

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 Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord
December 24th, 2022

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

A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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*“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among
us” St. John 1:14*

The Order of Divine Service

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| The Prelude | <i>“Divinum Mysterium”</i> | Ludwig Lenel |
| The Ringing of the Bell | | |
| <i>Stand</i> | | |
| | <i>The Lighting of the Christmas Candles</i> | |
| The Processional Hymn | <i>“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”</i> | TLH 90 |
| Silent Prayer | <i>(Prayers are located on back cover)</i> | ASBH p. 7 |
| | <i>All may extinguish their Candles</i> | |
| 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. 52 |
| 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. 52 |
| Collect Amen | | ASBH p. 14 |
| <i>Sit</i> | | |
| The Epistle | | Hebrews 1:1-12 |
| The Gradual | | ASBH p. 52 |
| <i>Stand</i> | | |
| | <i>The Lighting of the Christmas Candles</i> | <i>(during Sequence Hymn)</i> |
| The Sequence Hymn | <i>“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”</i> | Δ ASBH 66 |
| The Gospel | | St. John 1:1-14 |
| The Creed | <i>(All may bow at the words “And was made man.”)</i> | INSERT |
| <i>Sit</i> | <i>(Candles may be extinguished)</i> | |
| The Hymn | <i>“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”</i> | TLH 85 |
| The Sermon | <i>The Light Shineth in the Darkness</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> | | |
| | <i>The Lighting of the Christmas Candles</i> | <i>(during the Hymn)</i> |
| The Hymn | <i>“All My Heart This Night Rejoices”</i> | TLH 77 |
| <i>Stand</i> | | |
| The Exhortation | | ASBH p. 21 |
| The Lavabo | | ASBH p. 21 |
| Silent Prayer | <i>(Prayers are located on back cover)</i> | ASBH p. 21 |
| The Preface | | ASBH p. 22 |

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|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| The Proper Preface | | ASBH p. 23 |
| 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 Hymns: | <i>“Christ the Lord to Us is Born”</i> | TLH 86 |
| | <i>“O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is”</i> | TLH 81 |
| <i>Stand</i> | | |
| The Nunc Dimittis | | ASBH p. 33-35 |
| The Thanksgiving and Collect | | ASBH p. 35-36 |
| The Hymn | <i>“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”</i> | TLH 102 |
| 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 |
| The Recessional Hymn | <i>“Behold, a Branch Is Growing”</i> | TLH 645 |
| <i>Sit</i> | <i>(Candles may be extinguished)</i> | |
| The Postlude | <i>“Es ist ein’ Ros’—Ja”</i> | Albert Thate |

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 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> |
| January 1st | <i>The Festival of the Circumcision and Name of our Lord</i> Divine Service 10:00 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. |

Festival of St. Nicholas

66. Of the Father's Love Begotten

Aurelius C. Prudentius, †413, cento
Tr., John M. Neale, 1854, and
Henry W. Baker, 1861

Divinum mysterium
Plain-song tune, 12th century

1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ed
2. Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed

Ere the worlds be - gan to be,
When the Vir - gin, full of grace,

He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,

He the Source, the End - ing He,
Bare the Sav - ior of our race,

Of the things that are, that have been,
And the Babe, the world's Re - deem - er,

And that fu - ture years shall see
First re - vealed His sa - cred face

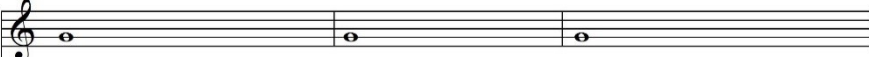
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

3. O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

4. This is He whom Heav'n-taught singers
Sang of old with one accord;
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the Long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

Δ5. 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.

The Nicene Creed



I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,

Maker of Heaven
and Earth

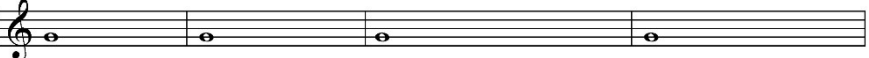
and of all things visible
and invisible,



And in One Lord
+ Jesus Christ,

the Only-Begotten
Son of God,

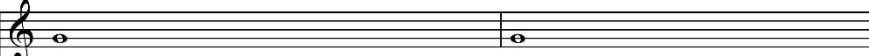
begotten of His Father
before all worlds,



God of God, Light of Light,

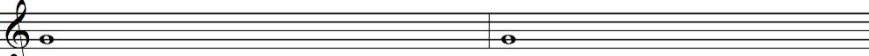
Very God of Very God,

Begotten, not made,




Being of one substance with the Father,

By Whom all things were made;



Who for us men and for our salvation
came down from Heaven

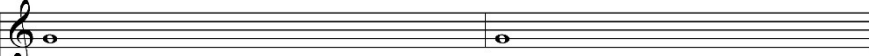
And was incarnate by the Holy
Ghost of the Virgin Mary



+ And was made man;

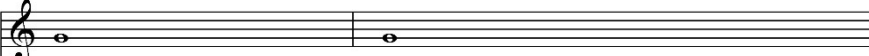
And was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and
was buried;



And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures;

And ascended into Heaven,




And sitteth on the right
hand of the Father;

And He shall come again with glory to
judge both the quick and the dead;



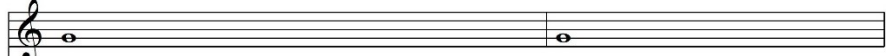
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,



The Lord and Giver of Life,

Who proceedeth from the Father and
the Son,



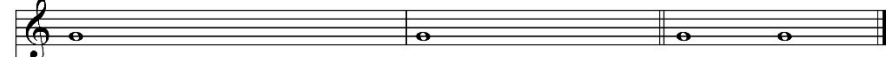
Who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,

Who spake by the Prophets.



And I believe one holy Christian and
Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one Baptism for
the remission of sins,



And I look for the resurrection
of the dead;

+ And the life of the
world to come.

A - - men.

+ — indicates that the worshippers may make a sign of reverence (bow the head, genuflect, or make the sign of the holy cross) as is appropriate.