

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.



The Fourth Sunday after Trinity Sunday
July 13th, 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

“Be ye merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”
St. Luke 6:36

The Order of Divine Service

The Prelude	<i>“All’ Ehr’ und Lob”</i>	George Th. Miles
The Ringing of the Bell		
The Hymn	<i>“Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid”</i>	Δ TLH 236
<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		ASBH p. 8
Versicles	<i>(All may kneel)</i>	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. 101
The Kyrie		ASBH p. 10
The Gloria in Excelsis		ASBH p. 10-13
The Salutation		ASBH p. 13
The Collect for the Day		ASBH p. 101
Collect Amen		ASBH p. 14
<i>Sit</i>		
The Epistle		Romans 13:18-23
The Gradual		ASBH p. 101
<i>Stand</i>		
The Triple Hallelujah	<i>(First Setting)</i>	ASBH p. 15
The Gospel		St. Luke 6:36-42
The Creed	<i>(All may bow at the words “And was made man.”)</i>	ASBH p. 17
<i>Sit</i>		
The Hymn	<i>“Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Highest Good!”</i>	ASBH 42
The Sermon	<i>Be Ye Merciful</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>“O God, My Faithful God”</i>	TLH 395
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>“Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness”</i>	INSERT
<i>Stand</i>		
The Nunc Dimittis		ASBH p. 33-35
The Thanksgiving and Collect		ASBH p. 35-36
<i>Sit</i>		
The Hymn	<i>“O Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee”</i>	TLH 321
<i>Stand</i>		
The Salutation		ASBH p. 36
The Benedicamus		ASBH p. 37
The Benediction		ASBH p. 37
The Triple Amen	<i>(First Setting)</i>	ASBH p. 38
<i>Sit</i>		
The Postlude	<i>“Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten”</i>	Johann Michael Bach

Recitation of the Catechism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (pages 19-21) & Questions 339-342 (Part VI. Sacrament of the Altar, Thirdly, of the Power of the Lord’s Supper, pages 146-147).

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, Michelle Harris, Jamey Hochstein, Gerald Weerts, Jack Newton, Graham Hardaway, 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, *Lamb of God Ev. Lutheran Church, Rogers, AR*; and her pastor, the *Rev. Martin Jackson.*
- That the Lord might send *Faithful Laborers* into His harvest.
- For *St. Ignatius Evangelical Lutheran Seminary* and our seminarians, *Duncan Geldenhuys* and *Jonathan Teo Zin Han.*
- 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 the Week of the Fourth Sunday after Trinity

	Morning	Evening
Today	1 Chron. 17-18; Mt. 5:43-48	1 Chronicles 19-20; Romans 14:7-17
Monday:	1 Chron. 21-22; Acts 27:1-44	1 Chronicles 23-24; 1 Samuel 9:1-27
Tuesday:	1 Chron. 25-26; Acts 28:1-31	1 Chronicles 27-28; 1 Sam. 10:1-27
Wednesday:	1 Chron. 29; Rom. 1:1-15	2 Chronicles 1-2; 1 Samuel 12:1-25
Thursday:	2 Chron. 3-4; Rom. 1:16-32	2 Chronicles 5-6; 1 Samuel 13:1-14
Friday:	2 Chron. 7-8; Rom. 2:1-29	2 Chronicles 9-10; 1 Samuel 15:1-35
Saturday:	2 Chron. 11; Rom. 3:1-31	2 Chronicles 12; 1 Samuel 16:1-23

Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:

	Morning	Evening
Today:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 69	Psalms 92, 70-72
Monday:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 73	Psalms 92, 74-76
Tuesday:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 77	Psalms 92, 78
Wednesday:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 79-80	Psalms 92, 81-83
Thursday:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 84-85	Psalms 92, 86-88
Friday:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 89	Psalms 90-92
Saturday:	Psalms 119, Part IV, 93-95	Psalms 113, 96-100

Book of Concord Readings for the Week:

Monday: The Smalcald Articles, III.IX.1—III.XV.5

Tuesday: The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, 1-11

Wednesday: The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, 12-24

Thursday: The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, 25-38

Friday: The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, 39-53

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 42—"Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Highest Good!"

