

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 17th, 2023

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 Smithy, Jr.

(865) 202-9634 (cell)

deacon@spplc.org

*“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

Stand

The Hymn “Once He Came in Blessing” TLH 74

Silent Prayer (Prayers are located on back cover) ASBH p. 7

The Invocation ASBH p. 7

The Confession of Sins ASBH p. 8

Versicles (All may kneel) ASBH p. 8

Confession and Absolution ASBH p. 8-9

Stand (if kneeling)

The Introit (Congregation joins Pastor on Gloria Patri) 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

Sit

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

The Gradual ASBH p. 47

The Sentence for the Season of Advent ASBH p. 41

Stand

The Gospel St. Matthew 11:2-10

The Creed (All may bow at the words “And was made man.”) ASBH p. 17

Sit

The Hymn “The Only Son from Heaven” ASBH 3

The Sermon Behold, I Send My Messenger

Stand

The Offertory ASBH p. 18-19

(An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings)

The General Prayer ASBH p. 19-20

The Lord’s Prayer ASBH p. 20

Sit

The Hymn “The Advent of Our King” Δ TLH 68

Stand

The Exhortation ASBH p. 21

The Lavabo ASBH p. 21

Silent Prayer (Prayers are located on back cover) 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 (All may bow when the Pastor genuflects) ASBH p. 30

The Pax Domini (All may bow and cross themselves) ASBH p. 31

The Agnus Dei

(All may kneel)

ASBH p. 31-32

Sit

The Distribution (Prayers are located on back cover)

The Hymn “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” INSERT

Stand

The Nunc Dimittis ASBH p. 33-35

The Thanksgiving and Collect ASBH p. 35-36

The Hymn “Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken” TLH 75

The Salutation ASBH p. 36

The Benedicamus ASBH p. 37

The Benediction ASBH p. 37

The Triple Amen (First Setting) ASBH p. 37

Sit

Recitation of the Catechism

The Lord’s Prayer (pages 15-19) & Questions 168-170 (Part II, The Creed, The Third Article. Of Sanctification, page 93).

Announcements

ASBH = Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: 2022 Supplement.

TLH = The Lutheran Hymnal

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

Christmas Season Schedule

December 24th

Rorate coeli

Divine Service in Simpsonville and Knoxville 10:00 a.m.

Bible class in Simpsonville and Knoxville 11:15 a.m.

Decorate for Christmas Noon

The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Private Confession 4:30 p.m.

Candlelight Divine Service 5:00 p.m.

December 25th

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

December 26th

The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr

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

December 27th

The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

December 28th

The Festival of the Holy Innocents

December 31st

The Sunday within the Octave of Christmas

Divine Service and Bible class in Simpsonville 10 a.m.

Divine Service in Augusta, GA 3 p.m.

January 1st

The Festival of the Circumcision and Name of our Lord

Private confession 9:30 a.m.

Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

January 6th

The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord

Private Confession 4:30 p.m.

Divine Service 5:00 p.m.

Gospel: St. Luke 1:39-47

December 23rd—The Festival of St. Thorlak, Bishop and Confessor

Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-17

Gospel: St. Matthew 24:42-47

December 24th—Rorate coeli

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, Angelo, Kelly, Judy Horn, Mike Miller, Barbara Miller, Rev. Mark Mueller, Rev. Eric Stefanski, Paul Meadows, Vince Bost, Barb Eisold, Becky Phillips, Bill Kope, Martin Kope, Sally Kope, John Burton, Carol Laflay, Bruce Carter, 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, *Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Peoria, IL;* and her pastors, the Rev. *Benjamin Henson* and the Rev. *Emer. Douglas Handrich.*
- For the moral and spiritual support of those involved with our mission in Knoxville, TN, *Nikolas and Ana Likourentzos; Deacon and Sherrill Smithey; Kenny Earickson;* and *Bobby, Barb, and Bob 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 after Gaudete

