

# Our Saviour Lutheran Church



Fourth Sunday in Advent  
*Rorate Coeli*  
21 December 2014

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## **Welcome!**

We are delighted to have you with us this morning to receive the Lord's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Please also record your visit in the visitors' book at the back. If you would like a phone call or a pastoral visit, speak to the pastor or leave a note in the visitors' book.

## **The Offering**

Members of this church are privileged to give to the Lord for the work of His church in this community and throughout the world. *Visitors should not feel obliged in any way to contribute to the offering plate.*

## **Children in the Service**

It is a delight and a privilege to have children in the service. Children as much as adults are members of God's family and Jesus welcomes little children to Him.

There is a Sunday School for children during the sermon. The children leave at the beginning of the sermon and return to church after the prayers.

Please don't worry if your child won't sit still or quietly throughout the service. Most young children won't manage that! There is plenty of space at the back of the room. If you do need to take a child outside, the smaller room is available for that purpose.

## **Holy Communion**

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, we eat and drink the true body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and the wine, according to Jesus' own words. We also believe that those who participate in Holy Communion in a particular congregation should be in agreement in the confession of the faith.

**If you are visiting us and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor *before the service*. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.**

Our teaching on this matter is explained in more detail in the little leaflet, 'Why Closed Communion?', which is available at the back of the church.

**Thank you for honouring our beliefs.**

Hymns: 344, 357, 331, 528

### Catechism

**P** How can water do such great things?

**C** Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trust this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

“He saved us ... by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is trustworthy.”

**Introit** (*Ps. 19:1, 4–6; antiphon: Is. 45:8*)



**A** Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;  
let the earth | open,\*  
that salvation and righteousness | may bear  
fruit.

**C** The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*  
and the sky above proclaims  
his | handiwork.

**A** Their measuring line goes out through all the  
earth, and their words to the end | of the world.\*  
In them he has set a tent | for the sun,

**C** which comes out like a bridegroom leaving  
his | chamber,\*  
and, like a strong man, runs its | course  
with joy.

**A** Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its  
circuit to the | end of them,\*  
and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

**C** ♦ *Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\**  
*and to the Holy | Spirit;*  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now and will be forever. | Amen.

**A** Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;

**C** let the earth | open,\*  
that salvation and righteousness | may  
bear fruit.

### Collect of the Day

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### Old Testament Reading—Deuteronomy 18:15–19

**Gradual** (*Ps. 145:18, 21*)

**A** The LORD is near to all who | call on him,\*  
to all who call on | him in truth.

**C** My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and let all flesh bless his holy name  
forever and | ever.

**Epistle Reading—Philippians 4:4–7**

**Alleluia & Verse** (*Ps.40:17b*)

**C** Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!  
You are my help and my de - liv - er - er;\*  
do not delay, O my God!  
Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!' with a red 'C' time signature. The second staff contains 'You are my help and my de - liv - er - er;\*' with a red 'C' time signature. The third staff contains 'do not delay, O my God!' with a red 'C' time signature. The fourth staff contains 'Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!' with a red 'C' time signature. The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes.

**Gospel Reading—John 1:19–28**

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Members**

Ron; Frank; John

**Family members**

Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family; Roly (dementia);  
Matthew (kidney injury); Geoffrey & family

**Friends of members**

Ilse Kelly (old age); Trevor (unemployed); Mary (cancer);  
Gus and Mae (health); Claire and Phil (health); Helen  
Kriewaldt (stroke, breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP);  
Karen & Phil (depression); Rob (depression); Bob Waters  
(cancer); Ronnie (cancer); Sally (health); Leanne (health);  
Bonnie & family of Ray & Doreen; Gina & family; Rita  
Annis (health); Clare Annis (cancer); Julie Gardiner  
(health)

**ELCE**

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Bristol Mission, Pr. Bessel;  
ELCE Central Office; Wendy Nicolson (cancer); Pr.  
Edge, Pr. McNally & Pr. Fry (health)

**The Church of God**

Catholic Parish of Fareham & Portchester; International  
Lutheran Council; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May;  
Somali Christian Mission, Mohamed Gurhan; Pr. Roger  
Jones (stroke)

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD**  
**LARGE CATECHISM**  
**THE THIRD COMMANDMENT**

Note, therefore, that the force and power of this commandment lies not in the resting, but in the sanctifying, so that a special *holy exercise* belongs to this day. For other works and occupations are not properly called holy exercises, unless the person is holy first. But here a work is to be done by which a person is himself made holy. This is done (as we have heard) only through God's Word. For this reason, particular places, times, persons, and the entire outward order of worship have been created and appointed, so that there may be order in public practice.

So much depends upon God's Word. Without it, no holy day can be sanctified. Therefore, we must know that God insists upon a strict observance of this commandment and will punish all who despise His Word and are not willing to hear and learn it, especially at the time appointed for the purpose. Paragraph 94-95

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

#### This Week

Today	5 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
Mon	2 pm	Carol singing at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall
Tue	2 pm	Carol singing at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
Wed	11 pm	Midnight Mass (Scout Hall)
Thu	10 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
Sun	10.30 am	Morning Service (Scout Hall)— <i>Holy Innocents</i>

#### Next Month

3 Jan	5.30 pm	Saturday supper
4 Jan	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	12.15 pm	Voters' Assembly
7 Jan	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	7 pm	Epiphany—Divine Service
8 Jan	7.30 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
11 Jan	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	4.30 pm	Service at Brighton Mission
14 Jan	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
18 Jan	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	6 pm	Youth Club
23 Jan	3 pm	Bible study at Brighton Mission
25 Jan	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	5 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
28 Jan	2 pm	Devotion at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall
31 Jan	5.30 pm	Saturday Supper (with Westfield House staff & students)
1 Feb	10.30 am	Divine Service (St. Francis—Westfield House Sunday)

#### **Next Week's Readings:**

*Midnight Mass: Isa. 9:2-7; Tit. 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14*

*Christmas Day: Exod. 40:17-21, 34-38; Tit. 3:4-7; Jn. 1:1-14*

*Holy Innocents: Jer. 31:15-17; Rev. 14:1-5; Matt. 2:13-18*

#### **Daily Readings:**

Sun: Isaiah 42:1-25 Revelation 9:1-12 *Large Catechism I: 179-188*

Mon: Is 43:1-24 Rev 9:13-10:11 *LC I: 189-198*

Tue: Is 43:25-44:20 Rev 11:1-19 *LC I: 199-210*

Wed: Is 44:21-45:13, 20-25 Rev 12:1-17 *LC I: 211-221*

Thu: Is 49:1-18 Matthew 1:1-17 *LC I: 222-233*

Fri: Is 49:22-26; 50:4-5:1:8, 12-16 Matt 1:18-25 *LC I: 234-244*

Sat: Is 51:17-52:12 Matt 2:1-12 *LC I: 245-253*

Sun: Is 52:13-54:10 Matt 2:13-23 *LC I: 254-262*

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