

Service Folder



Quinquagesima

“50th” Day before Easter

February 23, 2020

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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Sts. Peter & Paul Lutheran Mission

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Rev. Paul A. Rydecki, Pastor

member of the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! Emmanuel is a liturgical, traditional, historical, evangelical, catholic, orthodox, confessional Lutheran congregation, in communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA). We believe that the Bible is the very Word of God, inspired and without any errors. We confess the truth of Scripture according to the Lutheran Book of Concord of 1580, without exception or reservation. We observe the calendar of the traditional Church Year and follow the Historic Lectionary. We celebrate the Divine Service (also known as the Mass) every Sunday and on other festivals, and we welcome visitors to hear God's Word with us.



With regard to Holy Communion, we ask our visitors to respect our practice of *closed Communion*, which means that only communicant members of our congregation or of other congregations in communion with us are invited to commune at the Lord's Table here, after they have been examined and absolved. Classes are offered throughout the year by the pastor so that those who are interested in joining our Communion fellowship have the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith and our confession of it.

The Order of Service is *The Order of Holy Communion* (page 15) from *The Lutheran Hymnal* (TLH). The Scriptures are read from the New King James Version (NKJV). The Propers (the parts that change from week to week) are noted on the following page of this Service Folder.

Service note: The *Gloria in Excelsis* and all Hallelujah's are omitted from the service from Septuagesima until the Vigil of Easter.

EVENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE...

- Wed., Feb. 26 - Divine Service for First Day of Lent, 6:30 PM
 - Sun., Mar. 1 - Bible class/Sunday school, 9 AM
 - Divine Service, 10:15 AM (Lent 1 - *Invocavit*)
 - Wed., Mar. 4 - Chick Fil A Lenten Supper, 5:45 PM
 - Lenten Vespers, 6:30 PM
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HYMNS

- OPENING HYMN** TLH #409 – *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*
HYMN (after the Creed) TLH #375 - *If Thy Beloved Son, O God*
HYMN (after General Prayer) TLH #437 – *Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode*
DISTRIBUTION HYMN TLH #385 - *Now I Have Found the Firm Foundation*

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13 **Gospel:** Luke 18:31-43

The Order of Holy Communion begins on p. 15 of The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH).

THE INTROIT (after the general Absolution) Psalm 31:2b-3; Psalm 31:1, 5, 9, and 16

- P** (Antiphon) BE MY | rock of re- -fuge, *
 A fortress of de- | fense __ to __ save me.
 For You are my rock | and my for- -tress. *
 Therefore, for Your name’s sake, lead | me __ and __ guide me.



- G** In You, O Lord, I put my trust; let me nev- | er be a- -shamed; *
 Deliver me in | Your __ right- -eousness.

GLORIA PATRI (p.16): **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

- P** (Antiphon)

The service continues with the Kyrie (p.17), followed immediately by the Collect.

THE GRADUAL & TRACT (after the Epistle) Ps. 77:14-15; Ps. 100:1-2a, 4a, 3

- P** You are the God | who does won- -ders; *
 You have declared Your strength a- | mong __ the __ peoples.
- G** You have with Your arm re- | deemed Your peo- -ple, *
 The sons of Ja- | cob __ and __ Joseph.
- P** Make a joyful shout to the | Lord, all you __ lands! *
 Serve the | Lord __ with __ gladness;
- G** Enter into His gates | with thanksgiv- -ing. *
 Know that the | Lord, __ He __ is God;
It is He who has made us, and | not we our- -selves; *
We are His people and the sheep | of __ His __ pasture.

from the *Apology of the Augsburg Confession*: Art. IV

To receive the forgiveness of sins is to be justified, according to Psalm 32:1, “Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven.” By faith alone in Christ – not through love, not because of love or works – we receive the forgiveness of sins, although love follows faith. Therefore, by faith alone we are justified. We understand justification as the making of a righteous person out of an unrighteous one, or that a person is regenerated.

It will become easy to state the minor premise ‹that we receive forgiveness of sin by faith, not by love› if we know how forgiveness of sins happens. With great indifference the adversaries dispute whether forgiveness of sins and infusion of grace are the same change. Being useless men, they did not know how to answer this question. In the forgiveness of sins, the terrors of sin and of eternal death must be overcome in the heart. Paul testifies about this in 1 Corinthians 15:56–57, “The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” In other words, sin terrifies consciences. This happens through the Law, which shows God’s wrath against sin. But we gain the victory through Christ. How? Through faith, when we comfort ourselves by confidence in the mercy promised for Christ’s sake. Therefore, we prove the minor premise. God’s wrath cannot be appeased if we set our own works against it. For Christ has been set forth as an Atoning Sacrifice so, that for His sake, the Father may be reconciled to us. But Christ is not received as a Mediator except by faith. Therefore, by faith alone we receive forgiveness of sins when we comfort our hearts with confidence in the mercy promised for Christ’s sake. Likewise, Paul says in Romans 5:2, “Through Him we have also obtained access” and adds, “by faith.” Therefore, we are reconciled to the Father and receive forgiveness of sins when we are comforted with confidence in the mercy promised for Christ’s sake.