

**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.



Rorate coeli  
December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

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

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

215 N. Main St., Ste. 1-D

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(864) 412-6330

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*“I am ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
‘Make straight the way of the LORD.’”*  
*St. John 1:23*

## The Order of Divine Service

### The Ringing of the Bell

#### Silent Prayer

**The Hymn** “Hark, a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” Δ TLH 60

#### 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** Isaiah 40:1-8

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

R: Thanks be to God.

**The Epistle** Philippians 4:4-7

**The Gradual** INSERT

**The Verse** INSERT

#### Stand

**The Holy Gospel** St. John 1:19-28

**The Nicene Creed** TLH p. 22

#### Sit

**The Hymn** “The Advent of Our King” Δ TLH 68

**The Sermon** *The Voice of One Crying in the Wilderness*

#### Stand

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

#### Sit

**The Recitation of the Catechism** How One Should Be Taught to Pray

#### The Offering

#### Stand

**The General Prayer** TLH p. 23

#### Sit

**The Hymn** “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” INSERT

#### 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 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** “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People” TLH 61

#### Stand

**The Salutation** TLH p. 31

**The Benedicamus** TLH p. 31

**The Benediction** TLH p. 31

#### Silent Prayer

#### Sit

#### Announcements

Δ—indicates a hymn ending in a Doxological stanza; please stand.

## Christmas Season Schedule

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

**The Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord** Private Confession 6:30 p.m.  
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 29<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** Private Confession 9:30 a.m.  
Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

### January 5<sup>th</sup>

**The Second Sunday after Christmas** Divine Service 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Class 11:15 a.m.  
Divine Service 3:00 p.m. Augusta, GA  
Bible Class 4:15 p.m. Augusta, GA

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

**The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord** Private Confession 6:30 p.m.  
Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

**Gospel:** St. Matthew 23:34-39

**December 27<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Hosea 14:1-9

**Epistle:** 1 John 1:1-10

**Gospel:** St. John 21:19-24

**December 28<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of the Holy Innocents**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Jeremiah 31:15-17

**Epistle:** Revelation 14:1-5

**Gospel:** St. Matthew 2:13-18

**December 29<sup>th</sup>—The First Sunday after the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Isaiah 11:1-5

**Epistle:** Galatians 4:1-7

**Gospel:** St. Luke 2:33-40

#### **In Our Prayers:**

- For all those who are sick or infirmed, especially, *Emily Benson, Peggy Holder, Jo Kope, Betty Ramsey, Brandon Dennie, Nellie Noegel, Judy Horn, Richard Noegel, Patricia Bachand, Tamara Jack, Mike Miller, Doris Armstrong, Barbara Miller, Matthew Scholten, Vince Bost, Rev. Donald Hunter, and Rev. Mark Mueller.*
- For *Silvia diGregorio* that her faith may be strengthened.
- For our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, especially, *Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, NM; and Sts. Peter and Paul Ev. Lutheran Mission, Silver City, NM; and their pastor, the Rev. Paul A. Rydecki.*
- For our seminary, *St. Ignatius Evangelical Theological Lutheran Seminary.*
- For all those who serve in the military, especially, *Nicholas Silva.*
- For those struggling with addiction, especially, *Thomas Allred and John Monahan.*
- For those near death.
- For those celebrating a birthday this week.
- For those celebrating an anniversary this week.
- For those traveling this week.

## **Announcements**

### **Daily Readings for the Week after Rorate coeli**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today</b>	Matt. 19-20; Luke 1:67-80	St. Matthew 21-22; Hebrews 12:15-29
<b>Monday:</b>	Matt. 23-24; Matt. 1:18-25	St. Matthew 25; Isaiah 40:1-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Matt. 26-27; Luke 1:39-45	St. Matthew 28; Malachi 3:1-7
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Romans 1-3; Luke 1:46-56	Romans 4-6; Malachi 4:1-6
<b>Thursday:</b>	Romans 7-9; Luke 1:57-66	Romans 10-12; Isaiah 28:14-19
<b>Friday:</b>	Romans 13-14; John 1:15-18	Romans 15-16; Micah 4:1-8
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Cor. 1-2; Luke 2:15-20	1 Corinthians 3-4; Isaiah 32:1-8

