  
That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,  
And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd., admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002389

### *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:*

*Lord, in Your mercy,  
hear our prayer.*

**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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 188

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR THE WORD

*Let us pray. Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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 us all.*

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 633, STANZAS 1, 5–8

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing<br/>Praise to our victorious King,<br/>Who has washed us in the tide<br/>Flowing from His pierced side.<br/>Alleluia!</b></p>           | <p><b>3 Now no more can death appall,<br/>Now no more the grave enthrall;<br/>You have opened paradise,<br/>And Your saints in You shall rise.<br/>Alleluia!</b></p> |
| <p><b>2 Mighty Victim from the sky,<br/>Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;<br/>You have conquered in the fight,<br/>You have brought us life and light.<br/>Alleluia!</b></p> | <p><b>4 Easter triumph, Easter joy!<br/>This alone can sin destroy;<br/>From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,<br/>Newborn souls in You to be.<br/>Alleluia!</b></p>   |
- △ 5 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!**

Text: Public domain



Alleluja<sup>†</sup>  
Alleluja<sup>†</sup> Alleluja<sup>†</sup>

# 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	Exodus 20:1–24	Luke 4:1–15
M	Exodus 22:20–23:13	Luke 4:16–30
Tu	Exodus 23:14–33	Luke 4:31–44
W	Exodus 24:1–18	Luke 5:1–16
Th	Exodus 25:1–22	Luke 5:17–39
F	Exodus 31:1–18	Luke 6:1–19
Sa	Exodus 32:1–14	Luke 6:20–38

### 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:

1. *Do you believe that you are a sinner?* Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
2. *How do you know this?* From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
3. *Are you sorry for your sins?* Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
4. *What have you deserved from God because of your sins?* His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Rom. 6:21, 23.
5. *Do you hope to be saved?* Yes, that is my hope.
6. *In whom then do you trust?* In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
7. *Who is Christ?* The Son of God, true God and man.

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

### Hymn

*The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.*

Jesus lives! I know full well  
Nothing me from Him shall sever.  
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell  
Part me now from Christ forever.  
God will be my sure defense;  
This shall be my confidence

LSB 490:4

### 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,<br>and the unemployed                                |
| Tu | For deliverance against temptation and evil;<br>for all who suffer and are afflicted              |
| W  | For immediate, extended, and church family;<br>for our schools, communities, and<br>neighborhoods |
| Th | For the Church and her pastors, all who serve<br>in the congregation, and missionaries            |
| F  | For the preaching of the holy cross of our<br>Lord Jesus Christ; for the sick and dying           |
| Sa | For faithfulness to the end; for receptive<br>hearts and minds to God's Word                      |

### The Lord's Prayer

### Collect of the Week

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Readings for the Third Sun. of Easter, April 19

Acts 2:14a, 36–41; Pss 116:1–14 (v. 5) & 61 (vv. 6–7);  
1 Peter 1:17–25; Luke 24:13–35