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

November 8, 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. Preschool, pre-kindergarten and lower elementary meet in the church basement; upper elementary in the teller room; junior high and high school at the parsonage; and adults in the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship Today

Celebrant & Preacher	Pastor Peter Gregory
Liturgist	Paul Dwiggins
Organist	Mary Gregory
Acolytes	Laz Gregory, Jack Gould

Prayer for Worship

For patience: O God, by the patient endurance of Your only-begotten Son You beat down the pride of the old enemy. Help us to treasure rightly in our hearts what our Lord has borne for our sakes that, after His example, we may bear with patience those things that are adverse to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Receiving Christ's body and blood: Lord Jesus Christ, may Your holy body and blood strengthen and preserve me in the true faith unto life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament: Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name. Amen.

Preparation for Confession

The Second Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

Questions for self-examination

- How are my prayers?
- Have I called upon God's name in every trouble?

Cover Illustration

The Wise Virgins by Sir John Everett Millais (1829–1896).

THE OPENING HYMN – TUNE: LSB 442 & TEXT: LSB 515

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets Your people free!

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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 *Psalm 84:3, 1, 9–12*

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,
at Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
How lovely is Your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!
Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of Your Anointed!
For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
O LORD of hosts,
blessèd is the man who trusts in You!

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. <*

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, 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: Amos 5:18–24

After the reading:
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM *Psalm 70; antiphon: v. 4*

May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You!
May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me!
Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life!
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt!

Let them turn back because of their shame who say, "Aha, Aha!"
May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You!
May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

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.

May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You!
May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

from the Letters: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

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 25:1–13

Glory be to You, O Lord!
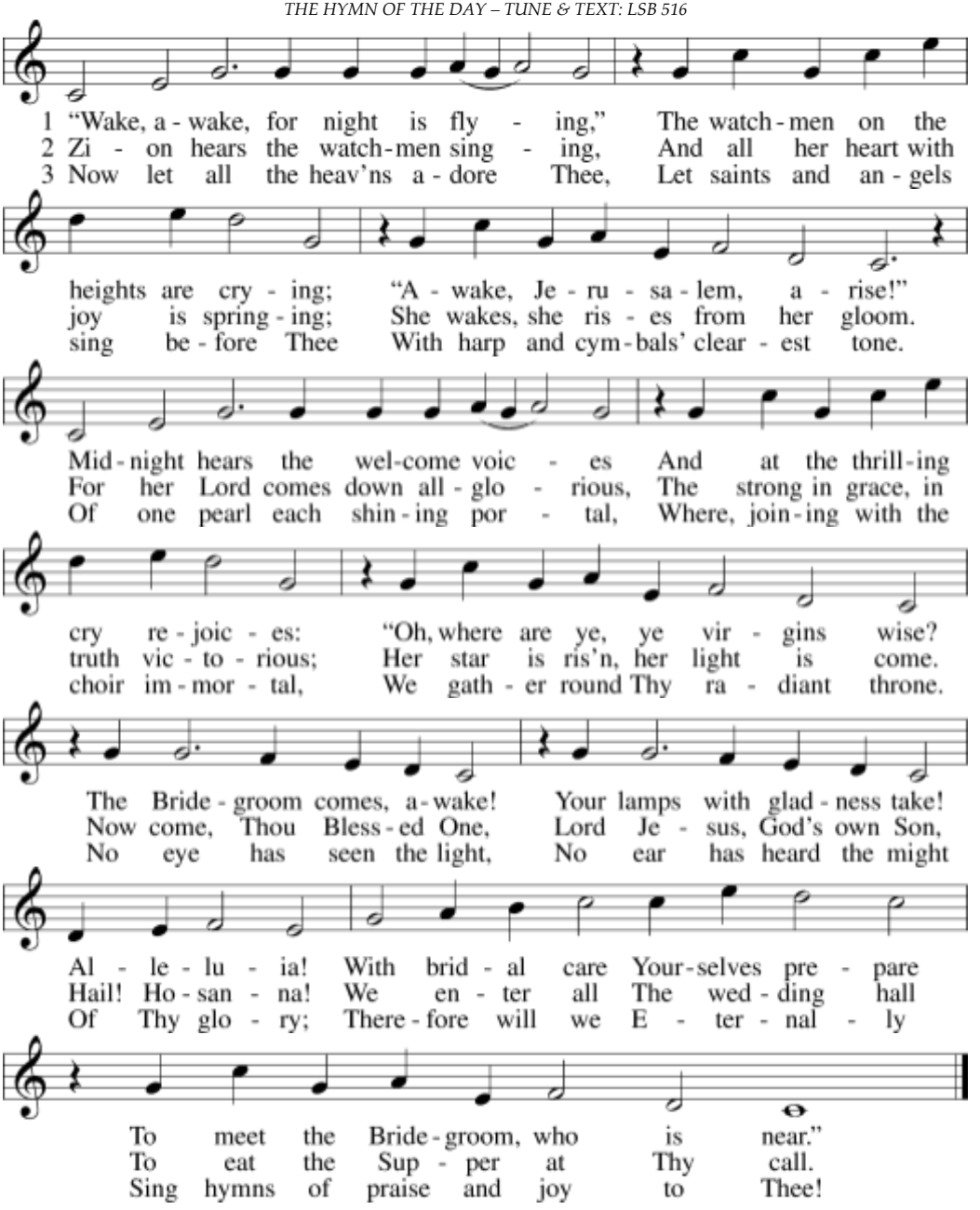
After the reading:

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.



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The Sermon

Matthew 25:1–13

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. In the communion of all Your saints gathered into the one body of Your Son, You have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, encouraged by their faith and strengthened by their fellowship, may run with perseverance the race that is set before us, and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore with angels and archangels and 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. <

Psalm 45:1–2, 7–17 (antiphon v. 2b)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE: LSB 517 & TEXT: LSB 658, STANZAS 1–4

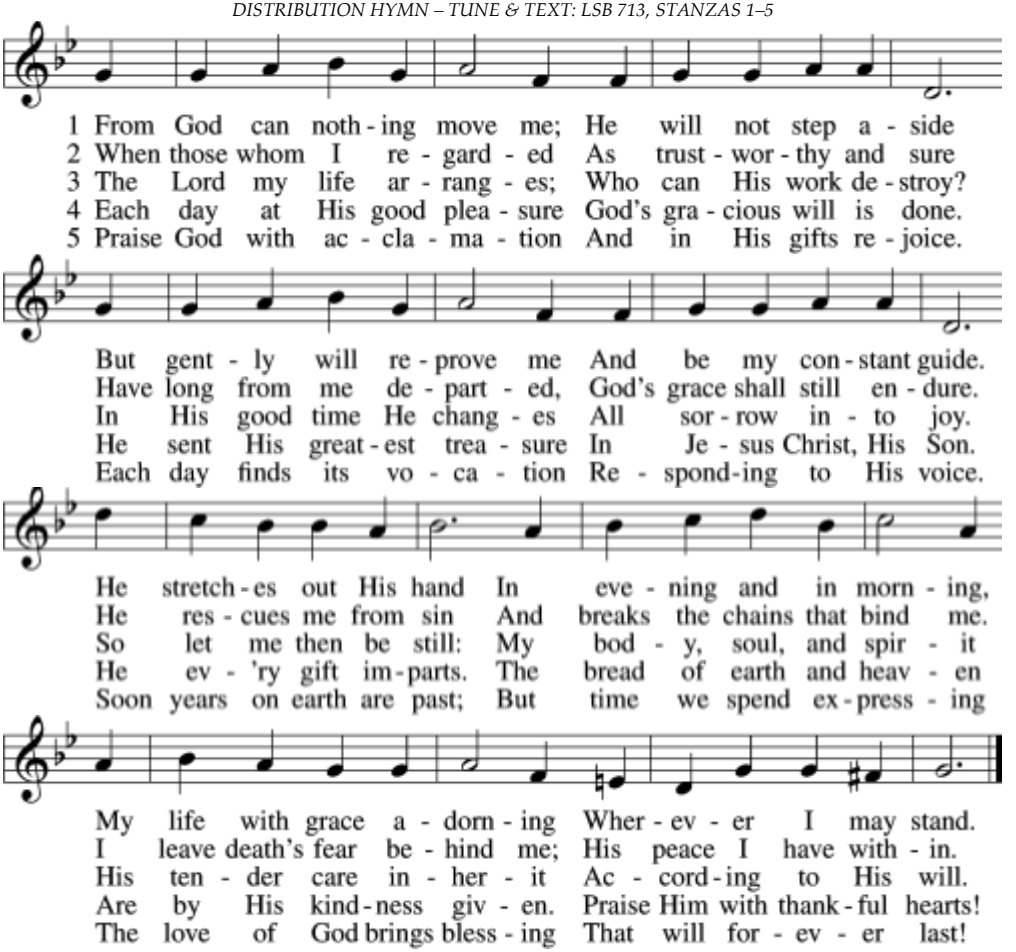
1 Preserve Your Word, O Savior,
To us this latter day,
And let Your kingdom flourish;
Enlarge Your Church, we pray.
O keep our faith from failing;
Keep hope's bright star aglow.
Let nothing from truth turn us
While living here below.