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

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today:</b>	Psalms 5, 107	Psalms 145, 108-111
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalms 5, 112-115	Psalms 145, 116-118
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Ps. 19, 45, 85, 119:1-40	Ps. 89, 110, 119:41-88
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Ps. 19, 45, 85, 119:89-128	Ps. 89, 110, 119:129-176
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 120-125	Ps. 89, 110, 132, 126-132
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 133-135	Ps. 89, 110, 132, 136-139
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 140-141	Psalms 111, 142-143

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

<b>Monday:</b>	The Large Catechism, I.103-116
<b>Tuesday:</b>	The Large Catechism, I.117-133
<b>Wednesday:</b>	The Large Catechism, I.134-148
<b>Thursday:</b>	The Large Catechism, I.149-165
<b>Friday:</b>	The Large Catechism, I.166-182

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

**Sunday:** Ten Commandments

**Monday:** Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer

**Tuesday:** Baptism, Lord's Supper

**Wednesday:** Prayers

**Thursday:** Table of Duties

**Friday:** Office of Keys and Confession

**Saturday:** Christian Questions with Their Answers

**Hymns for the Week:**

**Morning Sun. – Tues.:** TLH 68—“The Advent of Our King”

**Evening Sat. – Mon.:** INSERT—“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

**Morning Wed. – Sat.:** TLH 80—“All Praise to Thee Eternal God”

**Evening Tues. – Fri.:** TLH 85—“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

**Calendar for the Week after Rorate coeli**

**Today: Rorate coeli—Violet**

***O Rex Gentium***

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Bible class

Noon – Decorate Church for Christmas

3:00 p.m. Divine Service in Augusta, GA

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

**Monday: *O Emmanuel***

**Tuesday: The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

6:30 p.m. Private Confession

7:00 p.m. Divine Service

**Wednesday: The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

**Thursday: The Festival of St. Stephen, Deacon and Protomartyr—Red**

**Friday: The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist—White**

**Saturday: The Festival of the Holy Innocents—Violet**

**Next Sunday: The First Sunday after the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Bible Class

**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.

**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>.

**Poinsettias for Christmas**

We are asking all members to please consider donating a poinsettia plant to decorate our sanctuary for the season of Christmas. You may start bringing them today through Christmas day.

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

**Today—Rorate coeli**

**Old Testament Lesson:**

Isaiah 40:1-8

**Epistle:**

Philippians 4:4-7

**Holy Gospel:**

St. John 1:19-28

**December 24<sup>th</sup>—The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord**

**Old Testament Lesson:**

Isaiah 9:2-7

**Epistle:**

Titus 2:11-14

**Gospel:**

St. Luke 2:1-14

**December 25<sup>th</sup>—The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord**

**Old Testament Lesson:**

Isaiah 7:10-14

**Epistle:**

Hebrews 1:1-12

**Gospel:**

St. John 1:1-14

**December 26<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of St. Stephen, Deacon and Protomartyr**

**Old Testament Lesson:**

2 Chronicles 24:17-22

**Epistle:**

Acts 6:8-15; 7:54-60

## RORATE COELI

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019



### Introit

P: RAIN **DOWN**, - || you heavens, | from | a- | bove, \*

C: And let the skies pour | down | **right**- - | eous- | ness;

P: || Let the earth o- | pen | her | womb, \*

C: And bring | forth | **sal**- - | va- | tion. (*Isaiah 45:8*)

P: || The heavens declare the glo- | ry | of | God; \*

C: And the firmament shows | His | **hand**- - | i- | work.

P: || Their line is gone out into | all | the | earth, \*

C: And their words to the | end | **of** - | the | world.

P: || In the heavens He has set a tabernacle | for | the | sun, \*

C: Which is like a bridegroom coming out | of | **his** - | cham- | ber.

