

**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.

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Gaudete  
December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**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

Simpsonville, SC 29681

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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**  
**The Hymn**                    “Once He Came in Blessing”                    TLH 74

*(The Pastor silently prays Psalm 24 while the congregation joins in silent self-examination and reflection on God’s Commandments. Prayers are located on back cover.)*

*Stand*  
**The Invocation and Address**                    TLH p. 15  
**Versicles**                    *(All may kneel)*                    TLH p. 15  
**Confession and Absolution**                    TLH p. 16

*Stand (if kneeling)*  
**The Introit**                    *(Tone 6)*                    INSERT  
**The Kyrie**                    TLH p. 17  
**The Salutation**                    TLH p. 19  
**The Collect for the Day**                    INSERT  
**Collect for the Season of Advent**                    INSERT

*Sit*  
**The Epistle**                    1 Corinthians 4:1-5  
**The Gradual**                    INSERT  
**The Triple Hallelujah**                    *(First Setting)*                    TLH p. 20

*Stand*  
**The Holy Gospel**                    St. Matthew 11:2-10  
**The Nicene Creed**                    *(Bow at the words “And was made man.)*                    TLH p. 22

*Sit*  
**The Hymn**                    “God’s Only Son from Heaven”                    INSERT  
**The Sermon**                    *When John Had Heard the Works of Christ*

*Stand*  
**The Offertory**                    TLH p. 22-23  
**The General Prayer**                    LSBH p. 115-116  
*Sit (An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings)*

**The Hymn**                    “The Advent of Our King”                    Δ                    TLH 68  
*Stand*  
**The Exhortation**                    LSBH p. 117  
**The Lavabo**                    LSBH p. 118

*(The Pastor washes his hands while silently praying Psalm 26. The congregation joins in silent prayer reflecting upon the Sacrament they are about to receive. Prayers are located on back cover.)*

**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**                    *(All may bow when the Pastor genuflects)*                    TLH p. 27  
**The Pax Domini**                    *(All may bow and cross themselves)*                    TLH p. 27  
**The Agnus Dei**                    *(All may kneel)*                    TLH p. 28

*Sit*  
**The Distribution**                    *(Prayers are located on back cover.)*  
**The Hymn**                    “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”                    INSERT  
*Stand*

**The Post-Communion Canticle**                    TLH p. 29-30  
**The Thanksgiving**                    TLH p. 30  
**The Post-Communion Collect**                    TLH p. 31  
**The Hymn**                    “Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Harken”                    TLH 75  
**The Salutation**                    TLH p. 31  
**The Benedicamus**                    TLH p. 31  
**The Benediction**                    TLH p. 31

*Sit*  
**Recitation of the Catechism**  
The Office of the Keys and Confession & Historical Outline of the Bible, page 57.

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

### Christmas Season Schedule

**December 24<sup>th</sup>**                    ***The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord***  
Private Confession 6:30 p.m.  
Candlelight Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>**                    ***The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord***  
Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

**December 26<sup>th</sup>**                    ***The First Sunday after Christmas/The Festival of St. Stephen, Protomartyr and Deacon (Commemorated)***  
Divine Service & Bible Class 10:00 a.m. in Simpsonville, SC

**December 27<sup>th</sup>**                    ***The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist***  
Divine Service 5:00 p.m. Myrtle Beach, SC

**December 28<sup>th</sup>**                    ***Holy Innocents’ Day***  
**January 1<sup>st</sup>**                    ***The Festival of the Circumcision of Our Lord***  
Private Confession 9:30 a.m.  
Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>**                    ***The Second Sunday after Christmas***  
Divine Service & Bible Class in Simpsonville, SC 10:00 a.m.  
Divine Service & Bible Class in Knoxville, TN 10:00 a.m.  
Divine Service & Bible Class 3:00 p.m. Augusta, GA

**January 5<sup>th</sup>**                    ***The Eve of the Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord***  
Divine Service & Bible Class in Fort Myers, FL (Pastor Stefanski) 7:00 p.m.

