

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 people be instructed 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 Bishops, 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.

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Gaudete
December 17th, 2017

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 who takes no offense at Me”

St. Matthew 11:6

The Order of Divine Service

The Ringing of the Bell	
Silent Prayer	
The Hymn	<i>“Once He Came in Blessing”</i> TLH 74
<i>Stand</i>	
The Confiteor	
The Invocation and Address	TLH p. 15
Versicles	TLH p. 15
Confession and Absolution	TLH p. 16
The Introit	<i>(Tone 6)</i> INSERT
The Kyrie	TLH p. 17
The Salutation	TLH p. 19
The Collect for the Day	INSERT
The Collect for the Season of Advent	INSERT
<i>Sit</i>	
The Lesson	Malachi 3:1-6
<i>After each Lesson:</i> V: This is the Word of the Lord.	
R: Thanks be to God.	
The Gradual	INSERT
The Epistle	1 Corinthians 4:1-5
The Verse	INSERT
The Hallelujah	TLH p. 20
<i>Stand</i>	
The Holy Gospel	St. Matthew 11:2-10
The Nicene Creed	TLH p. 22
<i>Sit</i>	
The Hymn	<i>“Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken”</i> TLH 75
The Sermon	<i>The Works of Christ</i>
<i>Stand</i>	
The Offertory	<i>“Create in Me A Clean Heart, O God”</i> TLH p. 22-23
<i>Sit</i>	
The Recitation of the Catechism	The Office of the Keys and Confession
The Offering	
<i>Stand</i>	
The General Prayer	TLH p. 23
<i>Sit</i>	
The Hymn	<i>“Arise, Sons of the Kingdom”</i> TLH 69
<i>Stand</i>	
The Preface	TLH p. 24
The Proper Preface	TLH p. 25
The Sanctus and Benedictus	TLH p. 26
The Lord’s Prayer	TLH p. 27
The Verba Domini	TLH p. 27

The Pax Domini	TLH p. 27
The Agnus Dei	TLH p. 28
<i>Sit</i>	
The Distribution	
<i>Stand</i>	
The Post-Communion Canticle	<i>“The Nunc Dimittis”</i> TLH p. 29-30
The Thanksgiving	<i>“And His mercy endureth forever”</i> TLH p. 30
The Post-Communion Collect	
<i>Sit</i>	
The Hymn	<i>“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”</i> TLH 55
<i>Stand</i>	
The Salutation	TLH p. 31
The Benedicamus	TLH p. 31
The Benediction	TLH p. 31
Silent Prayer	
<i>Sit</i>	
Announcements	

Christmas Season Schedule

December 24th	
The Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord	Divine Service 7:00 p.m.
December 25th	
The Nativity of Our Lord	Divine Service 10:00 a.m.
December 26th	
St. Stephen, Protomartyr and Deacon	
December 27th	
St. John, Apostle and Evangelist	
December 28th	
Holy Innocents’ Day	
January 1st	
The Circumcision of Our Lord	
January 6th	
The Epiphany of Our Lord	Divine Service 7:00 p.m.

a twofold way: First, by His works; secondly, by His words. He did the same thing when the Jews surrounded Him in the temple and asked Him, ‘If thou art the Christ, tell us plainly,’ John 10:24. But He points them to His works saying, ‘I told you, and ye believe not, the works that I do in my Father’s name, these bear witness of me,’ John 10:25. Again, ‘Though ye believe not me, believe the works,’ John 10:38. Here Christ first points them to the works, and then also to the words saying ‘And blessed is he, whosoever shall find no occasion of stumbling in me.’ With these words he does not only confess that He is the Christ, but also warns them against finding occasion of stumbling in Him. If He were not the Christ, then he who finds no occasion of stumbling in Him could not be blessed. For one can dispense with all the saints, but Christ is the only one that no man can dispense with. No saint can help us, none but Christ.” *From the Church Postil for Gaudete.*

In Our Prayers:

- For all those who are sick or infirmed, especially, *Rev. Ned Brockwell, Lynne Smith, Ben Smith, Doug Schultz, Denise Heiser, Rev. Donald Hunter, Emily Benson, Orlin Palm, Donna Dorgelo, Nancy, Pat, Caroline, Rev. Mark Mueller, Eleanor Smolen, Jo Kope, Mike Miller, Rev. Eric Stefanski, Marie Scheck, Paul Meadows, David Benson, Diana Eliason, and Vince Bost.*
- For our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, especially, *Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cambridge, MN,* and her pastor, the *Rev. Mark Mueller.*
- For our seminary, *St. Ignatius Evangelical Theological Lutheran Seminary,* and her seminarian, *Josiah Scheck.*
- For our catechumens.
- For all those who serve in the military, especially, *Luke Sekula* and *Nicholas Silva.*
- For those struggling with addiction, especially, *Thomas Allred.*
- For those near death.
- For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Rev. Gilbert Eliason.*
- 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. 14-16; 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 4, 84-85	Psalms 98, 86-88
Monday:	Psalms 4, 89	Psalms 98, 90-92
Tuesday:	Psalms 4, 93-95	Psalms 98, 96-100
Wednesday:	Psalms 4, 101-102	Psalms 98, 103-104
Thursday:	Psalms 4, 105	Psalms 98, 106
Friday:	Psalms 4, 107	Psalms 98, 108-111
Saturday:	Psalms 4, 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:	Ten Commandments, Apostle’s Creed, Lord’s Prayer
Monday:	Baptism, Confession, Lord’s Supper
Tuesday:	Morning & Evening Prayer; Prayers Before & After Meals