	Morning	Evening
Today	Isaiah 65-66; Luke 1:39-56	St. Matthew 1-2; Romans 1:16-25
Monday:	Matt. 3-4; Heb. 10:35-39	St. Matthew 5-6; Isaiah 2:1-5
Tuesday:	Matt. 7-8; Luke 21:5-24	St. Matthew 9-10; Isaiah 24:21—25:5
Wednesday:	Matt. 11-12; Luke 12:35-59	St. Matthew 13-14; Isaiah 25:6-10
Thursday:	Matt. 15-16; James 5:7-11	St. Matthew 17-18; Isaiah 26:1-21
Friday:	Matt. 19-20; Luke 1:1-25	St. Matthew 21-22; Isaiah 51:1-16
Saturday:	Matt. 23-24; Luke 1:26-38	St. Matthew 25; Isaiah 52:1-12

Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:

	Morning	Evening
Today:	Psalms 132, 84-85	Psalms 98, 86-88
Monday:	Psalms 132, 89	Psalms 98, 90-92
Tuesday:	Psalms 132, 93-95	Psalms 96-100
Wednesday:	Psalms 132, 101-102	Psalms 98, 103-104
Thursday:	Psalms 132, 105	Psalms 98, 106
Friday:	Psalms 132, 107	Psalms 98, 108-111
Saturday:	Psalms 132, 112-115	Psalms 145, 116-118

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 Only Son from Heaven"
Evening: TLH 68—"The Advent of our King"

Calendar for the Week after Gaudete

Today: Gaudete—Rose

O Sapientia

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

Monday: *O Adonai*

Tuesday: *O Radix Jesse*

Wednesday: Ember Wednesday in Advent—Violet

O Clavis David

4:30 p.m. Private confession
5:00 p.m. Divine Service

Thursday: The Festival of St. Thomas, Apostle—Red

O Oriens

Winter Begins

Friday: Ember Friday in Advent—Violet

O Rex Gentium

**Saturday: The Festival of St. Thorlak, Bishop and Confessor/Ember
Saturday in Advent (Commemorated)—White**

O Emmanuel

Next Sunday: Rorate coeli—Violet

10:00 a.m. Divine Service and Bible Class in Simpsonville,
SC and Knoxville, TN (Deacon Smithey)
12:15 p.m. Decorate for Christmas

The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White

4:30 p.m. Private confession
5:00 p.m. Candlelight Divine Service

Midweek Advent Services

This year's Midweek Advent Services will continue this Wednesday,
December 20th at 5:00 p.m. Private confession will be offered before the
Service at 4:30 p.m.

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, *Rorate coeli*, December 24th.

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

"Hence it is evident John knew very well that Jesus was He that should
come, for he had baptized Him and testified that Christ was the Lamb of
God that taketh away the sin of the world, and he had also seen the Holy
Spirit descending upon Him as a dove, and heard the voice from heaven:
'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.' All is fully related
by all four Evangelists. Why then did John ask this question? Answer: It
was not done without good reasons. In the first place, it is certain that John
asked it for the sake of his disciples, as they did not yet hold Christ to be
the one He really was. And John did not come in order to make disciples
and draw the people to himself, but to prepare the way for Christ, to lead
everybody to Christ and to make all the people subject to Him." *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

Epistle:

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Gospel:

St. Matthew 11:2-10

December 20th—Wednesday of Ember Week in Advent

Epistle:

Isaiah 2:2-5

Gospel:

St. Luke 1:26-38

December 21st—The Festival of St. Thomas, Apostle

Epistle:

Ephesians 2:19-22

Gospel:

St. John 20:24-31

December 22nd—Friday of Ember Week in Advent

Epistle:

Isaiah 11:1-5

Advent

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

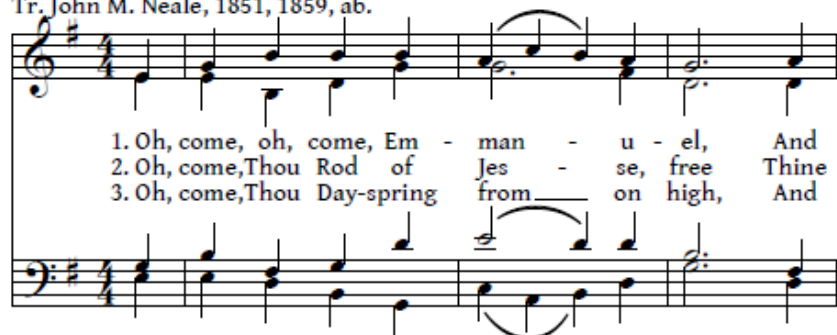
Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Veni, Emmanuel

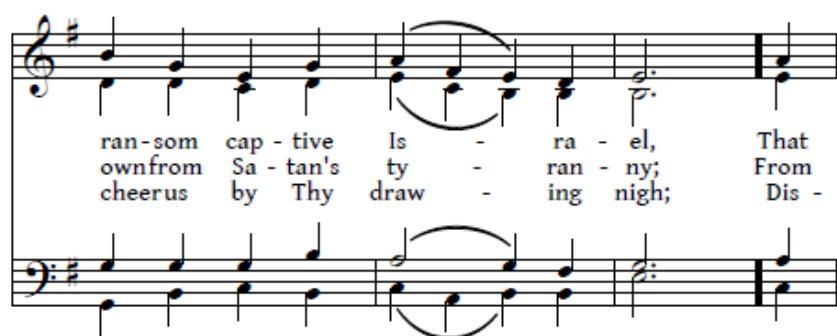
Latin author unknown, c. 1100

Plain-song melody, c. 1200

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



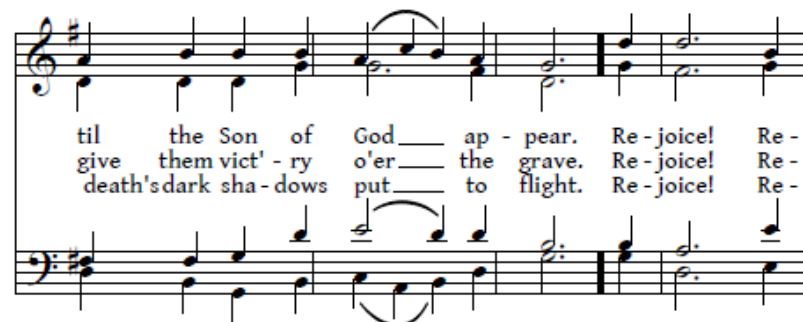
1. Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And
2. Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine
3. Oh, come, Thou Day-spring from on high, And



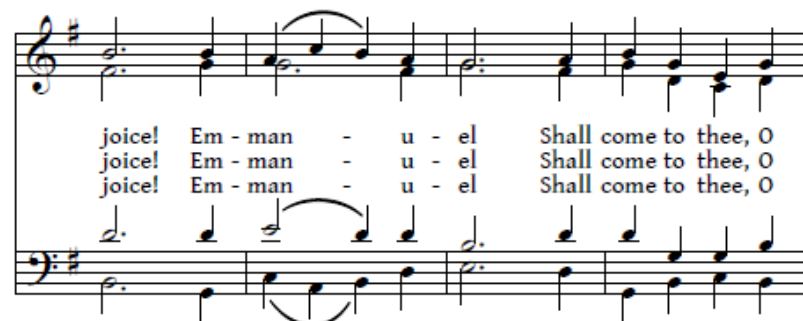
ran-som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That
own from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny; From
cheer us by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis -



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 - joice! Re -
give them vict' - ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re -
death's dark sha - dows put to flight. Re - joice! Re -



joice! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O
joice! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O
joice! 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.