

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.

Scripture quotations are from the Revised Version of the Holy Bible (1895) with Apocrypha. This work is in the Public Domain.



Oculi
March 23rd, 2025

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

(864) 412-6330

www.spplc.org

Pastor Jerald P Dulas

(864) 832-9005 (home)

pastor@spplc.org

Deacon Floyd P Smithey, Jr.

(865) 202-9634 (cell)

deacon@spplc.org

“Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth.” St. Luke 11:17

The Order of Divine Service

The Ringing of the Bell		
The Hymn	<i>“All Depends on Our Possessing”</i>	TLH 425
<i>Stand</i>		
Silent Prayer	<i>(Prayers are located on back cover)</i>	ASBH p. 7
The Invocation		ASBH p. 7
The Confession of Sins	<i>(All may kneel)</i>	ASBH p. 8
Versicles		ASBH p. 8
Confession and Absolution		ASBH p. 8-9
<i>Stand (if kneeling)</i>		
The Introit	<i>(Congregation joins Pastor on Gloria Patri)</i>	ASBH p. 72
The Kyrie		ASBH p. 10
The Salutation		ASBH p. 13
The Collect for the Day		ASBH p. 72
The Collect for the Season of Lent		ASBH p. 66
Collect Amen		ASBH p. 14
<i>Sit</i>		
The Epistle		Ephesians 5:1-9
The Gradual		ASBH p. 72
The Sentence for the Season of Lent		ASBH p. 41
<i>Stand</i>		
The Gospel		St. Luke 11:14-28
The Creed	<i>(All may bow at the words “And was made man.”)</i>	ASBH p. 17
<i>Sit</i>		
The Hymn	<i>“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”</i>	ASBH 22
The Sermon	<i>By the Finger of God</i>	
<i>Stand</i>		
The Offertory		ASBH p. 18-19
	<i>(An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings)</i>	
The General Prayer		ASBH p. 19-20
The Lord’s Prayer		ASBH p. 20
<i>Sit</i>		
The Hymn	<i>“Lord of Our Life and God of Our Salvation”</i>	TLH 258
The Lavabo	<i>(During Hymn)</i>	ASBH p. 21
<i>Stand</i>		
The Exhortation		ASBH p. 21
The Preface		ASBH p. 22
The Proper Preface		ASBH p. 23-27
The Sanctus and Benedictus		ASBH p. 27-28
The Lord’s Prayer		ASBH p. 29
The Verba Domini	<i>(All may bow when the Pastor genuflects)</i>	ASBH p. 30
The Pax Domini	<i>(All may bow and cross themselves)</i>	ASBH p. 31
The Agnus Dei	<i>(All may kneel)</i>	ASBH p. 31-32

<i>Sit</i>		
The Distribution	<i>(Prayers are located on back cover)</i>	
The Hymn	<i>“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”</i>	Δ TLH 315
<i>Stand</i>		
The Nunc Dimittis		ASBH p. 33-35
The Thanksgiving and Collect		ASBH p. 35-36
<i>Sit</i>		
The Hymn	<i>“Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus”</i>	TLH 367
<i>Stand</i>		
The Salutation		ASBH p. 36
The Benedicamus		ASBH p. 37
The Benediction		ASBH p. 37
The Triple Amen	<i>(Second Setting)</i>	ASBH p. 38
<i>Sit</i>		

Recitation of the Catechism

The Office of the Keys and Confession (pages 21-25) & Questions 143-150 (Part II. The Creed. The Second Article. Of Redemption, pages 85-86).

Announcements

ASBH = Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: 2022 Supplement.

TLH = The Lutheran Hymnal

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

In Our Prayers:

- For all those who are sick or infirmed, especially, *Peggy Holder, Betty Ramsey, Brandon Dennie, Katie, Dan, Kelly, Judy Horn, Mike Miller, Barbara Miller, Rev. Mark Mueller, Rev. Eric Stefanski, Paul Meadows, Vince Bost, Glen Madden, Becky Phillips, Bill Kope, Martin Kope, Sally Kope, Rachel Epperson, Tammy Wilson, Marlin Palm, Jamey Hochstein, Isaac Wigington, Jack Newton, Graham Hardaway, David Benson, Chuck Webber, and Vito Gerardi.*
- For our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, and those in our international fellowship, especially, *Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Herrin, IL;* and her pastors, the *Rev. Michael D. Henson* and the *Rev. Dcn. Gary K. Harroun.*
- That the Lord might send *Faithful Laborers* into His harvest.
- For *St. Ignatius Evangelical Lutheran Seminary* and our seminarians, *Duncan Geldenhuys* and *Jonathon Teo Zin Han.*
- For our catechumens, especially *Gabriel Bunch.*
- For the moral and spiritual support of those involved with our mission in Knoxville, TN, *Deacon and Sherrill Smithey,* and *Bob, Barbara, and Bobby Eisold.*
- For those struggling with addiction, especially *Thomas Allred, Brennan David,* and *John Monahan.*
- For all those who serve in the military, especially *Nicholas Silva.*
- For those celebrating a birthday this week.
- For those celebrating an anniversary this week.
- For those traveling this week.