Wednesday: Table of Duties I—Bishops, Pastors, & Preachers; What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors; Of Civil Government; Of Subjects

Thursday: Table of Duties II—To Husbands; To Wives; To Parents; To Children; To Servants, Hired Men & Employees; To Employers; To the Young in General; To Widows; To All in Common

Friday: How One Should Be Taught to Confess

Saturday: Christian Questions with Their Answers

Hymns for the Week:

Morning: TLH 75—“Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken”

Evening: TLH 69—“Arise, Sons of the Kingdom”

Calendar for the Week after Gaudete

Today: Gaudete, The Third Sunday in Advent—Violet

O Sapientia

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Bible Study

Monday: O Adonai

Communion Visit to Myrtle Beach, SC

Tuesday: O Radix Jesse

Rev. Gilbert Eliason’s Birthday

Wednesday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet

O Clavis David

7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Vespers

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

O Oriens

Friday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet

O Rex Gentium

Saturday: Autumn Ember Day—Violet

O Emmanuel

Next Sunday: Rorate coeli, The Fourth Sunday in Advent—Violet

10:00 a.m. Divine Service

11:15 a.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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>. There are also printed copies in the back of the nave.

St. Ignatius Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary

The winter quarter of our seminarian’s last year continues. Please keep the seminary and the seminarian in your prayers.

Poinsettias for Christmas

Please considering bringing a poinsettia plant next Sunday to decorate our sanctuary for the season of Christmas.

Needs for the McCall Hospice House

There is an urgent need at the hospice house for the following items: Hard Candy (individually wrapped) any kind, mints included; Chips, individual size, any kind; Ponytail Holders; Notebooks and notepads; Men’s deodorant; Hair brushes; Q-Tips; Toothpaste, in regular and travel size; and Individual teeth flossers.

Other needs for in-home patients: XL Twin Sheet Sets; Ensure, any kind; and Baby wipes and adult wipes. Please give all collected items to Mike Miller.

To Read in Observance for this week’s Festivals:

Today—Gaudete, The Third Sunday in Advent

Old Testament Lesson:

Malachi 3:1-6

Epistle:

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Holy Gospel:

St. Matthew 11:2-10

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

Old Testament Lesson:

Judges 6:36-40

Epistle:

Ephesians 1:3-6

Holy Gospel:

St. John 20:24-31

December 24th—Rorate coeli, The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 40:1-8

Epistle:

Philippians 4:4-7

Holy Gospel:

St. John 1:19-28

December 24th—The Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord

Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Epistle:

Titus 2:11-14

Holy Gospel:

St. Luke 2:1-14

An Excerpt from Martin Luther’s Sermons

“Christ answered John also for the sake of his disciples. He answers in

GAUDETE

December 17th, 2017



Introit

P: RE- **JOICE** - || in the | Lord | al- | ways. *

C: Again will | I | **say**, - | re- | joice!

P: || Let your gentleness be known | to | all | men. *

C: The | Lord | **is** - | at | hand.

P: || Be anxious | for | no- | thing. *

C: But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be | made | **known** - | to | God. (*Philippians 4:4-6*)

P: || Lord, You have been favorable | to | Your | land; *

C: You have brought back the captivi- | ty | **of** - | Ja- | cob.

P: || You have forgiven the iniquity of | Your | peo- | ple; *

C: You have co- | vered | **all** - | their | sin.

P: || Will You not revive | us | a- | gain. *

C: That Your people may | re- | **joice** - | in | You?

P: || I will hear what God the | Lord | will | speak. *

C: For He will speak peace | to | **His** - | peo- | ple. (*Psalms 85:1-2, 6, 8*)

GLORIA PATRI (From Hymnal)

P: || Rejoice in the | Lord | al- | ways. *

C: Again will | I | **say**, - | re- | joice!

P: || Let your gentleness be known | to | all | men. *

C: The | Lord | **is** - | at | hand.

P: || Be anxious | for | no- | thing. *

C: But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be | made | **known** - | to | God. (*Philippians 4:4-6*)

Collect

Lord, we beseech Thee, give ear to our prayers and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Thy gracious visitation; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Collect for the Season of Advent

Stir up, we beseech Thee, Thy power, O Lord, and come, that by Thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Thy mighty deliverance; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



Gradual

P: || You who dwell between the cheru- | bim, | shine | forth! *

C: Stir up | Your | **strength** - | and | come!

