

**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.



Rorate coeli  
December 24<sup>th</sup>, 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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Simpsonville, SC 29681

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*“I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness,  
“Make straight the way of the Lord,””*

*St. John 1:23*

## The Order of Divine Service

### The Ringing of the Bell

*Stand*

**The Hymn** “Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding” Δ TLH 60

**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. 51

**The Kyrie** ASBH p. 10

**The Salutation** ASBH p. 13

**The Collect for the Day** ASBH p. 51

**The Collect for the Season of Advent** ASBH p. 45

**Collect Amen** ASBH p. 14

*Sit*

**The Epistle** Philippians 4:4-7

**The Gradual** ASBH p. 51

**The Sentence for the Season of Advent** ASBH p. 41

*Stand*

**The Gospel** St. John 1:19-28

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

*Sit*

**The Hymn** “To Jordan Came Our Lord, the Christ” ASBH 4

**The Sermon** The Witness of John

*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** “O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee?” TLH 58 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tune)

*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** “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People” TLH 61

**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 Office Keys and Confession (pages 21-25) & Questions 180-183 (Part II, The Creed, The Third Article. Of Sanctification. 1. Of the Holy Ghost, pages 96-98).

### 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 24<sup>th</sup>

### *Rorate coeli*

Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

Bible class 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.

### *The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord*

Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

### December 25<sup>th</sup>

### December 26<sup>th</sup>

### *The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr*

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

### *The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*

### *The Festival of the Holy Innocents*

### *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 1<sup>st</sup>

### *The Festival of the Circumcision and Name of our Lord*

Private confession 9:30 a.m.

Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

### January 6<sup>th</sup>

### *The Festival of the Epiphany of our Lord*

Private Confession 4:30 p.m.

Divine Service 5:00 p.m.

**December 31<sup>st</sup>—The Sunday within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord**

**Epistle:** Galatians 4:1-7  
**Gospel:** St. Luke 2:33-40

**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, *Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Herrin, IL;* and her pastors, the *Rev. Michael Henson* and the *Rev. Dcn. Gary Harroun.*
- 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, especially *John and Venessa Landt.*
- For those traveling this week.

**Announcements**

**Daily Readings for the Week after Rorate coeli**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today</b>	Matt. 26-27; Luke 1:67-80	St. Matthew 28; Hebrews 12:15-29
<b>Monday:</b>	Romans 1-3; Matt. 1:18-25	Romans 4-6; Isaiah 40:1-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Rom. 7-9; Luke 1:39-45	Romans 10-12; Malachi 3:1-7
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Rom. 13-14; John 1:15-18	Romans 15-16; Micah 4:1-8
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Cor. 1-3; Luke 2:15-20	1 Corinthians 4-6; Isaiah 32:1-8
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Cor. 7-9; Luke 2:22-24	1 Corinthians 10-12 Isaiah 46:3-13
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Cor. 13-14; Luke 2:25-32	1 Corinthians 15-16; Isaiah 49:1-13

**Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today:</b>	Psalms 126, 119:1-40	Psalms 24, 119:41-88
<b>Monday:</b>	Ps. 19, 45, 85, 119:89-128	Ps. 89, 110, 132, 119:129-176
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 120-125	Psalms 89, 110, 126-132
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 133-135	Ps. 89, 110, 132, 136-139
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 140-141	Ps. 89, 110, 132, 142-143
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 144	Psalms 89, 110, 132, 145
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalms 19, 45, 85, 146	Psalms 111, 147

**Book of Concord Readings for the Week:**

**Monday:** The Large Catechism, I.103-116  
**Tuesday:** The Large Catechism, I.117-133  
**Wednesday:** The Large Catechism, I.134-148  
**Thursday:** The Large Catechism, I.149-165  
**Friday:** The Large Catechism, I.166-182

**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 4—“To Jordan Came Our Lord, the Christ”

**Evening:** TLH 58—“O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee?” (2<sup>nd</sup> Tune)

**Calendar for the Week after Rorate coeli**

**Today: Rorate coeli—Violet**

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

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

**Monday: The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

Communion Visit to Fort Myers, FL

**Tuesday: The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr—Red**

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

Communion Visit to Fort Myers, FL

**Wednesday: The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist—White**

Communion Visit to Fort Myers, FL

John and Venessa Landt’s Anniversary

**Thursday: The Festival of the Holy Innocents—Red**

**Friday: Within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

**Saturday: Within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

**Next Sunday: The Sunday within the Octave of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord—White**

*New Year’s Eve*

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

**Poinsettias for Christmas Season**

Please consider donating a poinsettia plant to decorate our sanctuary for the seasons of Christmas and Epiphany. You may now bring them.