Announcements

Daily Readings for week after Oculi Sunday

	Morning	Evening
Today	Deut. 29-30; John 8:42-51	Deuteronomy 31-32; Revelation 2:1-7
Monday:	Deut. 33-34; Luke 18:15-30	Joshua 1-2; Numbers 22:2-41
Tuesday:	Josh. 3-4; Luke 19:1-40	Joshua 5-6; Numbers 23:1-30
Wednesday:	Josh. 7-8; Luke 20:1—21:4	Joshua 9-10; Numbers 24:1-13
Thursday:	Josh. 11-12; Lk. 21:37—22:38	Joshua 13-14; Numbers 27:12-23
Friday:	Josh. 15-16; Luke 22:39-71	Joshua 17-18; Deuteronomy 5:1-33
Saturday:	Josh. 19-20; Luke 23:1-25	Joshua 21-22; Deuteronomy 8:1-20

Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:

	Morning	Evening
Today:	Psalms 43, 112-115	Psalms 86, 116-118
Monday:	Psalms 43, 119:1-40	Psalms 86, 119:41-88
Tuesday:	Psalms 45, 119:89-128	Psalms 45, 119:129-176
Wednesday:	Psalms 43, 120-125	Psalms 86, 126-132
Thursday:	Psalms 43, 133-135	Psalms 86, 136-139
Friday:	Psalms 43, 140-141	Psalms 86, 142-143
Saturday:	Psalms 43, 144	Psalms 139, 145

Book of Concord Readings for the Week:

Monday:	The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, III.1-23
Tuesday:	The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, III.24-50
Wednesday:	The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, III.51-67
Thursday:	The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, III.68-89
Friday:	The Apology to the Augsburg Confession, III.90-107

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: How One Should Be Taught to Pray

Friday: The Table of Duties

Saturday: Christian Questions with Their Answers

Hymns for the Week:

Morning: ASBH 22—"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Evening: TLH 258—"Lord of Our Life and God of Our Salvation"

Calendar for the week after Oculi Sunday

Today: Oculi Sunday—Violet

10:00 a.m. Divine Service and Bible Class in Simpsonville, SC

Monday: No Events Scheduled

Tuesday: The Festival of the Annunciation of our Lord

4:30 p.m. Private confession

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

7:00 p.m. Catechesis

Wednesday: Midweek Lenten Vespers

5:00 p.m. Vespers

6:00 p.m. Private confession

Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Catechesis

Friday: No Events Scheduled

Saturday: No Events Scheduled

Next Sunday: Laetare Sunday—Rose

10:00 a.m. Divine Service and Bible Class in Fort Myers, FL and Knoxville, TN (Deacon Smithey)

St. Ignatius of Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Seminary

The Seminary is in its Spring Quarter. It will continue until April 11th then they will take a three-week break for Holy Week, Easter, and the ELDoNA Synod and Colloquium. They will resume classes on May 5th and continue until June 6th. The summer quarter will begin on June 16th. Please keep the Seminary and her students in your prayers.

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

"From this follows that where the Finger of God does not cast out the devil, there the devil's kingdom still exists; where Satan's kingdom still exists, there the kingdom of God cannot be. The unavoidable conclusion then is that, as long as the Holy Spirit does not enter our hearts, we are not only incapable of any good, but are of necessity in the kingdom of Satan. And if we are in his kingdom, then we can do nothing but that which

pleases him, else it could not be called his kingdom. As St. Paul says to Timothy: 'The people are taken captive in the snares of the devil unto his will. 2 Tim 2:26. How could Satan suffer one of his people to take a notion to do something against, and not for, his kingdom? Oh, it is a striking, terrible and powerful statement that Christ here admits such a dominion, which we cannot escape except by the power of God; and that the kingdom of God cannot come to us until that kingdom is driven out by divine, heavenly power.'" *From Martin Luther's Sermon in the Church Postil for Oculi.*

The Lutheran Herald

The March 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 near the entrance for your use and distribution.

To Read in Preparation for this week's Festivals:

Today—Oculi Sunday

Epistle: Ephesians 5:1-9

Gospel: St. Luke 11:14-28

March 25th—The Festival of the Annunciation of our Lord

Epistle: Isaiah 7:10-16

Gospel: St. Luke 1:26-38

March 26th—Midweek Lenten Vespers

Epistle: Revelation 2:1-7

Gospel: St. John 8:42-51

March 30th—Laetare Sunday

Epistle: Galatians 4:21-31

Gospel: St. John 6:1-15