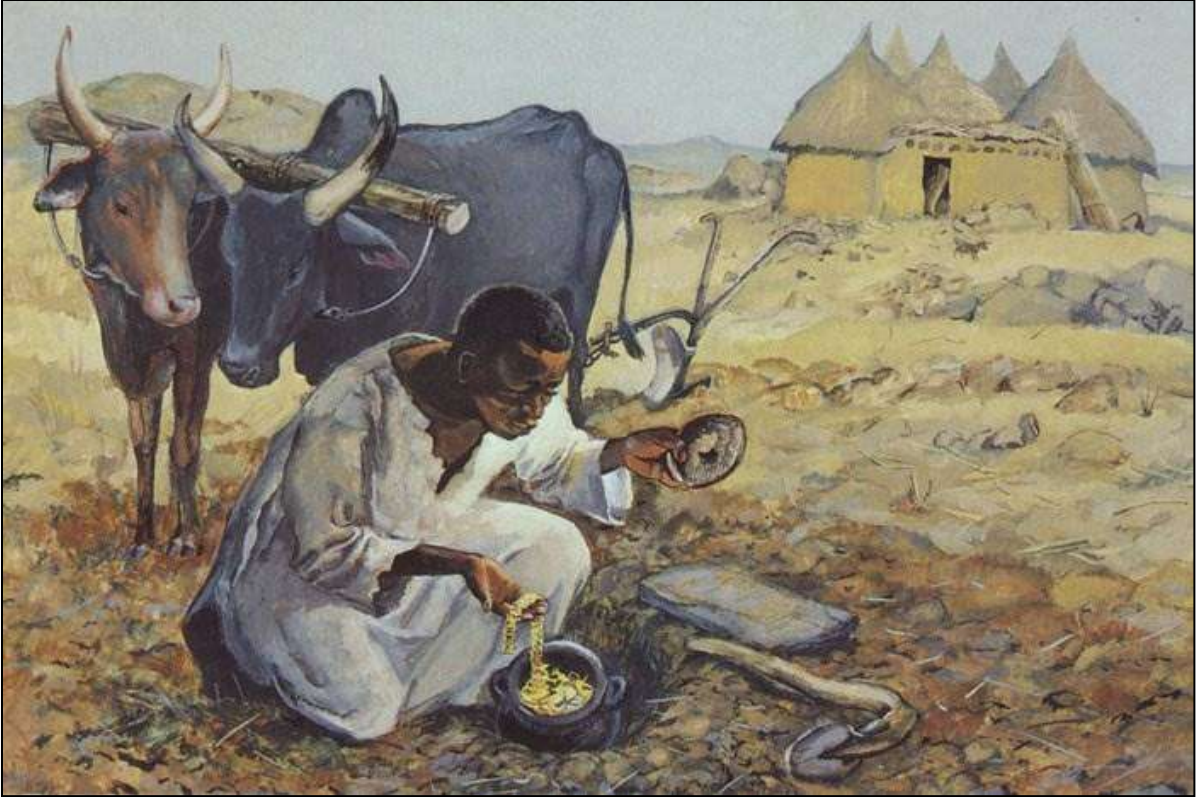


SOLA SCRIPTURA ✕ SOLA GRATIA ✕ SOLA FIDE

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 26, AD 2026

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, 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

Celebrant	Pastor Peter Gregory
Guest Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Walter Steele
Liturgist	Ray Arsenault
Organist	Mary Gregory
Acolytes	Andrew Gull, Louis DiVito

Prayer for Worship

For likeness to Christ: O God, by the patient suffering of Your only-begotten Son You have beaten down the pride of the old enemy. Now help us, we humbly pray, rightly to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has of His goodness borne for our sake that following His blessed example we may bear with patience all that is adverse to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

Romans 1:18: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Questions for self-examination

- Do I fear God's wrath against every transgression of His will?
- Have I resisted the influence of God's truth or closed my eyes to its promptings?
- Have I accepted the unrighteousness and godlessness of the world?

Cover Illustration

Jesus Mafa (The Hidden Treasure),
from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project
of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48286> [retrieved May 23, 2023].
Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr>



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing

ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -

ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.

But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.

Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

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

Psalm 105:1–6

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,

O offspring of Abraham, His servant,

children of Jacob, His chosen ones!

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.**

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 and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; 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: Deuteronomy 7:6–9

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 125; antiphon v. 2

*As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people,
from this time forth and forevermore.*

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people,
from this time forth and forevermore.**

*For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.*

Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts!

But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evildoers! Peace be upon 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.**

*As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people,
from this time forth and forevermore.*

from the Letters: Romans 8:28–39

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 13:44–52

Glory be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

Praise be to You, O Christ!

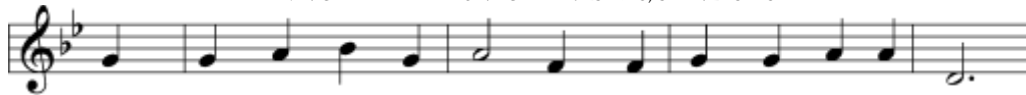
THE NICENE CREED

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.



