

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 Ember Wednesday in Advent
December 20th, 2023

Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.
A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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*“Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with
God.” St. Luke 1:30*

The Order of Divine Service

The Ringing of the Bell

Stand

The Processional Hymn “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” TLH 59

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. 48

The Kyrie ASBH p. 10

The Salutation ASBH p. 13

The Collect for the Day ASBH p. 48

The Collect for Gaudete ASBH p. 47

The Collect for the Season of Advent ASBH p. 45

Collect Amen ASBH p. 14

Sit

The Epistle Isaiah 2:2-5

The Gradual ASBH p. 48

The Sentence for the Season of Advent ASBH p. 41

Stand

The Gospel St. Luke 1:26-38

The Creed (*All may bow at the words “And was made man.”*) INSERT

Sit

The Hymn “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” Δ TLH 63

The Sermon *The Son of the Most High*

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 “Arise, Sons of the Kingdom” TLH 69

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 “Word Supreme, Before Creation” Δ INSERT

Stand

The Nunc Dimittis ASBH p. 33-35

The Thanksgiving and Collect ASBH p. 35-36

The Hymn “Once He Came in Blessing” TLH 74

The Salutation ASBH p. 36

The Benedicamus ASBH p. 37

The Benediction ASBH p. 37

The Triple Amen (*First Setting*) ASBH p. 37

The Recessional Hymn “My Soul, O God, Magnifies Thee” INSERT

Sit

Recitation of the Catechism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (pages 19-21) & Questions 171-179 (Part II, The Creed, 1. Of the Holy Ghost, pages 94-96).

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.

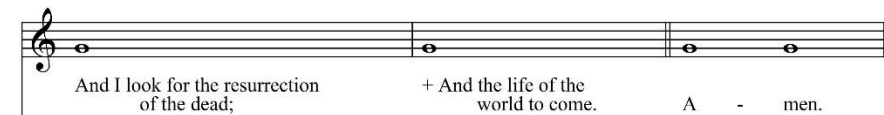
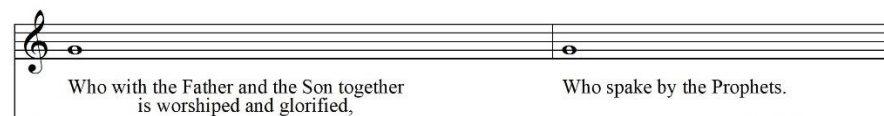
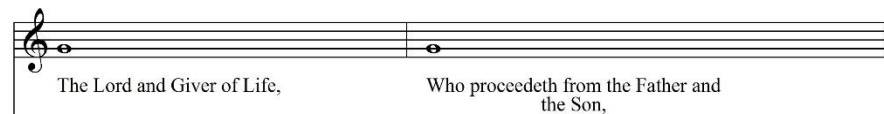
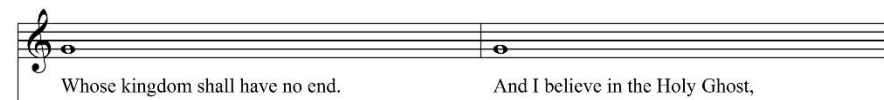
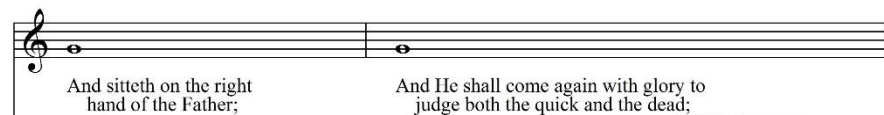
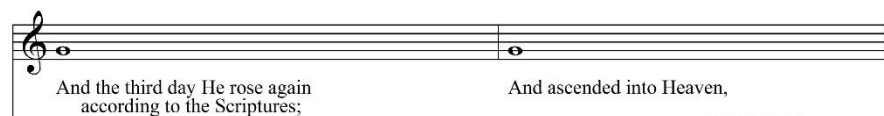
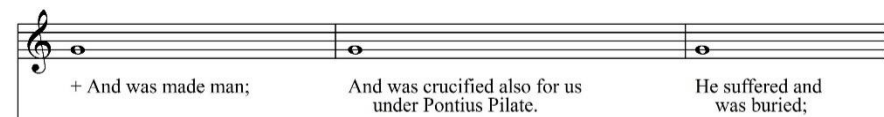
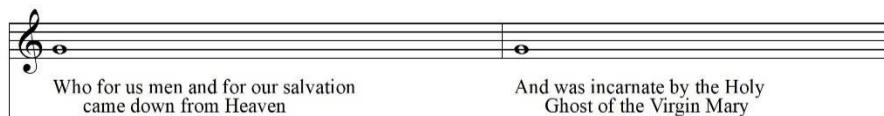
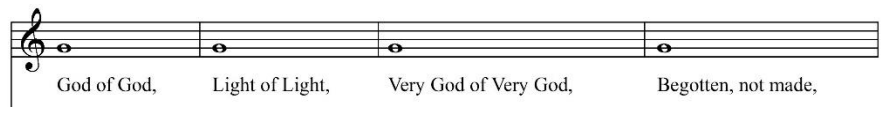
January 6th