P: || Its rising is from one end of | the | heav- | en, \*

C: And its circuit to | the | **oth**- - | er | end. (*Psalms 19:1, 4-6*)

### GLORIA PATRI (From Hymnal)

P: || Rain down, you heavens, | from | a- | bove, \*

C: And let the skies pour | down | **right**- - | eous- | ness;

P: || Let the earth o- | pen | her | womb, \*

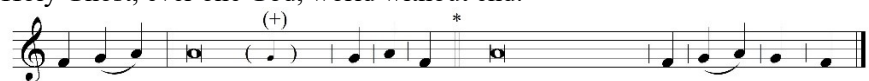
C: And bring | forth | **sal**- - | va- | tion. (*Isaiah 45:8*)

### Collect

Stir up, O Lord, we beseech Thee, Thy power, and come and help us with Thy great might, that by Thy grace whatsoever is hindered by our sins may be speedily accomplished through Thy mercy and satisfaction; 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: || The Lord is near to all who call | up- | on | Him, \*

C: To all who call up- | on | **Him** - | in | truth.

P: || My mouth shall speak the praise | of | the | Lord, \*

C: And all flesh shall bless | His | **ho**- - | ly | name. (*Psalms 145:18, 21*)

### Verse

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

C: Al- | — | le- - | lu- | ia!

P: || You are my help and my de- | liv- | er- | er; \*

C: Do not delay, O my God. | Al- | le- - | lu- | ia! (*Psalms 40:17*)

## Isaiah 40:1-8

<sup>1</sup> “Comfort, yes, comfort My people!” says your God. <sup>2</sup> “Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.” <sup>3</sup> The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; <sup>5</sup> The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” <sup>6</sup> The voice said, “Cry out!” and he said, “What shall I cry?” “All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.”

## Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. <sup>6</sup> Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; <sup>7</sup> and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your

hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

## St. John 1:19-28

<sup>19</sup> Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup> He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup> And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup> Then they said to him, “Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup> He said: “I am ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Make straight the way of the LORD,”’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” <sup>24</sup> Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup> And they asked him, saying, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” <sup>26</sup> John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. <sup>27</sup> It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.” <sup>28</sup> These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

## TLH 60 “Hark, a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

Unknown Latin author, about 900

1. Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding!  
“Christ is nigh!” we hear it say;  
“Cast away the works of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!”

2. Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from Heaven.  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all, to be forgiven,

4. That, when next He comes with glory  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
He may shield us with His mercy  
And with words of love draw near.

Δ 5. Honor, glory, might, dominion,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the everlasting Spirit,  
While eternal ages run! Amen.

## TLH 68 “The Advent of Our King”

Charles Coffin, 1736

1. The advent of our King  
Our prayers must now employ,  
And we must hymns of welcome sing  
In strains of holy joy.

2. The Everlasting Son  
Incarnate deigns to be;  
Himself a servant’s form puts on  
To set His servants free.

3. O Zion’s Daughter, rise  
To meet thy lowly King,  
Nor let thy faithless heart despise  
The peace He comes to bring.

4. As Judge, on clouds of light,  
He soon will come again  
And His true members all unite  
With Him in Heav’n to reign.

5. Before the dawning day  
Let sin’s dark deeds be gone,

The old man all be put away,  
The new man all put on.

Δ 6. All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever One,  
Through all eternity. Amen.

## INSERT “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” (Tune TLH 62)

Unknown Latin author, about 1100

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

2. Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan’s tyranny;  
From depths of Hell Thy people save,  
And give them vict’ry o’er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

3. Oh, come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death’s dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

4. Oh, come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heav’nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

5. Oh, come, oh, come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai’s height,  
In ancient times didst give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

6. Oh, come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
And order all things, by Thy might;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

7. Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease;  
And be Thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.

**TLH 61 “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People”**

Johann G. Olearius, 1671

1. Comfort, comfort, ye My people,  
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness,  
Mourning ‘neath their sorrows’ load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem  
Of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell her that her sins I cover  
And her warfare now is over.

2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon,  
Blotting out each dark misdeed;  
All that well deserved His anger  
He no more will see or heed.  
She hath suffered many a day,  
Now her griefs have passed away;  
God will change her pining sadness  
Into ever-springing gladness.

3. Hark, the Herald’s voice is crying  
In the desert far and near,  
Bidding all men to repentance  
Since the Kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise to meet Him  
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

4. Make ye straight what long was crooked,  
Make the rougher places plain;  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
As befits His holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
Now o’er Earth is shed abroad,  
And all flesh shall see the token  
That His Word is never broken. Amen.