P: || Give ear, O Shepherd | of | Is- | *ra-el*, • *

C: You who lead Jo- | seph | **like** - | a | flock. (*Psalms 80:1b, 1a*)

Verse

P: || Al- | le- | lu- | ia! *

C: Al- | — | **le**- - | lu- | ia!

P: || Stir | up | Your | strength, *

C: And come and save us! | Al- | **le**- - | lu- | ia! (*Psalms 80:2b*)

Malachi 3:1-6

¹ “Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts. ² “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderer’s soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years. ⁵ And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness against sorcerers, against adulterers, against perjurers, against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, and against those who turn away an alien—because they do not fear Me,” says the LORD of hosts. ⁶ “For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.”

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

¹ Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ² Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. ³ But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴ For I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. ⁵ Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who

will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.

St. Matthew 11:2-10

² And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples ³ and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” ⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: ⁵ ‘The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.’” ⁷ As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ For this is he of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.’”

TLH 74 “Once He Came in Blessing”

Johann Roh, 1544

1. Once He came in blessing,
All our ills redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us,
Hope and freedom gave us.

2. Still He comes within us,
Still His voice would win us
From the sins that hurt us;
Would to Truth convert us
From our foolish errors
Ere He comes in terrors.

3. Thus, if thou hast known Him,
Not ashamed to own Him,
But wilt trust Him boldly
Nor dost love Him coldly,
He will then receive thee,
Heal thee, and forgive thee.

4. He who thus endureth
Bright reward secureth.
Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us;
Let us here confess Thee
Till in Heav'n we bless Thee. Amen.

TLH 75 “Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Harken”

Valentine Thilo, Jr., 1659

1. Ye sons of men, oh, hearken:
Your heart and mind prepare;
To hail th' Almighty Savior,
O sinners, be your care.
He who of grace alone
Our Life and Light was given,
The promised Lord from Heaven,
Unto our world is shown.

2. Prepare the way before Him;
Prepare for Him the best.
Cast out whate'er offendeth
This great, this heav'nly Guest
Make straight, make plain, the way:
The lowly valleys raising,
The heights of pride abasing,
His path all even lay.

3. The humble heart and lowly
God lifteth up on high;

Beneath His feet in anguish
The haughty soul shall lie.
The heart, sincere and right,
That heeds God's invitation
And makes true preparation,
It is the Lord's delight.

4. Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus,
Turn not from me aside,
And grant that I receive Thee
This blessed Adventide.
From stall and manger low
Come Thou to dwell within me;
Loud praises will I sing Thee
And forth glory show. Amen.

TLH 69 “Arise, Sons of the Kingdom”

Johann Rist, 1651

1. Arise, sons of the Kingdom!
The King is drawing nigh;
Arise and hail with gladness
The Ruler from on high.
Ye Christians, hasten forth!
Your praise and homage bring Him
And glad hosannas sing Him;
Naught else your love is worth.

2. Arise, ye drooping mourners!
The King is very near;
Away with grief and sorrow!
For, lo, your Help is here.
Behold, in many a place—
Oh, blessed consolation!—
You find Him, your Salvation,
Within His means of grace.

3. Arise, ye much afflicted!
The King is not afar.
Rejoice, ye long dejected,
Behold the Morning Star!
The Lord will give you joy;
Tho' troubles now distress you,
With comfort He will bless you,
E'en death will He destroy.

4. Arise, ye poor and needy!
The King provides for you;
He comes with succor speedy,
With mercy ever new.
Receive your gracious King,
The Giver of all blessing,
Hail Him, His Name confessing,
And glad hosannas sing.

5. Be righteous, ye his subjects,
The King is just and true;
Prepare for Him a highway,
Make all things straight and new.
For, lo, He means it well;
Then willing bear the crosses
That He Himself imposes,
Nor let your courage fail.

6. Oh, rich the gifts Thou bringest,
Thyself made poor and weak!
O Love beyond expression,
That thus can sinners seek!
For this, O Lord, will we
Our joyous tribute bring Thee
And glad hosannas sing Thee
And ever grateful be. Amen.

TLH 55 “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”
Johann G. Olearius, 1664

1. Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
Only Hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see;
Anxiously we wait for Thee.

2. Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Tho' I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my Guest Divine!

3. My hosannas and my palms
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can,
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace,
Lord, Thy merit thro' Thy grace.

4. Hail, hosanna, David's Son!
Help, Lord, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,
Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing:
Hail, hosanna! to our King. Amen.

Oh, Come, Thou Wisdom, From on High

1. Oh, come, Thou Wisdom, from on high,
And order all things by Thy might;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. Oh, come, Oh, come, Thou Lord of Might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

3. Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free,
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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!

5. Oh, come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

6. Oh, come, Desire of the Nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid ev'ry strife and quarrel cease
And fill the world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

7. Oh, come, Oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel! Amen.