Evening: TLH 395—"O God, Thou Faithful God"

Calendar for the Week of the Third Sunday after Trinity Sunday

Today: The Fourth Sunday after Trinity Sunday—Green

Sts. Peter and Paul Ev. Lutheran Church's Anniversary

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

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

Monday: No Events Scheduled

Tuesday: 5:00 p.m. Pastor teaches Liturgics 2

Wednesday: 2:00 p.m. Divine Service in Fort Myers, FL (Pastor M. Henson)

Thursday: 5:00 p.m. Pastor teaches Liturgics 2

Friday: 5:00 p.m. Pastor teaches Liturgics 2

Saturday: No Events Scheduled

Next Sunday: The Fifth Sunday after Trinity Sunday—Green

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

The Lutheran Herald

The July 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.

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

"Now this is not a common mercy, nor one that reason teaches. For that is selfish: it gives to the great and learned and those who merit it; loves those, who are beautiful; gives to those from whom it has some benefit or advantage. That is a political, beggarly, shaggy, piece-meal mercy. For if I give to him, who merited it, or if I regard beauty and friendship, then it is duty and debt and not mercy. This is also what the Lord meant, when He just before this Gospel in Luke 6:32-34 says: 'And if ye love them that love you, what thank have ye? For even sinners love

those that love them. And if ye do good to them that do good to you, what thank have ye? For even sinners do the same. And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive again as much.' However, Christian mercy should not seek its own; but it should be thus: it must be round, and open its eyes and look at all alike, friend and foe, as our heavenly Father does.

"And where this mercy is not, there is also no faith. For if your heart is in the state of faith that you know your God has revealed Himself to you to be so good and merciful, without thy merit, and purely gratuitously, while you were still His enemy and a child of eternal wrath; if you believe this, you cannot refrain from showing yourself so to your neighbor; and do all out of love to God and for the welfare of your neighbor. Therefore, see to it that you make no distinction between friend and foe, the worthy and the unworthy; for you see that all who were here mentioned, have merited from us something different than that we should love and do them good. And the Lord also teaches this, when in Luke 6:35 He says: 'But love your enemies, and do good unto them, and lend, never despairing; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be sons of the Most High: for He is kind toward the unthankful and evil.' Thus we have considered the first part of this Gospel." *From Martin Luther's sermon for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity, 1523.*

To Read in Preparation for this week's Festivals:

Today—The Fourth Sunday after Trinity Sunday

Epistle: Romans 13:18-23

Gospel: St. Luke 6:36-42

July 20th—The Fifth Sunday after Trinity Sunday

Epistle: 1 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11

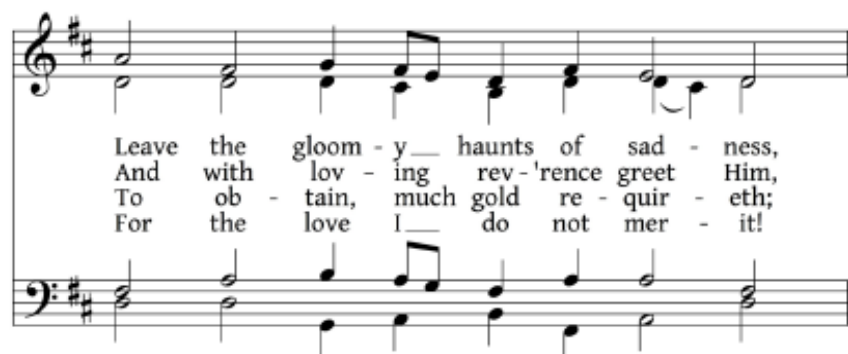
##. Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele
Johann Franck, 1649
Tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1858

Schmücke dich
Johann Crüger, 1649



1. Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness,
2. Hast - en as a bride to meet Him,
3. He who cost - ly goods de - sir - eth
4. Ah! how hun - gers all my spir - it



