

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

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Ad Te Levavi (First Sunday of Advent) 29 November 2015

Hymns: 343, 332, 334, 338

Catechism Reading

P What sins should we confess?

C Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

P Which are these?

C Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O Come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lowly exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel"

Volunteer Rota

Today: Music: Calvin—Sunday School: Barbara—Teas: Rosemary
Next week: Music: David —Sunday School: Sarah—Teas: Diane

In Our Prayers

Members

Ron; Frank

Family of members

Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family;

Roly (dementia); Jane (mental health);

John (health); Philip (health); Rita Anniss

(health); Claire Anniss (health)

Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Trevor (unemployed);

Gus & Mae (health); Claire & Phil

(health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke, breast

cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Rob

(depression, cancer); Richard (mental

health); Bob Waters (cancer); Geoff

(cancer); Sally (health); Leanne (health);

Gina & family; Roger (cancer); Bobbie

(health); Tim (health); Sarah & family

(cancer); Rita Janes (cancer); Caroline

Deans (cancer)

ELCE

St. Columba Lutheran Church, Pr. Edge;

ELCE Congregational Life Committee;

Wendy Nicolson (cancer)

The Church of God

Fareham Methodist Church; Lutherans in

Africa, Pr. James May; Somali Christian

Mission, Mohamed Gurhan

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THE APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION ARTICLE IV: JUSTIFICATION

In order that the subject might be made quite clear, we have shown well enough so far, both from testimonies of Scripture and arguments derived from Scripture, that we receive forgiveness of sins for Christ's sake through faith alone. We have shown that through faith alone we are justified, that is, unrighteous people are made righteous, or regenerated. How necessary the knowledge of this faith is can be easily judged. Because Christ's office is recognized in this alone, we receive Christ's benefits by this alone. Only this teaching brings sure and firm consolation to pious minds. In the Church there must be the teaching by which the pious may receive the sure hope of salvation. For the adversaries give people bad advice when they tell them to doubt whether they receive forgiveness of sins. How will such persons sustain themselves in death who have heard nothing of this faith and think that they ought to doubt whether they receive forgiveness of sins? Besides, it is necessary that the Gospel be kept in Christ's Church, namely, the promise that sins are freely forgiven for Christ's sake. Those who teach nothing of this faith we speak about, completely abolish the Gospel. But the Scholastics mention not even a word about this faith. Our adversaries follow them and reject this faith. Nor do they see that by rejecting this faith they abolish the entire promise about the free forgiveness of sins and the righteousness of Christ.

Paragraphs 117–121

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HYMN OF THE DAY: SAVIOUR OF THE NATIONS COME (LSB 332)

“Saviour of the Nations, Come” is one of the oldest hymns in the hymnal. Attributed to St. Ambrose (b. 340–397), it is a prayer Christ would come today. This is not a vain hope as Christ has come from the Father in heaven. The second verse sings it this way: “Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh Woman’s offspring, pure and fresh.”

The first verse of the hymn and then the sixth and the seventh are the petitions of the prayer, asking Christ to come and heal our ills of body and soul, and shine into the world. That prayer is grounded on the facts contained in verses two through five. While sung instead of spoken they are quite similar to our creeds. Consider verse five “God the Father was his source, Back to God He ran His course. Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.” Finally it closes with a doxology.

The hymn sets the Advent theme, “Christ has come, is coming, and will come again.” It is a particularly rich exposition of the incarnation, undeniably setting the tone for the season as a whole, the Time of Christmas, which includes Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Luther translated this hymn for the people’s use almost literally. It was arranged for congregational singing with the tune written by Johann Walter, Luther’s friend, whose own hymn, “The Bridegroom soon will call us”, was sung by many on the last Sunday of the Church Year.

Rev. Adrian N. Sherrill serves Trinity Lutheran Church, Denver, Colorado.

Christmas Day Lunch

If you know anyone who is likely to be alone on Christmas Day, please let them know about the Christmas Day Lunch. Coordinated by Community Action Fareham, Fareham Good Neighbours and Christians Together in Fareham, the event will be held at St Johns Church, St Michael’s Grove, Fareham.

Pick up a form at Community Action Fareham, 163 West Street, Fareham.

Closing date for application Monday 30th November 2015 (tomorrow).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

This week

Today	3 pm	Bible study at Oxford Mission
	4.30 pm	Divine Service at Oxford Mission
Mon	7.30 pm	Fareham & Gosport Friends of the Homeless AGM (St. John's)
Wed	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	7 pm	Lenten Vespers (St. Francis)
Sun	10.30 am	Divine Service— <i>Special Offering for Westfield House</i>
	6 pm	Youth Club

Next Month

9 Dec	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
	7 pm	Lenten Vespers (St. Francis)
13 Dec	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	4.30 pm	Divine Service at Brighton Mission
16 Dec	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	7 pm	Lenten Vespers (St. Francis)
20 Dec	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	6 pm	Youth Club (tbc)
22 Dec	11 am	Christmas Carols at Merry Hall
	2:30 pm	Christmas Carols at Willow Tree Lodge
23 Dec	7 pm	Lenten Vespers (St. Francis)
24 Dec	11 pm	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
25 Dec	10 am (tbc)	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
27 Dec	10 am (tbc)	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	3 pm	Bible study at Oxford Mission (tbc)
	4.30 pm	Divine Service at Oxford Mission (tbc)

Daily Readings:

Sun: Is 5:1-25 Amos 1:1-9:15 1 Pet 2:1-12 LC Longer Preface:14-20

Mon: Is 6:1-7:9 1 Pet 2:13-25 LC Short Preface:1-13

Tue: Is 7:10-8:8 1 Pet 3:1-22 LC Short Preface:14-28

Wed: Is 8:9-9:7 1 Pet 4:1-19 LC I:1-12

Thu: Is 9:8-10:11 1 Pet 5:1-14 LC I:13-23

Fri: Is 10:12-27a, 33-34 2 Pet 1:1-21 LC I:24-29

Sat: Is 11:1-12:6 2 Pet 2:1-22 LC I:30-40

Sun: Is 14:1-23 2 Pet 3:1-18 LC I:41-48