

**Communion Practice:** We believe that Christ is truly present in Holy Communion and, as we try to be faithful to Christ in the serving of this Sacrament, we ask that everyone be examined and instructed by the Pastor before receiving Holy Communion. All confirmed members of this parish, who have been regularly examined by the Pastor, are welcome to partake of the Holy Eucharist today. We also welcome the members who are in good standing of any of the parishes served by the Bishop, Pastors, and Deacons of The Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA), and who have spoken to the Pastor prior to the service. Members of other Lutheran parishes or other denominations are kindly asked to refrain from communing today. The Pastor would be glad to make an appointment with anyone to discuss our teachings and/or our parish.

#### **A Prayer upon Entering Church**

Almighty, Ever-Living God, grant that I may gladly hear Thy Word and that all my worship may be acceptable unto Thee; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

#### **A Prayer before Communion**

Dear Savior, upon Thy gracious invitation I come to Thine Altar. Let me find favor in Thine eyes that I may approach Thy Table in true faith and receive the Sacrament to the salvation of my soul. Amen.

#### **A Prayer after Communion**

O Thou blessed Savior Jesus Christ, Who hast given Thyself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Thy faith and favor; as Thou livest in me, let me also live in Thee. May Thy holy Body and Blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life. Amen.

#### **A Prayer at the Close of the Service**

Grant, I beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the Word which I have heard this day may through Thy grace be so engrafted in my heart that I may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.



Gaudete  
December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.**

**A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America**

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*“Blessed is he who takes no offense at Me”*

*St. Matthew 11:6*

## The Order of Divine Service

### The Ringing of the Bell

### Silent Prayer

**The Hymn** "Once He Came in Blessing" TLH 74

*Stand*

### The Confiteor

**The Invocation and Address** TLH p. 15

**Versicles** TLH p. 15

**Confession and Absolution** TLH p. 16

**The Introit** (*Tone 6*) INSERT

**The Kyrie** TLH p. 17

**The Salutation** TLH p. 19

**The Collect for the Day** INSERT

**The Collect for the Season of Advent** INSERT

*Sit*

**The Lesson** Malachi 3:1-6

*After each Lesson:* V: This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

**The Gradual** INSERT

**The Epistle** 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

**The Verse** INSERT

**The Hallelujah** TLH p. 20

*Stand*

**The Holy Gospel** St. Matthew 11:2-10

**The Nicene Creed** TLH p. 22

*Sit*

**The Hymn** "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" TLH 59

**The Sermon** *Are You the Coming One?*

*Stand*

**The Offertory** "Create in Me A Clean Heart, O God" TLH p. 22-23

*Sit*

**The Recitation of the Catechism** The Office of the Keys and Confession

### The Offering

*Stand*

**The General Prayer** TLH p. 23

*Sit*

**The Hymn** "O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee" TLH 58 (Second Tune)

*Stand*

**The Preface** TLH p. 24

**The Proper Preface** TLH p. 25

**The Sanctus and Benedictus** TLH p. 26

**The Lord's Prayer** TLH p. 27

**The Verba Domini** TLH p. 27

**The Pax Domini** TLH p. 27

**The Agnus Dei** TLH p. 28

*Sit*

### The Distribution

*Stand*

**The Post Communion Canticle** "The Nunc Dimittis" TLH p. 29-30

**The Thanksgiving** ("And His mercy endureth forever") TLH p. 30

### The Post-Communion Collect

*Sit*

**The Hymn** "Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken" TLH 75

*Stand*

**The Salutation** TLH p. 31

**The Benedicamus** TLH p. 31

**The Benediction** TLH p. 31

### Silent Prayer

*Sit*

### Announcements

## Christmas Season Schedule

### December 24<sup>th</sup>

***The Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord*** Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

### December 25<sup>th</sup>

***The Nativity of Our Lord*** Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

### December 26<sup>th</sup>

***St. Stephen, Protomartyr and Deacon***

### December 27<sup>th</sup>

***St. John, Apostle and Evangelist***

### December 28<sup>th</sup>

***Holy Innocents' Day***

### December 30<sup>th</sup>

***The First Sunday after Christmas*** Divine Service 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Class 11:15 a.m.

