

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 26, 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	Mary Gregory
Crucifer	Laz Gregory
Acolytes	Sim Gregory, Jack Gould

Prayer for Worship

For pastors and their flocks: O almighty God, by Your Son, our Savior, You have always given to Your Church on earth faithful shepherds to guide and feed Your flock. Make all pastors diligent to preach Your holy Word and to administer Your means of grace, and grant Your people wisdom to follow in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

To our Shepherd: O ever be our guide, our Shepherd, and our pride, our staff and song. Jesus, O Christ of God, by Your enduring Word lead us where You have trod; make our faith strong. Amen. (LSB 864:4)

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

- Have I gladly and willingly found ways to explain in the best possible way the words and actions of others, including those who hurt me?
- Am I the first to admit my own mistakes, or do I cover up my sins and make myself look better than I am?

Cover Illustration

The Good Shepherd with the Lost Sheep
German, c. 1390.

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. <
crucifix at the entrance to the nave. <*

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN— TUNE & TEXT: LSB 693

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 O Holy Spirit, grant us grace
That we our Lord and Savior
In faith and fervent love embrace
And truly serve Him ever.
The hour of death cannot bring loss
When we are sheltered by the cross
That canceled our transgressions.</p> | <p>2 Help us that we Thy saving Word
In faithful hearts may treasure;
Let e'er that Bread of Life afford
New grace in richest measure.
O make us die to ev'ry sin,
Each day create new life within,
That fruits of faith may flourish.</p> |
|--|---|

**3 And when our earthly race is run,
Death's bitter hour impending,
Then may Thy work in us begun
Continue till life's ending,
Until we gladly may commend
Our souls into our Savior's hand,
The crown of life obtaining.**

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 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.

THE INTROIT

John 10:14, 15b; Psalm 95:1–3, 6–7a

I am the Good Shepherd.

I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

For He is our God,

and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

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. > Silence for personal prayers. <

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 2:42–47

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 23 (KJV); antiphon v. 4

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.*

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord 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.**

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.*

the Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19–25

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

the Holy Gospel: John 10:1–10

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 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever. | 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me. |
| 2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth. | 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth! |
| 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me. | 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever! |

Text: Public domain

The Sermon

Acts 2:42–47; John 10:1–10

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 774

**Feed Thy children, God most holy; comfort sinners poor and lowly.
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven, bless the food Thou here hast given!
As these gifts the body nourish, may our souls in graces flourish
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor at Thy feast due thanks we render.**

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. 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.

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:22

[Colossians 3:1]

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.

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: 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.

Psalm 28 (antiphon: v. 9)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 482



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and
2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the
3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son

sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,
riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill
slum - ber Till trump from east to west

Has sprung to life this mor - row:
My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:
Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

Refrain
Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,
Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -
ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text and tune: Public domain

- 1 Shepherd of tender youth,
Guiding in love and truth
In all their ways;
Christ, our triumphant King,
We come Your name to sing
And here our children bring
To join Your praise.
- 2 You are the holy Lord,
O all-subduing Word,
Healer of strife.
Yourself You did abase
That from sin's deep disgrace
You so might save our race
And give us life.
- 3 You are the great High Priest;
You have prepared the feast
Of holy love;
And in our mortal pain
None calls on You in vain;
Our plea do not disdain;
Help from above.
- 4 O ever be our guide,
Our shepherd, and our pride,
Our staff and song.
Jesus, O Christ of God,
By Your enduring Word
Lead us where You have trod;
Make our faith strong.
- 5 So now, and till we die,
Sound we Your praises high and joyful sing:
Infants and all the throng, who to the Church belong,
Unite to swell the song to Christ, our king!

Text: Public domain

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread,
May I in grace possess You.
Let me with holy food be fed,
In hunger I address You.
Prepare me well for You, O Lord,
And, humbly by my prayer implored,
Give me Your grace and mercy.
- 2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide,
To restful waters lead me;
Your table well for me provide,
Your wounded hand now feed me.
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak,
Refuge in You alone I seek,
To share Your cup of healing.
- 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight,
For full and free remission
I come with prayer before Your sight
In sorrow and contrition.
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me
That I receive You worthily,
Assured of Your full pardon.
- 4 I do not merit favor, Lord,
My weight of sin would break me;
In all my guilty heart's discord,
O Lord, do not forsake me.
In my distress this comforts me
That You receive me graciously,
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

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. 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 RECESSIONAL HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: TLH 648/LSB 740

Text: Public domain

- 1 I am Jesus' little lamb, ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me, knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same, even calls me by my name.**
- 2 Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go where the quiet waters flow.**
- 3 Who so happy as I am, even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended, by His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast, there within His arms to rest.**

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	Lev. 8:1–13, 30–36	Luke 9:1–17
M	Leviticus 9:1–24	Luke 9:18–36
Tu	Leviticus 10:1–20	Luke 9:37–62
W	Leviticus 16:1–24	Luke 10:1–22
Th	Leviticus 17:1–16	Luke 10:23–42
F	Lev. 18:1–7, 20–19:8	Luke 11:1–13
Sa	Lev. 19:9–18, 26–37	Luke 11:14–36

Christian Questions & Answers

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

After confession and instruction, Christians may ask themselves these questions:

12. *What are the words of institution?*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

13. *Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?* Yes, I believe it.

14. *What convinces you to believe this?* The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

I am Jesus' little lamb, ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name. LSB 740:1

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 God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60; Psalms 146 (v. 2) & 66:1–12
(v. 5); 1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–14