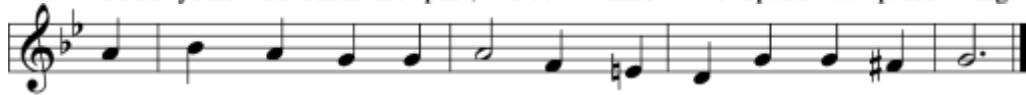
1 From God can noth - ing move me; He will not step a - side
 2 When those whom I re - gard - ed As trust - wor - thy and sure
 3 The Lord my life ar - rang - es; Who can His work de - stroy?
 4 Each day at His good plea - sure God's gra - cious will is done.
 5 Praise God with ac - cla - ma - tion And in His gifts re - joice.



But gent - ly will re - prove me And be my con - stant guide.
 Have long from me de - part - ed, God's grace shall still en - dure.
 In His good time He chang - es All sor - row in - to joy.
 He sent His great - est trea - sure In Je - sus Christ, His Son.
 Each day finds its vo - ca - tion Re - spond - ing to His voice.



He stretch - es out His hand In eve - ning and in morn - ing,
 He res - cues me from sin And breaks the chains that bind me.
 So let me then be still: My bod - y, soul, and spir - it
 He ev - 'ry gift im - parts. The bread of earth and heav - en
 Soon years on earth are past; But time we spend ex - press - ing



My life with grace a - dorn - ing Wher - ev - er I may stand.
 I leave death's fear be - hind me; His peace I have with - in.
 His ten - der care in - her - it Ac - cord - ing to His will.
 Are by His kind - ness giv - en. Praise Him with thank - ful hearts!
 The love of God brings bless - ing That will for - ev - er last!

The Sermon

Matthew 13:44–46

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 713, STANZAS 6–7

6 Yet even though I suffer
 The world's unpleasantness,
 And though the days grow rougher
 And bring me great distress,
 That day of bliss divine,
 Which knows no end or measure,
 And Christ, who is my pleasure,
 Forever shall be mine.

△ 7 For thus the Father willed it,
 Who fashioned us from clay;
 And His own Son fulfilled it
 And brought eternal day.
 The Spirit now has come,
 To us true faith has given;
 He leads us home to heaven.
 O praise the Three in One!

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; 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.

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.

Psalm 119:121–128 (AYIN; antiphon: v. 125)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 644

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us, may see You face to face.</p> | |

Text: Public domain

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.</p> <p>2 With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.</p> | <p>3 Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will, he can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.</p> <p>4 The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.</p> |
|---|---|

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul
<i>Refrain</i> It is well – with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.</p> <p>2 Though Satan should buffet,
though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
<i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious
thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
O my soul! <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>4 And, Lord, haste the day
when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound
and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. <i>Refrain</i></p> |
|---|--|

**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.**

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 CLOSING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 818

- 1 In Thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
 By Thee are given the gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art.
 Our souls Thou wakest, our bonds Thou breakest;
 Who trusts Thee surely has built securely; he stands forever: Alleluia!
 Our hearts are pining to see Thy shining,
 Dying or living to Thee are cleaving; naught can us sever: Alleluia!
- 2 Since He is ours, we fear no powers, not of earth nor sin nor death.
 He sees and blesses in worst distresses; he can change them with a breath.
 Wherefore the story tell of His glory with hearts and voices; all heav'n rejoices
 In Him forever: Alleluia! we shout for gladness,
 Triumph o'er sadness, love Him and praise Him
 And still shall raise Him glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

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	1 Samuel 10:1–27	Acts 22:17–29
M	1 Samuel 12:1–25	Acts 22:30–23:11
Tu	1 Samuel 13:1–18	Acts 23:12–35
W	1 Samuel 14:47–15:9	Acts 24:1–23
Th	1 Samuel 15:10–35	Acts 24:24–25:12
F	1 Samuel 16:1–23	Acts 25:13–27
Sa	1 Samuel 17:1–19	Acts 26:1–23

The Ten Commandments

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

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 neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

From the Large Catechism: [This commandment] forbids all sins of the tongue by which we may injure or offend our neighbor. False witness is clearly a work of the tongue. Whatever is done with the tongue against a neighbor, then, is forbidden by God. This applies to false preachers, with their corrupt teaching and blasphemy, to false judges and witnesses with their corrupt behavior in court and their lying and malicious talk outside of court. It applies particularly to the detestable, shameful vice of back-biting or slander by which the devil rides us. . . . It is a common vice of human nature that everyone would rather hear evil than good about his neighbor.

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

Each day at His good pleasure
God's gracious will is done.
He sent His greatest treasure
In Jesus Christ, His Son.
He ev'ry gift imparts.
The bread of earth and heaven
Are by His kindness given.
Praise Him with thankful hearts. *LSB 713:4*

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

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

Readings for next Sunday, August 2

Isaiah 55:1–5; Psalm 136:1–9, 10–26 (v. 26);
Romans 9:1–13; Matthew 14:13–21