### January 1<sup>st</sup>

***The Circumcision of Our Lord*** Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

### January 6<sup>th</sup>

***The Epiphany of Our Lord*** Divine Service 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Class 11:15 a.m.

**Epistle:** Ephesians 1:3-6  
**Holy Gospel:** St. John 20:24-31

**December 23<sup>rd</sup>—Rorate coeli**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 40:1-8  
**Epistle:** Philippians 4:4-7  
**Holy Gospel:** St. John 1:19-28

### **An Excerpt from Martin Luther’s Sermons**

“Christ answered John...in a twofold way...Here Christ first points them to the works, and then also to the words saying ‘And blessed is he, whosoever shall find no occasion of stumbling in me.’ With these words He does not only confess that He is the Christ, but also warns them against finding occasion of stumbling in Him....For one can dispense with all the saints, but Christ is the only One that no man can dispense with.” *From the Church Postil for Gaudete.*

### **In Our Prayers:**

- For all those who are sick or infirmed, especially, *Rev. Ned Brockwell, Doug Schultz, Denise Heiser, Rev. Donald Hunter, Emily Benson, Nancy, Pat, Caroline, Rev. Charles Hudson, Rev. Mark Mueller, Eleanor Smolen, Jo Kope, Rev. Eric Stefanski, Brandon Dennie, Paul Meadows, Vera Davis, Nellie Noegel, Marie Scheck, Maile Manalo, Richard Noegel, Doris Armstrong, and Vince Bost.*
- For our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, especially, *St. Luke Ev. Lutheran Church, Kenai, AK; Fairbanks Ev. Lutheran Mission, Fairbanks, AK; and Homer Ev. Lutheran Mission, Homer, AK;* and their pastor, the *Rev. Tim Tolar.*
- For our seminary, *St. Ignatius Evangelical Theological Lutheran Seminary.*
- For all those who serve in the military, especially, *Luke Sekula, Joshua and Christopher Heck, and Nicholas Silva.*
- For those struggling with addiction, especially, *Thomas Allred.*
- For those near death.
- For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Virgil Siler.*
- For those celebrating an anniversary this week.
- For those traveling this week.

## **Announcements**

### **Daily Readings for the Week after Gaudete**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today</b>	Isaiah 61-62; Luke 1:39-56	Isaiah 63-64; Romans 1:16-25
<b>Monday:</b>	Isaiah 65-66; Heb. 10:35-39	St. Matthew 1-2; Isaiah 2:1-5
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Matt. 3-4; Luke 21:5-24	St. Matthew 5-6; Isaiah 24:21—25:5
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Matt. 7-8; Luke 12:35-59	St. Matthew 9-10; Isaiah 25:6-10
<b>Thursday:</b>	Matt. 11-12; James 5:7-11	St. Matthew 13-14; Isaiah 26:1-21
<b>Friday:</b>	Matt. 15-16; Luke 1:1-25	St. Matthew 17-18; Isaiah 51:1-16
<b>Saturday:</b>	Matt. 19-20; Luke 1:26-38	St. Matthew 21-22; Isaiah 52:1-12

### **Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today:</b>	Psalms 4, 79-80	Psalms 98, 81-83
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalms 4, 84-85	Psalms 98, 86-88
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalms 4, 89	Psalms 98, 90-92
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalms 4, 93-95	Psalms 98, 96-100
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalms 4, 101-102	Psalms 98, 103-104
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalms 4, 105	Psalms 98, 106
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalms 4, 107	Psalms 145, 108-111

