

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

September 6, 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 is on break for the summer. Adult Bible Study and Junior High/High School Study follow the service, adults in the sanctuary and the youth at the parsonage.

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher & Celebrant	Pastor Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Ray Arsenault
Organist	Mary Gregory
Acolytes	William Jackson, Laz Gregory

Prayer for Worship

For forgiveness: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For right reception of the Lord's Supper: Most High God, we owe You great thanks that in the sacred mystery of the Supper You feed us with the body and blood of Your Son. May we approach this heavenly meal with true faith, firmly convinced that the body we eat is the one given into death for us and that the blood we drink is the blood shed for our sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

Romans 1:25: They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever!

Questions for self-examination

- How am I tempted to trade divine truth for a lie?
- In what ways do I honor and serve the creature (or created things) rather than worship the Creator, who is blessed forever?

Cover Illustration

Christ with Children by Carl Heinrich Bloch
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THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 686

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
May I still Thy goodness prove.</p> <p>2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.</p> | <p>3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.</p> <p>4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.</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 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

Psalms 92:5, 1–4

How great are Your works, O LORD,

Your thoughts are very deep!

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,

and Your faithfulness by night,

to the music of the lute and the harp,

to the melody of the lyre.

For You, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work;

at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.

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

Let us pray. > Silence for personal prayers. < O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; 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: Ezekiel 33:7–9

After the reading:

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 32:1–7; antiphon v. 1

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
 and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
 my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found;
 surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.**

You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble;

You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**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 the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

from the Letters: Romans 13:1–10

After the reading:

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

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

from the Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:1–20

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.



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me
 2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and
 3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his
 4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren

bleſs His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of
 righ - teous - neſs, His love be - yond all mea - ſure, His
 chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All
 yet ſhall prove That God for - ſakes them nev - er Who

mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whoſe
 yearn - ing pit - y o'er diſ - treſs; Nor treats us as we
 who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our
 in true fear ſhall ſeek His love. In heav'n is fixed His

meek - neſs Still bears with all your ſin, Who heals your ev - 'ry
 mer - it But ſets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite
 pow - ers, Who but from duſt are made. We flour - iſh like the
 dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hoſts with might ex -

weak - neſs, Re - news your life with - in; Whoſe grace and
 ſpir - it Finds His com - paſ - ſion nigh; And high as
 flow - ers, And e - ven ſo we fade; The wind but
 cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -

care are end - leſs And ſaved you through the paſt; Who
 heav'n a - bove us, As down from cloſe of day, So
 through them paſs - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We
 ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our

leaves no ſuf - f'rer friend - leſs But rights the wronged at laſt.
 far, ſince He has loved us, He puts our ſins a - way.
 with - er like the graſs - es; Our place knows us no more.
 life and all ſus - tain - ing. My ſoul, O praise the Lord!

The Sermon

Matthew 18:1–20

THE OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

**Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Do not cast me out of Your presence, nor take Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and sustain me with a free spirit. Amen.**

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore 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.

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. <

Psalm 145:10–21 (antiphon: v. 15)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 709

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| <p>1 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.</p> | <p>5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!</p> |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!</p> |

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 The Law of God is good and wise
And sets His will before our eyes,
Shows us the way of righteousness,
And dooms to death when we transgress.</p> <p>2 Its light of holiness imparts
The knowledge of our sinful hearts
That we may see our lost estate
And turn from sin before too late.</p> <p>3 To those who help in Christ have found
And would in works of love abound
It shows what deeds are His delight
And should be done as good and right.</p> | <p>4 But those who scornfully disdain
God's Law shall then in sin remain;
Its terror in their ear resounds
And keeps their wickedness in bounds.</p> <p>5 The Law is good; but since the fall
Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die
And has no pow'r to justify.</p> <p>6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.</p> |
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DISTRIBUTION – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 578, STANZAS 1–4

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; at Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, while Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**
- 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**
- 3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory, and our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**
- 4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth all Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

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. Almighty God, heavenly Father, we give thanks that You have refreshed us with the body and blood of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that this heavenly food which we have received will strengthen our faith that we may bear all crosses, sickness, and trials with patience and trust until You grant us deliverance, peace, and health; through Jesus Christ, 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 578, STANZAS 5–6

**5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!**

**△ 6 God the Father, light-creator, to Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!**

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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	2 Kings 4:8–22, 32–37	Ephesians 5:15–33
M	2 Kings 4:38–5:8	Ephesians 6:1–24
Tu	2 Kings 5:9–27	Phil. 1:1–20
W	2 Kings 6:1–23	Phil. 1:21–2:11
Th	2 Kgs 9:1–13; 10:18–29	Phil. 2:12–30
F	2 Chronicles 29:1–24	Phil. 3:1–21
Sa	2 Chronicles 31:1–21	Phil. 4:1–23

The First Article of the Creed: Creation

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

What is the First Article of the Apostles' Creed? I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

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Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

LSB 709:1

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

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us,
Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that
we may set our minds on the things that are right
and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them;
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 next Sunday, September 13

Genesis 50:15–21; Psalm 103:1–12 & 13–22 (v. 13);
Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35