

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.



Gaudete
December 15th, 2024

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

A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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“Blessed is he, whosoever shall find none occasion of stumbling in me.” St. Matthew 11:6

The Order of Divine Service

The Ringing of the Bell		
The Hymn	<i>“Once He Came in Blessing”</i>	TLH 74
<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. 47
The Kyrie		ASBH p. 10
The Salutation		ASBH p. 13
The Collect for the Day		ASBH p. 47
The Collect for the Season of Advent		ASBH p. 45
Collect Amen		ASBH p. 14
<i>Sit</i>		
The Epistle		1 Corinthians 4:1-5
The Gradual		ASBH p. 47
<i>Stand</i>		
The Sentence for the Season of Advent		ASBH p. 41
The Gospel		St. Matthew 11:2-10
The Creed	<i>(All may bow at the words “And was made man.”)</i>	ASBH p. 17
<i>Sit</i>		
The Hymn	<i>“The Only Son from Heaven”</i>	ASBH 3
The Sermon	<i>Much More Than a Prophet</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>“Rejoice, All Ye Believers”</i>	ASBH 67
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>“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”</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>“Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken”</i>	TLH 75
<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. 37
<i>Sit</i>		
Recitation of the Catechism		
	<i>The Lord’s Prayer (pages 15-19) & Questions 343-351 (Part VI. The Sacrament of the Altar, Of the Salutary Use of the Lord’s Supper, pages 147-150).</i>	
Announcements		

*ASBH = Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: 2022 Supplement.
TLH = The Lutheran Hymnal*

Christmas Season Schedule

December 24th	<i>The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord</i> Private Confession 4:30 p.m. Candlelight Divine Service 5:00 p.m.
December 25th	<i>The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord</i> Divine Service 10:00 a.m.
December 26th	<i>The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr</i>
December 27th	<i>The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist</i>
December 28th	<i>The Festival of the Holy Innocents</i>
December 29th	<i>The Sunday Within the Octave of Christmas</i> Divine Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Class 11:15 a.m. Divine Service in Augusta, GA 3:00 p.m.
January 1st	<i>The Festival of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus</i> Private confession 4:30 p.m. Divine Service 5:00 p.m.
January 5th	<i>The Second Sunday after Christmas</i> Divine Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Class 11:15 a.m.
January 6th	<i>The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord</i> Private Confession 4:30 p.m. Divine Service 5:00 p.m.

December 21st—The Festival of St. Thomas, Apostle/Saturday of Ember Week in Advent

Epistle: Ephesians 2:19-22
Gospel: St. John 20:24-31

December 22nd—Rorate coeli Sunday

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel: St. John 1:19-28

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, Rev. Jerald Dulas, Tanya Dulas, Paul Meadows, Vince Bost, Glen Madden, Becky Phillips, Bill Kope, Martin Kope, Sally Kope, Rachel Epperson, Tammy Wilson, John Crossley, Marlin Palm, Jamey Hochstein, Isaac Wigington, 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, *All Saints Ev. Lutheran Mission, Pawleys Island, SC;* and her pastor, the *Rev. Jerald P. Dulas.*
- 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 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, especially *Bishop Heiser.*
- For those celebrating an anniversary this week.
- For those traveling this week.

Announcements

Daily Readings for week after Gaudete Sunday

	Morning	Evening
Today	Isaiah 57-58; Luke 1:39-56	Isaiah 59-60; Romans 1:16-25
Monday:	Isaiah 61-62; Heb. 10:35-39	Isaiah 63-64; 2:1-5
Tuesday:	Isaiah 65-66; Luke 21:5-24	St. Matthew 1-2; Isaiah 24:21—25:5
Wednesday:	Matt. 3-4; Luke 12:35-59	St. Matthew 5-6; Isaiah 25:6-10
Thursday:	Matt. 7-8; James 5:7-11	St. Matthew 9-10; Isaiah 26:1-21
Friday:	Matt. 11-12; Luke 1:1-25	St. Matthew 13-14; Isaiah 51:1-16
Saturday:	Matt. 15-16; Luke 1:26-38	St. Matthew 17-18; Isaiah 52:1-12

Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:

	Morning	Evening
Today:	Psalms 132, 77	Psalms 98, 78
Monday:	Psalms 132, 79-80	Psalms 98, 81-83
Tuesday:	Psalms 132, 84-85	Psalms 98, 86-88
Wednesday:	Psalms 132, 89	Psalms 98, 90-92
Thursday:	Psalms 132, 93-95	Psalms 96-100
Friday:	Psalms 132, 101-102	Psalms 98, 103-104
Saturday:	Psalms 101, 105	Psalms 145, 106

Book of Concord Readings for the Week:

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

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 3—“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

Evening: ASBH 67—“Rejoice, All Ye Believers”

Calendar for the week after Gaudete Sunday

Today: Gaudete—Rose

10:00 a.m. Divine Service and Bible Class in Simpsonville,
SC and Knoxville, TN (Deacon Smithey)

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

Bishop Heiser’s Birthday

Monday: No Events Scheduled

Tuesday: *O Sapientia*

Wednesday: The Ember Wednesday in Advent—Violet

O Adonai

4:30 p.m. Private Confession

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

Thursday: *O Radix Jesse*

Friday: The Ember Friday in Advent—Violet

O Clavis David

7:00 p.m. Divine Service and Bible Class in Fort Myers,
FL

**Saturday: The Festival of St. Thomas, Apostle/The Ember Saturday
in Advent—Red**

O Oriens

Winter Begins

Next Sunday: Rorate coeli—Violet

O Rex Gentium

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Parish Meeting

12:30 p.m. Clean and Decorate for Christmas

Midweek Advent Services

Midweek Advent Services continue this Wednesday, December 18th at 5:00 p.m. with Divine Service. Private confession will be offered before the Service at 4:30 p.m.

St. Ignatius of Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Seminary

The winter quarter of the diocesan seminary is underway. The classes for

the Quarter are Greek, Lutheran Confessions 1, and Hermeneutics/Law & Gospel. Please keep the seminary and her students in your prayers.

Poinsettias for Christmas and Epiphany Seasons

Please consider donating a poinsettia plant to decorate our sanctuary for the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany. You may start bringing them at any time.

Parish Meeting

Our next parish meeting is next week on December 22nd after the Divine Service. We will discuss next year’s budget and the slate of officers for next year. Non-members are welcome to attend in an observatory role. Please make plans to attend.

An Excerpt from Luther’s Writings

“Thus the world today is filled with offenses up to the very heavens, so that it is terrible to think of it. For no one now seeks Christ among the poor, the blind, the dead, etc.; but all expect to enter heaven in a different way, which expectation must surely fail.” *From the Church Postil for Gaudete.*

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. There are also printed copies in the back of the nave for your use and distribution.

To Read in Preparation for this week’s Festivals:

Today—Gaudete Sunday

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Gospel: St. Matthew 11:2-10

December 18th—Wednesday of Ember Week in Advent

Epistle: Isaiah 2:2-5

Gospel: St. Luke 1:26-38

December 20th—Friday of Ember Week in Advent

Epistle: Isaiah 11:1-5

Gospel: St. Luke 1:39-47

Advent

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Veni, Emmanuel

Latin author unknown, c. 1100

Plain-song melody, c. 1200

Tr. John M. Neale, 1851, 1859, ab.

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And
 2. Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine
 3. Oh, come, Thou Day-spring from on high, And

ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That
 own from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny; From
 cheer us by Thy draw - ing night; Dis -

mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, Un -
 depths of Hell Thy peo - ple save, And
 perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And

til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joi - ce! Re -
 give them vict' - ry o'er the grave. Re - joi - ce! Re -
 death's dark sha - dows put to flight. Re - joi - ce! Re -

joi - ce! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O
 joi - ce! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O
 joi - ce! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O

Is - ra - el.
 Is - ra - el.
 Is - ra - el. A - men.

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.

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 way to go.
 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 an-cient times didst give the law
 In cloud and majesty and awe.
 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.