**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.

## An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

“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, *Peggy Holder, Jo Kope, Betty Ramsey, Brandon Dennie, Nellie Noegel, Katie, Dan, Judy Horn, Patricia Bachand, Mike Miller, Barbara Miller, Matthew Scholten, Barb Eisold, Vince Bost, Janice Heitener, Ray Heitener, Martin Kope, Sally Kope, William Noegel, Bruce Carter, John Burton, Dale Heimbigner, Ed Payne, James Hagen, Doug DiBiase, Paul Meadows, Vito Gerardi, and Rev. Mark Mueller.*
- For the *Friends and Family of Gary Heimbigner*, the father of Rev. Dr. Kent Heimbigner; and the *Friends and Family Larry Engler*, President of Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, Richmond, MO, both of whom were called to their eternal home recently.
- For our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, and those in our international fellowship, especially, *Charity Ev. Lutheran Church, Burlison, TX*; and her pastor, the *Rev. Dr. Kent Heimbigner.*
- For our seminary, *St. Ignatius Lutheran Theological Seminary.*
- For our seminarians, *Ben Henson and Jacob Henson.*
- For all those who serve in the military, especially, *Nicholas Silva.*
- For those struggling with addiction, especially, *Thomas Allred and John Monahan.*
- For the moral and spiritual support of those involved with our mission in Knoxville, TN, especially, *Ana Heiser, Sherrill Smithey, Bobby Eisold, Barb Eisold, and Bob Eisold.*
- For those near death.
- For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Bishop Heiser.*
- 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 45-46; Luke 1:39-56	Isaiah 47-48; Romans 1:16-25
<b>Monday:</b>	Isaiah 49-50; Heb. 10:35-39	Isaiah 51-52; Isaiah 2:1-5
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Isaiah 53-54; Luke 21:5-24	Isaiah 55-56; Isaiah 24:21—25:5
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Isaiah 57-58; Luke 12:35-59	Isaiah 59-60; Isaiah 25:6-10
<b>Thursday:</b>	Isaiah 61-62; James 5:7-11	Isaiah 63-64; Isaiah 26:1-21
<b>Friday:</b>	Isaiah 65-66; Luke 1:1-25	St. Matthew 1-2; Isaiah 51:1-16
<b>Saturday:</b>	Matthew 3-4; Luke 1:26-38	St. Matthew 5-6; Isaiah 52:1-12

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

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today:</b>	Psalms 132, 64-65	Psalms 98, 66-68
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalms 132, 69	Psalms 98, 70-72
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalms 132, 73	Psalms 98, 74-76
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalms 132, 77	Psalms 98, 78
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalms 132, 79-80	Psalms 98, 81-83
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalms 132, 84-85	Psalms 98, 86-88
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalms 132, 89	Psalms 145, 90-92

### Book of Concord Readings for the Week:

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

### Reciting the Catechism Daily:

<b>Sunday:</b>	The Ten Commandments
<b>Monday:</b>	The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Holy Baptism, The Office of the Keys and Confession
<b>Wednesday:</b>	The Sacrament of the Altar

**Thursday:** The Prayers

**Friday:** The Table of Duties

**Saturday:** Christian Questions with Their Answers

**Hymns for the Week:**

**Morning:** INSERT—"God's Only Son from Heaven"

**Evening:** TLH 75—"Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken"

**Calendar for the Week after Gaudete**

**Today: Gaudete—Rose**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service & Bible class in Fort Myers,  
FL

Kringle Holiday Village, Fluor Field, Greenville, SC

**Monday: The Festival of St. Lucy, Virgin—Red**

**Tuesday:** Noon-1 p.m. Seminary Psalms Class

**Wednesday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet**

7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Vespers

8:00 p.m. Private Confession

**Thursday:** No Events Scheduled

**Friday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet**

*O Sapientia*

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Seminary Psalms Class

**Saturday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet**

*O Adonai*

Seminary Winter Break Begins

**Next Sunday: Rorate coeli—Violet**

*O Radix Jesse*

10:00 a.m. Divine Service & Bible class in  
Simpsonville, SC

10:00 a.m. Divine Service & Bible class in Knoxville,  
TN (Deacon Smithey)

3:00 p.m. Divine Service 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> and on the diocesan website: [eldona.org](http://eldona.org). There are also printed copies in the back of the nave for your use and distribution.

