

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.

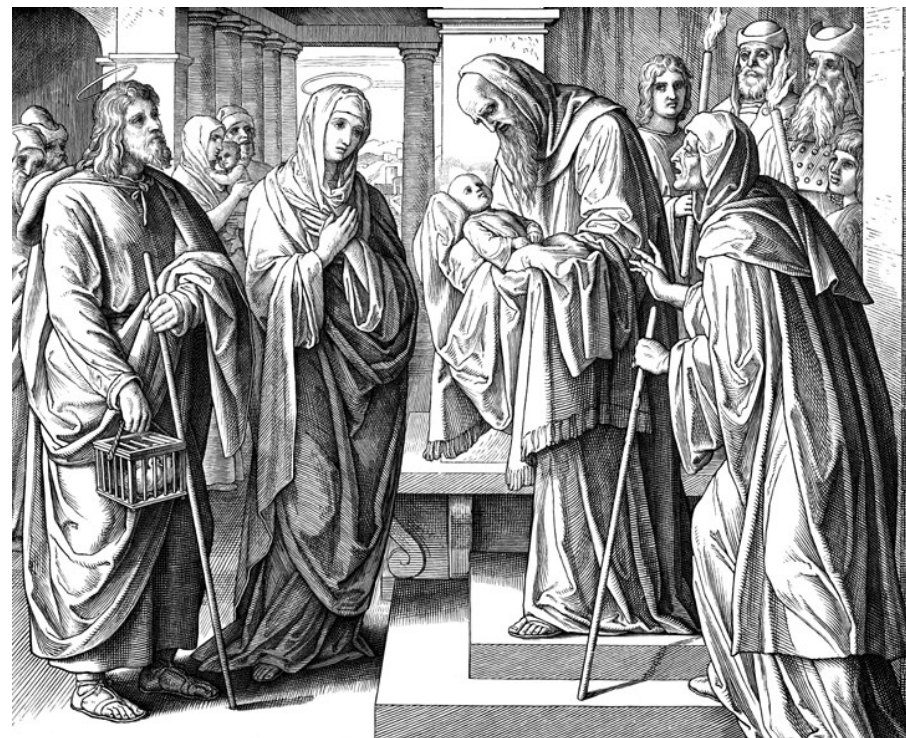
A Prayer after Communion

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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The First Sunday after Christmas
December 26th, 2021

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

A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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*“Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and
rising of many in Israel.”*

St. Luke 2:34

The Order of Divine Service

The Prelude	<i>“Mit Fried’ und Freud”</i>	Dietrich Buxtehude
The Ringing of the Bell		
The Hymn	<i>“We Sing, Immanuel, Thy Praise”</i>	TLH 108

(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 <i>(All may kneel)</i>	TLH p. 15
Confession and Absolution	TLH p. 16

Stand (if kneeling)

The Introit	<i>(Tone 3)</i>	INSERT
The Kyrie		TLH p. 17
The Gloria in Excelsis		TLH p. 17-19
The Salutation		TLH p. 19
The Collect for the Day		INSERT

The Collect for the Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr

The Collect for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord

Sit

The Epistle	Galatians 4:1-7
The Gradual	INSERT

Stand

The Sequence Hymn	<i>“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”</i>	Δ	INSERT
The Holy Gospel		St. Luke 2:33-40	
The Nicene Creed	<i>(Bow at the words “And was made man.”)</i>	TLH p. 22	

Sit

The Hymn	<i>“To God the Anthem Raising”</i>	TLH 112
The Sermon	<i>Those Things Which Were Spoken of Him</i>	

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	<i>“Thou Light of Gentile Nations”</i>	TLH 138
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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	<i>(All may bow when the Pastor genuflects)</i>	TLH p. 27
The Pax Domini	<i>(All may bow and cross themselves)</i>	TLH p. 27
The Agnus Dei	<i>(All may kneel)</i>	TLH p. 28

Sit

The Distribution	<i>(Prayers are located on back cover.)</i>	
The Hymn	<i>“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”</i>	TLH 91

Stand

The Post-Communion Canticle	TLH p. 29-30
The Thanksgiving	TLH p. 30
The Post-Communion Collect	TLH p. 31
The Hymn	<i>“In Peace and Joy I Now Depart”</i> TLH 137
The Salutation	TLH p. 31
The Benedicamus	TLH p. 31
The Benediction	TLH p. 31

Sit

The Postlude *“Valet will ich dir geben”* Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

Recitation of the Catechism

Christian Questions with Their Answers & Questions 76-92 (The Second Commandment, pages 65-67).