### **Book of Concord Readings for the Week:**

**Monday:** The Large Catechism, I.30-48  
**Tuesday:** The Large Catechism, I.49-60  
**Wednesday:** The Large Catechism, I.61-74  
**Thursday:** The Large Catechism, I.75-87  
**Friday:** The Large Catechism, I.88-102

### **Reciting the Catechism Daily:**

**Sunday:** Ten Commandments, Apostle’s Creed, Lord’s Prayer  
**Monday:** Baptism, Confession, Lord’s Supper  
**Tuesday:** Morning & Evening Prayer; Prayers Before & After Meals

**Wednesday:** Table of Duties I—Bishops, Pastors, & Preachers; What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors; Of Civil Government; Of Subjects

**Thursday:** Table of Duties II—To Husbands; To Wives; To Parents; To Children; To Servants, Hired Men & Employees; To Employers; To the Young in General; To Widows; To All in Common

**Friday:** How One Should Be Taught to Confess

**Saturday:** Christian Questions with Their Answers

### Hymns for the Week:

**Morning:** TLH 59—“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

**Evening:** TLH 58 (Second Tune)—“O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee”

### Calendar for the Week after Gaudete

**Today: Gaudete—Violet**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Bible class

Virgil Siler’s Birthday

**Monday:** *O Sapientia*

**Tuesday:** *O Adonai*

**Wednesday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet**

*O Radix Jesse*

7 p.m. Midweek Advent Vespers

**Thursday:** *O Clavis David*

**Friday: The Festival of St. Thomas, Apostle/Autumn Ember Day—**

**Red** *O Oriens*

*Winter Begins*

**Saturday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet**

*O Rex Gentium*

**Next Sunday: Rorate coeli—Violet**

*O Emmanuel*

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Parish Vestry Meeting

3 p.m. Divine Service in Augusta, GA

4:15 p.m. Bible Class in Augusta, GA

### The Lutheran Herald

The December issue of “The Lutheran Herald,” the devotional booklet of the ELDoNA, is now available. It can be found on Facebook at: <http://tinyurl.com/LutheranHerald>. There are also printed copies in the back of the nave.

### Needs for the McCall Hospice House

There is need at the hospice house for the following items: Hard Candy (individually wrapped) any kind, mints included; Chips, individual size, any kind; Ponytail Holders; Notebooks and notepads; Men’s deodorant; Hair brushes; Q-Tips; Toothpaste, in regular and travel size; and Individual teeth flossers.

Other needs for in-home patients: XL Twin Sheet Sets; Ensure, any kind; and Baby wipes and adult wipes. Please give all collected items to Mike Miller.

### Parish Vestry Meeting

The Parish Vestry Meeting is rescheduled for Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> after the Divine Service.

### Ask the Pastor

The Rev. Joshua Sullivan of Holy Cross Ev. Luth. Church, Kerrville, TX puts out weekly videos dealing with a wide range of theological topics. Please check them out and subscribe to be notified when a new one is published at <http://www.youtube.com/user/ATPHolyCross>.

### Justification Made Clear Videos

The videos that make the doctrine of justification clear and exposes the false doctrine of objective justification are available on Facebook and YouTube. To view them do a search for “Justification Made Clear.”

### New Catechism for the Diocese with Q&A by Pastor Rydecki

A new catechism will be available in January. It will contain Luther’s Enchiridion translated from the German Book of Concord and has over 780 questions and answers. The cost is \$20 a copy. We are ordering 20 copies, so that every one in the parish receives one, and to have a few extra for new members. If you would like to offset the price of these please earmark your gift for “Catechisms.”

### To Read in Preparation for this week’s Festivals:

**Today—Gaudete**

**Old Testament Lesson:**

Malachi 3:1-6

**Epistle:**

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

**Holy Gospel:**

St. Matthew 11:2-10

### December 21<sup>st</sup>—The Festival of St. Thomas, Apostle

**Old Testament Lesson:**

Judges 6:36-40

# GAUDETE

December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018



## Introit

P: RE- **JOICE** - || in the | Lord | al- | ways. \*

C: Again will | I | **say**, - | re- | joice!

