

Service Folder



The Festival of St. Stephen

December 26, 2021

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 Propers (the parts that change from week to week) are noted on the following page of this Service Folder.

EVENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE...

- Sat., Jan. 1 - Matins 10 AM (The Circumcision of Our Lord)
- Sun., Jan. 2 - **No Bible class or Sunday School**
- Divine Service, 10:15 AM (Christmas 2)

Daily Lectionary for the Week after Christmas:

	Morning	Evening
Dec. 27	John 1:15-18	Is. 32:1-8
Dec. 28	Luke 2:15-20	Is. 46:3-13
Dec. 29	Luke 2:22-24	Is. 49:1-13
Dec. 30	Luke 2:25-32	Is. 55:1-13
Dec. 31	Matt. 2:13-15	Is. 42:1-9
Jan. 1	Gal. 3:23-29	Luke 2:21

HYMNS

OPENING HYMN	<i>TLH #98 - Of the Father's Love Begotten</i>
HYMN (after the Creed)	<i>TLH #108 – We Sing Immanuel Thy Praise</i>
HYMN (after General Prayer)	<i>TLH #96 - Oh Rejoice Ye Christians Loudly</i>
DISTRIBUTION HYMN	<i>TLH #305 - Soul Adorn Thyself with Gladness</i>

Epistle: Acts 6:8 - 7:60

Gospel: Matthew 23:34-39

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

THE INTROIT (after the general Absolution) *Ps. 119:23,95,109:26,119:22; Ps. 119:1*

- P** (Antiphon) PRINCES also sit and speak a- | gainst me, *
 The wicked wait for me | to destroy me.
 Help me, O Lord | my God! *
 For I have kept Your | testimonies.



- G** Blessèd are the undefiled in | the way, *
 Who walk in the | law of the Lord!

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 and the Gloria in Excelsis, TLH p.17.

THE HALLELUJAH (after the Epistle)

Acts 7:56

- P** Alle- | luia! *
 Al- | — leluia!
- G** Look! I see the heavens | opened, *
 And the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God! |
 Alleluia!

The service continues with The Triple Hallelujah and Gospel, TLH p.20.

from the Formula of Concord: Solid Declaration, VIII

On account of this personal union and communion of the divine and the human nature in Christ we believe, teach, and confess also, according to our simple Christian faith, what is said concerning the majesty of Christ according to His humanity, [by which He sits] at the right hand of the almighty power of God, and what is connected therewith [follows therefrom]; all of which would be naught and could not stand if this personal union and communion of the natures in the person of Christ did not exist *realiter*, that is, in deed and truth.

On account of this personal union and communion of the natures, Mary, the most blessed Virgin, bore not a mere man, but, as the angel [Gabriel] testifies, such a man as is truly the Son of the most high God, who showed His divine majesty even in His mother's womb, inasmuch as He was born of a virgin, with her virginity inviolate. Therefore she is truly the mother of God, and nevertheless remained a virgin.

In virtue of this He also wrought all His miracles, and manifested this His divine majesty, according to His pleasure, when and as He willed, and therefore not first after His resurrection and ascension only, but also in His state of humiliation; for example, at the wedding at Cana of Galilee; also, when He was twelve years old, among the learned; also in the garden, when with a word He cast His enemies to the ground; likewise in death, when He died not simply as any other man, but in and with His death conquered sin, death, devil, hell, and eternal damnation; which the human nature alone would not have been able to do if it had not been thus personally united and had not had communion with the divine nature.