Announcements

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

Christmas Season Schedule

December 27th	<i>The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Divine Service 5:00 p.m. Myrtle Beach, SC
December 28th	<i>Holy Innocents’ Day</i>
January 1st	<i>The Festival of the Circumcision of Our Lord</i> Private Confession 9:30 a.m. Divine Service 10:00 a.m.
January 2nd	<i>The Second Sunday after Christmas</i> 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 5th	<i>The Eve of the Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord</i> Divine Service & Bible Class in Fort Myers, FL (Pastor Stefanski) 7:00 p.m.
January 6th	<i>The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord</i> Private Confession 6:30 p.m. Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

untrue and worthless, and not at all wonderful. Therefore, the fact that they were marveling, shows that Joseph and Mary possessed a strong and sublime faith.” *From the Church Postil for the First Sunday after Christmas, 1522.*

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 our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, and those in our international fellowship, especially, *Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, Beaverton, OR;* and her pastor, the *Rev. Daniel Mensing.*
- 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.
- For those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *John and Vanessa Landt.*
- For those traveling this week.

Announcements

Daily Readings for the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity

	Morning	Evening
Today	Rom. 5-6; Luke 2:22-32	Romans 7-8; Hebrews 2:9-16
Monday:	Rom. 9; John 1:15-18	Romans 10; Micah 4:1-8
Tuesday:	Rom. 11; Luke 2:15-20	Romans 12; Isaiah 32:1-8
Wednesday:	Rom. 13; Luke 2:22-24	Romans 14; Isaiah 46:3-13
Thursday:	Rom. 15; Luke 2:25-32	Romans 16; Isaiah 49:1-13
Friday:	1 Cor. 1; Matt. 2:13-15	1 Corinthians 2; Isaiah 55:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor. 3; Luke 4:16-21	1 Corinthians 4; James 4:13-17

Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:

	Morning	Evening
Today:	Psalms 121, 120-125	Psalms 111, 126-132
Monday:	Psalms 121, 133-135	Psalms 111, 136-139
Tuesday:	Psalms 121, 140-141	Psalms 111, 142-143
Wednesday:	Psalms 121, 144	Psalms 111, 145
Thursday:	Psalms 121, 146	Psalms 111, 147
Friday:	Psalms 121, 148	Psalms 90, 115, 149-150
Saturday:	Psalms 122, 72, 1-4	Psalms 90, 115, 5-8

Book of Concord Readings for the Week:

Monday: The Large Catechism, I.183-198
Tuesday: The Large Catechism, I.199-216
Wednesday: The Large Catechism, I.217-231
Thursday: The Large Catechism, I.232-247
Friday: The Large Catechism, I.248-264

Reciting the Catechism Daily:

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

Thursday: The Prayers

Friday: The Table of Duties

Saturday: Christian Questions with Their Answers

Hymns for the Week:

Morning: TLH 112—"To God the Anthem Raising"

Evening: TLH 138—"Thou Light of Gentile Nations"

Calendar for the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity

Today: The First Sunday after Christmas/The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr (Commemorated)—White

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

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

John and Venessa Landt's Anniversary

Communion Visit to Myrtle Beach, SC

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

Tuesday: The Festival of the Holy Innocents—Red

Communion Visit to Myrtle Beach, SC

Wednesday: Within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity—White

Thursday: Within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity—White

Friday: Within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity—White

New Year's Eve

Saturday: The Festival of the Circumcision of our Lord—White

New Year's Day

9:30 a.m. Private Confession

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

Next Sunday: The Second Sunday after Christmas—White

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 January 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. 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>.