**An Excerpt from Luther’s Writings**

“With many words the Evangelist describes and magnifies the testimony of John. Although it would have been sufficient if he had written of him, ‘He confessed,’ he repeats it and says, ‘He confessed and denied not.’ This was surely done in order to extol the beautiful constancy of John in a sore trial, when he was tempted to a flagrant denial of the truth.” *From the Church Postil for Rorate coeli.*

**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](http://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—Rorate coeli**

**Epistle:** Philippians 4:4-7

**Gospel:** St. John 1:19-28

**December 24<sup>th</sup>—The Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord**

**Epistle:** Hebrews 1:1-12

**Gospel:** St. John 1:1-14

**December 25<sup>th</sup>—The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord**

**Epistle:** Titus 2:11-14

**Gospel:** St. Luke 2:1-14

**December 26<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of St. Stephen, Martyr**

**Epistle:** Acts 6:8—7:60

**Gospel:** St. Matthew 23:34-39

**December 27<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

**Epistle:** 1 John 1:1-10

**Gospel:** St. John 21:19-24

**December 28<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of the Holy Innocents**

**Epistle:** Revelation 14:1-5

**Gospel:** St. Matthew 2:13-18

# Advent

## ## Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

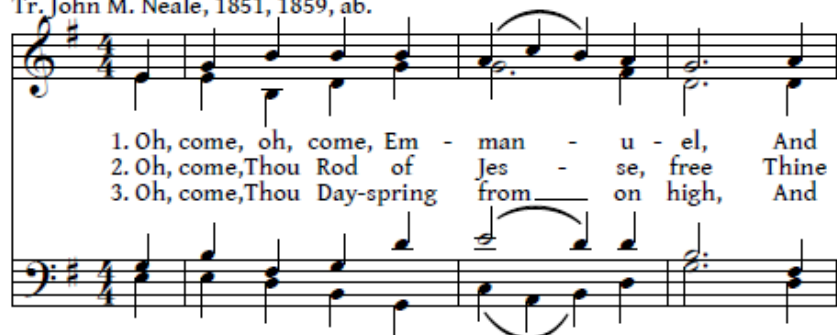
Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Veni, Emmanuel

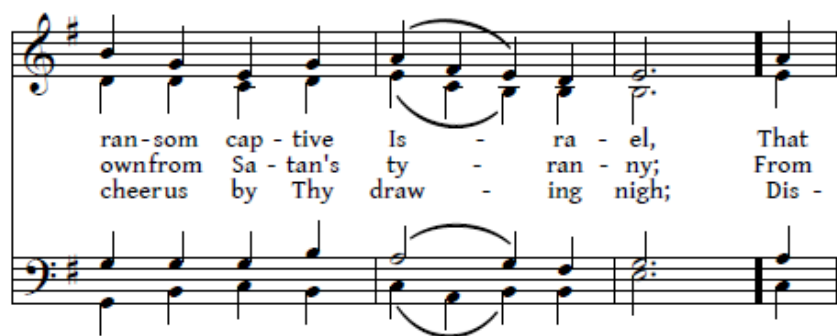
Latin author unknown, c. 1100

Plain-song melody, c. 1200


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



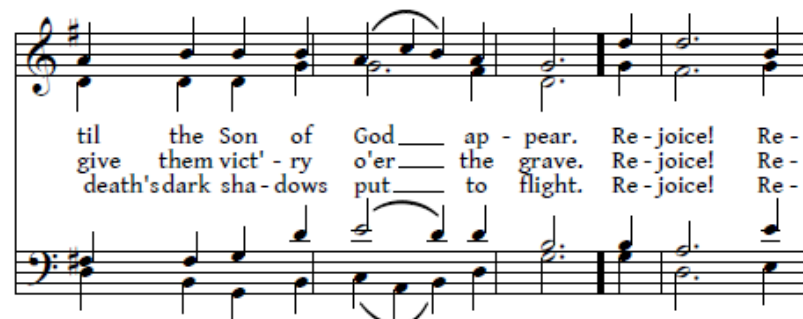
1. Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And  
2. Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine  
3. Oh, come, Thou Day-spring from on high, And



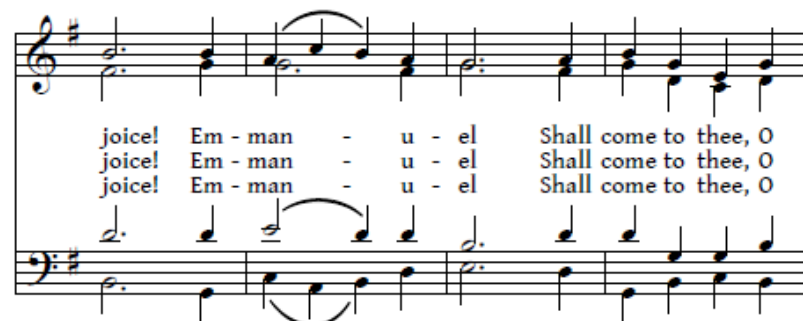
ran-som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That  
own from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny; From  
cheer us by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis -



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.