The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord

Private Confession 4:30 p.m.

Divine Service 5:00 p.m.

The Nicene Creed



+ — 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.

Festival of St. John

71. Word Supreme, Before Creation

John Keble, 1856, cento

"Geistreiches Gesangbuch"
Darmstadt, 1698



1. Word Su - preme, be - fore cre - a - tion
2. Now 'tis come, and faith es - pies Thee,
3. Much he asked in lov - ing won - der,



Born of God e - ter - nal - ly,
Like an ea - glet in the morn
On Thy bos - om lean - ing, Lord.




Who didst will for our sal - va - tion
One in stead - fast wor - ship eyes Thee,
In the se - cret place of thun - der



To be born on earth and die,
Thy be - loved, Thy lat - est born.
An - swer kind Thy didst Thou ac - cord,



Well Thy saints have kept their sta - tion,
In Thy glo - ry— he des - cries Thee
Wis - dom for Thy Church to pon - der



Watch - ing till Thine hour drew nigh.
Reign - ing from the Tree of scorn.
Till the day of dread a - ward. A - men.

4. Lo, heav'n's doors lift up, revealing
How Thy judgments earthward move;
Scrolls unfolded, trumpets pealing,
Winecups from the wrath above;
Yet o'er all a soft voice stealing,
"Little children, trust and love."

Δ5. Thee, th' almighty King eternal,
Father of th' eternal Word,
Thee, the Father's Word supernal,
Thee, of both the Breath adored,
Heav'n and earth and realms infernal
Own one glorious God and Lord.

Festival of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

92. My Soul, O God, Magnifies Thee

Mein' Seel', o Gott! muß loben dich

Bartholomäus Gesius, †1613

Tr., composite

Wo Gott zum Haus

"Geistliches Lieder"

Wittenburg, 1535

1. My soul, O God, mag - ni - fies Thee,

My Sav - ior who doth come to me:

Thou bring'st me joy and glo - ry great,

De-spis - ing not my low es - tate. A - men.

2. Since Thou beheld my lowliness,
Henceforth will all men call me blest;
From far and wide I'll lauded be,
For Thou hast done great things to me.

7. Yet, to the lowly and despised
Thy grace, by might, sheds its disguise:
With princes given equal name,
The poor made rich while rich are shamed.

3. Mighty Thou art, dear Lord in deed,
Thy pow'r divine doth ne'er recede;
Above all else is Thy Name's worth,
Yet poorly praised art Thou on earth.

8. Thou, Lord, today hast worked Thine art
And mindful of Thy tender heart,
Thine Israel dost Thou succor give,
That Thine elect may ever live.

4. Thou merciful art e'er to he
Whose heart alone now feareth Thee;
The poor Thou wilt fore'er give aid,
When grief and pain on him are laid.

9. Such mercy we have not deserved
Yet, Thou hast made all things to serve
The Word which to our fathers gave
That God Incarnate man might save.

5. Let pride of man us never charm,
For naught withstandeth Thy strong arm:
Who in his own strength would depend,
Of such Thou soon dost make an end.

10. Yea, to that dear man Abraham,
Thou didst reveal Thy holy plan,
For Heav'n to him was pledged by Thee,
And to his Seed eternally.

6. Thou shatt'rest all counsels of man,
To work, O Lord, Thy wondrous plan,
For what work 'gainst Thee they would lay
Doth them undoubtedly betray.

Δ 11. Glory now and forever be
To the Most Holy Trinity:
God—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost—
In Thy rich grace we daily boast.

12. Who longest sinners to show grace,
To save from Hell our fallen race,
And when this fleeting life shall cease,
Bestow on us eternal peace. Amen.