P: || Let your gentleness be known | to | all | men. \*

C: The | Lord | **is** - | at | hand.

P: || Be anxious | for | no- | thing, \*

C: But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be | made | **known** - | to | God. (*Philippians 4:4-6*)

P: || Lord, You have been favorable | to | Your | land; \*

C: You have brought back the captivi- | ty | **of** - | Ja- | cob.

P: || You have forgiven the iniquity of | Your | peo- | ple; \*

C: You have co- | vered | **all** - | their | sin.

P: || Will You not revive | us | a- | gain, \*

C: That Your people may | re- | **joice** - | in | You?

P: || I will hear what God the | Lord | will | speak, \*

C: For He will speak peace | to | **His** - | peo- | ple. (*Psalms 85:1-2, 6, 8*)

## GLORIA PATRI (From Hymnal)

P: || Rejoice in the | Lord | al- | ways. \*

C: Again will | I | **say**, - | re- | joice!

P: || Let your gentleness be known | to | all | men. \*

C: The | Lord | **is** - | at | hand.

P: || Be anxious | for | no- | thing, \*

C: But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be | made | **known** - | to | God. (*Philippians 4:4-6*)

## Collect

Lord, we beseech Thee, give ear to our prayers and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Thy gracious visitation; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

## Collect for the Season of Advent

Stir up, we beseech Thee, Thy power, O Lord, and come, that by Thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Thy mighty deliverance; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



## Gradual

P: || You who dwell between the cheru- | bim, | shine | forth! \*

C: Stir up | Your | **strength** - | and | come!

P: || Give ear, O Shepherd | of | Is- | *ra-el*, • \*

C: You who lead Jo- | seph | **like** - | a | flock. (*Psalms 80:1b, 1a*)

## Verse

P: || Al- | le- | lu- | ia! \*

C: Al- | — | **le**- - | lu- | ia!

P: || Stir | up | Your | strength, \*

C: And come and save us! | Al- | **le**- - | lu- | ia! (*Psalms 80:2b*)

## Malachi 3:1-6

<sup>1</sup> “Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup> “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderer’s soap. <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years. <sup>5</sup> And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness against sorcerers, against adulterers, against perjurers, against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, and against those who turn away an alien—because they do not fear Me,” says the LORD of hosts. <sup>6</sup> “For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.”

## 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

<sup>1</sup> Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. <sup>2</sup> Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. <sup>3</sup> But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. <sup>4</sup> For I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who

will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.

## St. Matthew 11:2-10

<sup>2</sup> And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> ‘The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.’” <sup>7</sup> As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup> But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> For this is he of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.’”

### TLH 74 “Once He Came in Blessing”

Johann Roh, 1544

1. Once He came in blessing,  
All our ills redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly,  
Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us,  
Hope and freedom gave us.

2. Still He comes within us,  
Still His voice would win us  
From the sins that hurt us;  
Would to Truth convert us  
From our foolish errors  
Ere He comes in terrors.

3. Thus, if thou hast known Him,  
Not ashamed to own Him,  
But wilt trust Him boldly  
Nor dost love Him coldly,  
He will then receive thee,  
Heal thee, and forgive thee.

4. He who thus endureth  
Bright reward secureth.  
Come, then, O Lord Jesus,  
From our sins release us;  
Let us here confess Thee  
Till in Heav'n we bless Thee. Amen.

### TLH 59 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

James Montgomery, 1821

1. Hail to the Lord’s Anointed,  
Great David’s greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on Earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression,  
And rule in equity.

2. He comes with succor speedy  
To those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in His sight.

3. He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth,

And joy and hope, like flowers,  
Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains  
Shall peace, the herald, go  
And righteousness, in fountains,  
From hill to valley flow.

