

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

July 12, AD 2026

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church: 978-874-2479
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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 elementary are on summer break, junior high and high school meet at the parsonage, and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Paul Woelmer
Organist	Mary Gregory
Acolytes	William Jackson, Hayden England

Prayer for Worship

For Holy Communion: O Lord, in Your mercy pour on us the Spirit of Your love, that those You feed with one heavenly bread may be united in heart and faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

The Close of the Commandments: What does God say about all these commandments? He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments." (Ex. 20: 5–6) *What does this mean?* God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

For self-examination

God demands our hearts and minds, not merely our outward actions. Therefore, examine the heart as well as the life, connecting the fear and love of God with each commandment. Let the broken heart fear him. God loves, and does not despise, the sacrifices of the broken heart. He joins the broken heart to His mercy for forgiveness and healing, peace and purity.

Cover Illustration

The Sower (Sower with Setting Sun)
by Vincent van Gogh (1888). © Public Domain.

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 901

- 1

Open now thy gates of beauty;
Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty
Waits for Him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
Filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2

Gracious God, I come before Thee;
Come Thou also unto me.
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,
There a heav’n on earth must be.
To my heart, O enter Thou;
Let it be Thy temple now!
- 3

Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;
Here Thy seed is duly sown.
Let my soul, where it is planted,
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
So that all I hear may be
Fruitful unto life in me.
- 4

Thou my faith increase and quicken;
Let me keep Thy gift divine,
Howsoe’er temptations thicken;
May Thy Word still o’er me shine
As my guiding star through life,
As my comfort in all strife.
- 5

Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;
Let Thy will be done indeed.
May I undisturbed draw near Thee
While Thou dost Thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
Here is balm for all our woes.

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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.

Psalms 124:8

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalms 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

Psalm 103:8, 15–19

*The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

*As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;*

*for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.*

*But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him,
and His righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep His covenant
and remember to do His commandments.*

*The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,
and His kingdom rules over all.*

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. <

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that 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 Reading of God's Word

from the Old Testament: Isaiah 55:10–13

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalms 65:9–13; antiphon v. 5

*By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.*

**You visit the earth and water it; You greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water;
You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it.**

*You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.*

You crown the year with Your bounty; Your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

*The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.*

**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.**

*By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.*

from the Letters: Romans 8:12–17

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

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 Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

2 Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

3 Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.

4 So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

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The Sermon

Isaiah 55:10–13

OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 582

God's Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, we keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.

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

[1 Timothy 2:1–4]

after each petition:

Lord, in Your mercy:
hear, our prayer.

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.
It is good and right that we do.

[Psalm 136]

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, 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 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.

Psalms 65:1–8 (antiphon: v. 5)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Word of God, come down on earth,
Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You;
Word made flesh, we long to hear You.</p> <p>2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
Speak to us, Your love outpouring.</p> | <p>3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
Heal the world, by sin now broken.</p> <p>4 Word that speaks God's tender love,
One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.</p> |
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|---|---|
| <p>1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.</p> <p>2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.</p> | <p>3 By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.</p> <p>4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.</p> |
|---|---|
- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest
In heaven's high and holy feast.**

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This hymn can also be sung from The Lutheran Hymnal #39

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy Health and Salvation!
Join the full throng; wake, harp and psalter and song;
Sound forth in glad adoration!**

- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth, sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how thy desires all have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who hath fearfully, wondrously made thee,
Health hath vouchsafed and, when heedlessly falling, hath stayed thee.
What need or grief ever hath failed of relief? —
Wings of His mercy did shade thee.
- 4 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy doth send thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who with His love doth befriend thee.
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him!

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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

Psalms 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
Bless we the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

Thanks be to God!

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 & TEXT: LSB 655

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.**
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.**

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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.*

Su	Judges 7:1–23	Galatians 1:1–24
M	Judges 13:1–25	Galatians 2:1–21
Tu	Judges 14:1–20	Galatians 3:1–22
W	Judges 15:1–16:3	Galatians 3:23–4:11
Th	Judges 16:4–30	Galatians 4:12–31
F	1 Samuel 1:1–20	Galatians 5:1–26
Sa	1 Samuel 1:21–2:17	Galatians 6:1–18

The Ten Commandments

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

The Sixth Commandment:

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a chaste and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

From the Large Catechism: This commandment requires everyone not only to live chastely in thought, word, and deed in his particular situation (that is, especially in the estate of marriage), but also to love and cherish the wife or husband whom God has given. For marital chastity it is above all things essential that husband and wife live together in love and harmony, cherishing each other wholeheartedly and with perfect fidelity.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org; LC 1.219

Verse for Meditation

The grass withers, the flower fades
But the word of our God will stand forever.
Isaiah 40:8

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know. LSB 577:4

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,
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

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for next Sunday, July 19

Isaiah 44:6–8; Pss. 119:57–64 (v. 89) & 119:105–112 (v. 105); Romans 8:18–27; Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43