To Read in Preparation for this week's Festivals:

Today—The First Sunday after Christmas/The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr (Commemorated)

Epistle: Galatians 4:1-7

Gospel: St. Luke 2:33-40

December 27th—The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Epistle: 1 John 1:1-10

Gospel: St. John 21:19-24

December 28th—The Festival of the Holy Innocents

Epistle: Revelation 14:1-5

Gospel: St. Matthew 2:13-18

January 1st—The Festival of the Circumcision of our Lord

Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29

Gospel: St. Luke 2:21

January 2nd—The Second Sunday after Christmas

Epistle: 1 Peter 4:12-19

Gospel: St. Matthew 2:13-23

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

"Now it must indeed excite wonder that such things were proclaimed openly by Simeon in that public and sacred place with reference to that poor and insignificant Child, Whose mother was so humble and lowly and Whose father Joseph was not wealthy. How could such a Child be considered the Savior of all men, the Light of the Gentiles and the glory and honour of all Israel? At present, after we have had so many proofs of Christ's greatness, these words do no longer seem so wonderful; but then, when nothing as yet was known of Jesus, they were indeed marvellous, and this lowly Child was very unlike the great and mighty being portrayed by Simeon. But Joseph and Mary believed it nevertheless, and just therefore they marveled. If they had not believed it, the words of Simeon would have appeared to them insignificant,

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 26th, 2021



Introit (Chanted by Pastor)

P: YOUR TEST- || imonies | are | ver- | y - | sure; *

Holiness adorns Your house, O Lord, | for- | ev- | **er.** -

P: || Your throne is estab- | lished | from | **of** - | old; *

You are from ev- | er- | last- | **ing.** -

P: || The Lord reigns, He is clothed | with | ma- | **jes-** - | ty; *

The Lord is clothed, He has girded Him- | self | with |

strength. - (*Psalm 93:5, 2, 1*)

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

P: || Your testimonies | are | ver- | y - | sure; *

Holiness adorns Your house, O Lord, | for- | ev- | **er.** -

P: || Your throne is estab- | lished | from | **of** - | old; *

You are from ev- | er- | last- | **ing.** - (*Psalm 93:5, 2*)

Collect

Almighty and Everlasting God, direct our actions according to Thy good pleasure, that in the Name of Thy beloved Son, we may be made to abound in good works; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end.



Gradual (Chanted by Pastor)

P: || You are fairer than | the | sons | **of** - | men; *

Grace is poured u- | pon | Your | **lips.** -

P: || My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition con- | cern- | ing | **the** - | King; *

My tongue is the pen of a read- | y | writ- | **er.** -

P: || Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord reigns, He is clothed | with | ma- | **jes-** - | ty; *

The Lord is clothed; He has girded Himself with strength.

Al- | le- | lu- | **ia!** - (*Psalms 45:2a, 1; 93:1*)

Galatians 4:1-7

¹ Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, ² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. ³ Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

St. Luke 2:33-40

³³ And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against ³⁵ (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” ³⁶ Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; ³⁷ and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. ³⁸ And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. ³⁹ So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

Sequence Hymn—Of the Father's Love Begotten



1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the world be - gan to be,
 2. Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed When the Vir - gin full of grace,
 3. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him: An - gel hosts, His praises sing;
 4. This is He whom Heav'n - taught sing - ers Sang of old with one ac - cord:



He is Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the Source, the End - ing He,
 By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Bare the Sav - ior of our race,
 Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him, And ex - tol our God and King.
 Whom the Scriptures of the Pro - phets Prom - ised in their faith - ful word.



Of the things that are, that have been, And that fu - ture years shall see,
 And the Babe, the world's re - deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face,
 Let no tongue on earth be si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 Now He shines, the Long ex - pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Δ 5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
 And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
 Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 And unending praises be,
 Honor, glory, and dominion,
 And eternal victory
 Evermore and evermore. Amen.