4. Arabia’s desert ranger  
To Him shall bow the knee,  
The Ethiopian stranger  
His glory come to see;  
With off’rings of devotion  
Ships from the isles shall meet  
To pour the wealth of ocean  
In tribute at His feet.

5. Kings shall bow down before Him  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him,  
His praise all peoples sing;  
To Him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend,  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

6. O’er every foe victorious,  
He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His Name shall stand forever,—  
That Name to us is Love. Amen.

### TLH 58 (Second Tune) “O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee”

Paul Gerhardt, 1653

1. O Lord, how shall I meet Thee,  
How welcome Thee aright?  
Thy people long to greet Thee,  
My Hope, my heart’s Delight!  
Oh, kindle, Lord, most holy,  
Thy lamp within my breast  
To do in spirit lowly  
All that may please Thee best.

2. Thy Zion strews before Thee  
Green boughs and fairest palms,  
And I, too, will adore Thee  
With joyous songs and psalms.  
My heart shall bloom forever  
For Thee with praises new

And from Thy Name shall never  
Withhold the honor due.

3. I lay in fetters, groaning,  
Thou com'st to set me free;  
I stood, my shame bemoaning,  
Thou com'st to honor me;  
A glory Thou dost give me,  
A treasure safe on high,  
That will not fail or leave me  
As earthly riches fly.

4. Love caused Thy incarnation,  
Love brought Thee down to me;  
Thy thirst for my salvation  
Procured my liberty.  
O love beyond all telling,  
That led Thee to embrace,  
In love all love excelling,  
Our lost and fallen race!

5. Rejoice, then, ye sad-hearted,  
Who sit in deepest gloom,  
Who mourn o'er joys departed  
And tremble at your doom.  
Despair not, He is near you,  
Yea, standing at the door,  
Who best can help and cheer you  
And bids you weep no more.

6. Ye need not toil nor languish  
Nor ponder day and night  
How in the midst of anguish  
Ye draw Him by your might.  
He comes, He comes all willing,  
Moved by His love alone,  
Your woes and troubles stilling;  
For all to Him are known.

7. Sin's debt, that fearful burden,  
Let not your souls distress;  
Your guilt the Lord will pardon  
And cover by His grace.  
He comes, for men procuring  
The peace of sin forgiven,  
For all God's sons securing  
Their heritage in Heaven.

8. What though the foes be raging,  
Heed not their craft and spite;  
Your Lord, the battle waging,  
Will scatter all their might.  
He comes, a King most glorious,  
And all His earthly foes

In vain His course victorious  
Endeavor to oppose.

9. He comes to judge the nations,  
A terror to His foes,  
A Light of consolations  
And blessèd Hope to those  
Who love the Lord's appearing.  
O glorious Sun, now come,  
Send forth Thy beams so cheering,  
And guide us safely home. Amen.

**TLH 75 "Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken"**  
Valentine Thilo, Jr., 1659

1. Ye sons of men, oh, hearken:  
Your heart and mind prepare;  
To hail th' Almighty Savior,  
O sinners, be your care.  
He who of grace alone  
Our Life and Light was given,  
The promised Lord from Heaven,  
Unto our world is shown.

2. Prepare the way before Him;  
Prepare for Him the best.  
Cast out whate'er offendeth  
This great, this heav'nly Guest  
Make straight, make plain, the way:  
The lowly valleys raising,  
The heights of pride abasing,  
His path all even lay.

3. The humble heart and lowly  
God lifteth up on high;  
Beneath His feet in anguish  
The haughty soul shall lie.  
The heart, sincere and right,  
That heeds God's invitation  
And makes true preparation,  
It is the Lord's delight.

4. Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus,  
Turn not from me aside,  
And grant that I receive Thee  
This blessèd Adventtide.  
From stall and manger low  
Come Thou to dwell within me;  
Loud praises will I sing Thee  
And forth glory show. Amen.