**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>.

**Midweek Advent Vespers**

Midweek Advent Vespers continue this Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We will continue to look at the first chapter of the Evangelist St. Luke's Gospel. Private confession will follow Vespers.

**Poinsettias for Christmas Season**

Please consider donating a poinsettia plant to decorate our sanctuary for the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany. You may start bringing them next Sunday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Today—Gaudete**

**Epistle:**

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

**Gospel:**

St. Matthew 11:2-10

**December 13<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of St. Lucy, Martyr**

**Epistle:**

2 Corinthians 10:17-18; 11:1-2

**Gospel:**

St. Matthew 13:44-52

**December 15<sup>th</sup>—Autumn Ember Day**

**Epistle:**

Isaiah 2:2-5

**Gospel:**

St. Luke 1:26-38

**December 17<sup>th</sup>—Autumn Ember Day**

**Epistle:**

Isaiah 11:1-5

**Gospel:**

St. Luke 1:39-47

**December 18<sup>th</sup>—Autumn Ember Day**

**Epistle:**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-8

**Gospel:**

St. Luke 3:1-6

**December 19<sup>th</sup>—Rorate coeli**

**Epistle:**

Philippians 4:4-7

**Gospel:**

St. John 1:19-28

## GAUDETE

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021



### Introit (Chanted by Pastor)

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

Again will | I | say, - | re- | joice!

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

The | Lord | is - | at | hand.

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

But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be | made | **known** - | to | God.

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

You have brought back the captivi- | ty | of - | Ja- | cob. (*Philippians*  
4:4-6; *Psalms* 85:1-2, 6, 8)

### C: GLORIA PATRI (From Hymnal; Sung by Congregation)

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

Again will | I | say, - | re- | joice!

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

The | Lord | is - | at | hand.

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

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 (Chanted by Pastor)

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

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

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

You who lead Jo- | seph | **like** - | a | flock.

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

And come and save us! | Al- | **le**- - | lu- | ia! (*Psalms* 80:1b, 1a; 2b)

## 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 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.'"

## Third Sunday in Advent

167 7, 6, 7, 6, 7, 7, 6.

German, 1524

The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by an - cient

seers, By God, the Fa - ther, giv - en, In hu - man shape ap -

pears; No sphere His light con - fin - ing, No

star so bright - ly shin - ing As He, our Morning Star.

2 O time of God appointed,  
O bright and holy morn!  
He comes, the King anointed,  
The Christ, the virgin-born;  
His home on earth He maketh,  
And man of heaven partaketh,  
Of life again an heir.

3 O Lord, our hearts awaken,  
To know and love Thee more,  
In faith to stand unshaken,  
In Spirit to adore,  
That we still heavenward hasting,  
Yet here Thy joy foretasting,  
May reap its fulness there.

Elisabeth Cruciger, 1594

## Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel (Tune TLH 62)

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.

### **ELDoNA Family Camp 2022**

Exciting news and updates! St. Patrick Ev. Lutheran Church, Chipley, FL will be hosting the 2022 ELDoNA Family Camp and has secured a location to have the main festivities of the camp for the week of July 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Along with having a Divine Service at St. Patrick's Church building, the campers will be housed and accommodated at Surfside Christian Retreat Center in Panama City Beach, FL. Their website is [surfsideretreat.org](http://surfsideretreat.org) if you want to see more information.

The cost for the entire week will be \$156 per person plus \$30 for food per person (\$186 total per person). This is an absolute deal for a week-long beachfront vacation that includes room and board, and good Christian learning and fellowship.

There is a deposit to reserve a spot at camp due by March 5th and it will be \$100 per person. Everyone who is planning on coming, should let me know you are coming as soon as you can before this date, so I can reserve our spots for the camp. I will make a payment on behalf of everyone who is going, and y'all can pay the fee to the parish whenever you can before the Family Camp.

Checks should be made payable to Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Lutheran Church or pay through PayPal at [pastor@spplc.org](mailto:pastor@spplc.org). Anyone needing assistance with travel arrangements can let me know. Please make every effort to take advantage of this fun week spent with others in our diocese.