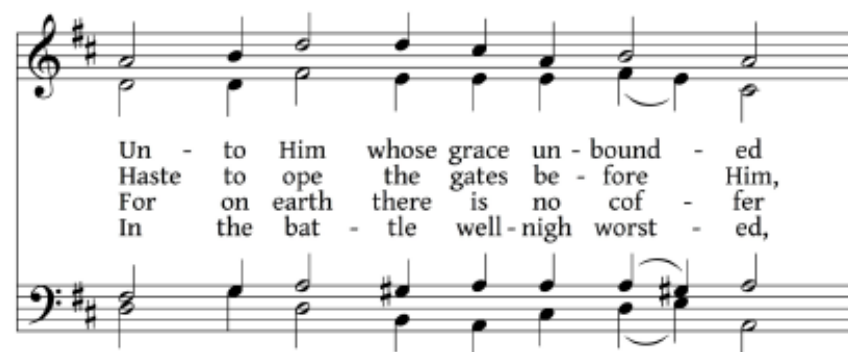
Leave the gloom - y haunts of sad - ness,
And with lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him,
To ob - tain, much gold re - quir - eth;
For the love I do not mer - it!



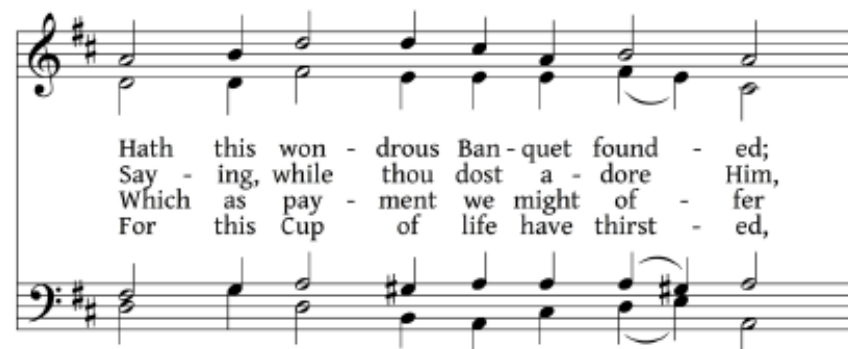
Come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
For with words of life im - mor - tal
But to free - ly give the trea - sure
Oft have I, with sighs fast throng - ing,



There with joy thy prais - es ren - der
Now He knock - eth at thy por - tal;
Of Thy love is Thy good plea - sure,
Thought up - on this food with long - ing,



Un - to Him whose grace un - bound - ed
Haste to ope the gates be - fore Him,
For on earth there is no cof - fer
In the bat - tle well - nigh worst - ed,



Hath this won - drous Ban - quet found - ed;
Say - ing, while thou dost a - dore Him,
Which as pay - ment we might of - fer
For this Cup of life have thirst - ed,

High o'er all the heav'ns He reign - eth,
 "Suf - fer, Lord, that I re - ceive Thee,
 For this Cup Thy blood con - tain - ing,
 For the Friend, who here in - vites us,

Yet to dwell with thee He deign - eth.
 And I nev - er more will leave Thee."
 And this man - na, on us rain - ing.
 And to God Him - self u - nites us. A-men.

5. Now I sink before Thee lowly,
 Filled with joy most deep and holy,
 As with trembling awe and wonder
 On Thy mighty work I ponder,
 How, by mystery surrounded,
 Depths no man hath ever sounded,
 None may dare to pierce unbidden,
 Secrets that with Thee are hidden.

6. Nay, though reason here doth ponder,
 It can never reach this wonder,
 That this bread is never lessened,
 Though it nourish thousands present,
 And that Christ His blood is giving
 With the wine we are receiving.
 O, these mysteries unsounded
 Are by God alone expounded!

7. Sun, who all my life doth brighten,
 Light, who dost my soul enlighten,
 Joy, the sweetest man e'er knoweth,
 Fount, whence all my being floweth,—
 At Thy feet I cry, my Maker,
 Let me be a fit partaker
 Of this blessed food from heaven,
 For our good, Thy glory, given.

8. Lord, Thy fervent love hath driven
 Thee to leave Thy throne in heaven,
 For us on the cross to languish,
 And to die in bitter anguish,
 To forgo all joy and gladness,
 And to shed Thy blood in sadness,
 Which we drink now; grant that never
 We forget Thy love, dear Savior!

9. Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray Thee,
 Let me gladly here obey Thee,
 Never to my heart invited,
 Be Thy love with love requited;
 From this Banquet let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure;
 Thro' the gifts Thou here dost give me
 As Thy guest in heaven receive me.