2 Preserve, O Lord, Your honor,
The bold blasphemer smite;
Convince, convert, enlighten
The souls in error's night.
Reveal Your will, dear Savior,
To all who dwell below,
Great light of all the living,
That all Your name may know.

3 Preserve, O Lord, Your Zion,
Bought dearly with Your blood;
Protect what You have chosen
Against the hellish flood.
Be always our defender
When dangers gather round;
When all the earth is crumbling,
Safe may Your Church be found.

4 Preserve Your Word and preaching,
The truth that makes us whole,
The mirror of Your glory,
The pow'r that saves the soul.
Oh, may this living water,
This dew of heav'nly grace,
Sustain us while here living
Until we see Your face.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 713, STANZAS 1–5



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DISTRIBUTION HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 683

Text: Public Domain

1 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
Unite my thankful heart to Thee,
And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;
Be Thou alone my constant flame.

2 O grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
My ev'ry act, word, thought be love.

3 This love unwearied I pursue
And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.
Oh, may Thy love my hope renew,
Burn in my soul like heav'nly fire!
And day and night, be all my care
To guard this sacred treasure there.

4 In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,
In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;
And when the storms of life shall cease,
O Jesus, in that final hour,
Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,
And draw me safely to Thy side!

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 *Psalm 107:1*

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!
And His mercy endures forever!

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT

Let us pray. We thank You, all-powerful God, for refreshing us with this healing gift, and we pray: Father of mercy, by this holy food make us strong in faith toward You, and in deep love for each other, that through us other beloved sinners may kneel to You and receive with us grace and life in 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: LSB 517 & TEXT: LSB 658, STANZA 5

**Preserve in wave and tempest Your storm-tossed little flock;
Assailed by wind and weather, may it endure each shock.
Stand at the helm, our pilot, and set the course aright;
Then we will reach the harbor in Your eternal light.**

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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	Jeremiah 20:1–18	Matthew 24:29–51
M	Jeremiah 22:1–23	Matthew 25:1–13
Tu	Jeremiah 23:1–20	Matthew 25:14–30
W	Jeremiah 23:21–40	Matthew 25:31–46
Th	Jeremiah 25:1–18	Matthew 26:1–19
F	Jeremiah 26:1–19	Matthew 26:20–35
Sa	Jeremiah 29:1–19	Matthew 26:36–56

The Third Article: Sanctification

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

What is the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed? 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.

From the Large Catechism: Further we believe that in this Christian church we have the forgiveness of sins, which is granted through the holy sacraments and absolution as well as through all the comforting words of the entire Gospel. . . . Therefore everything in the Christian church is so ordered that we may daily obtain full forgiveness of sins through the Word and through signs [that is, the sacraments] appointed to comfort and revive our consciences as long as we live. . . . But outside the Christian church, (that is, where the Gospel is not) there is no forgiveness, and hence no holiness.

Luther's Small Catechism © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org;
LC II.54, 55, 56

Verse for Meditation

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day
nor the hour. Matthew 25:13

Hymn

The hymn stanza may be sung or spoken.

O grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
My ev'ry act, word, thought be love. *LSB* 683:2

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

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Readings for next Sunday, November 15

Zephaniah 1:7–16; Psalm 90 (v. 17);
1 Thessalonians 5:1–11; Matthew 25:14–30