

# Our Saviour Lutheran Church

The Parsonage, 65 Furzehall Avenue, Fareham, PO16 8UD  
*www.oslc.org.uk*

Pastor: Rev. Tapani Simojoki  
Tel: 01329 822832 Mob: 07825 447475 e-mail: pastor@oslc.org.uk

## *Rorate Coeli*

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**18 December 2016**

**Welcome to our visitors this morning.** Please sign our visitors' book and stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

We believe that in Holy Communion, we eat and drink the true body and blood of Christ. During Communion, **everyone is welcome to come forward for a blessing.**

In keeping with the teaching of the New Testament, it is our practice to commune only those who have been confirmed in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (or a sister Church) and are under the pastoral care of this congregation. If you are visiting and would like to receive the Sacrament today, please speak to the pastor **before the service.** Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

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**Today's hymns:** *Supplement p. 9, 357, 343, 352*

### **Catechism Reading**

- P** The Close of the Commandments. What does God say about all these commandments?
- C** He says, "I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- P** What does this mean?
- C** God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

*Turn to the Introit on the laminated card.*

### **Volunteer Rota**

Today: Music: Hanna—Sunday School: Sarah & Daniel—Teas: Dot  
Next week: Music: Hanna—No Sunday school or after-service refreshments

*The Volunteer Rota for 2017 is now on the notice board, ready to be filled.*

## **O Come, O Come Immanuel**

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!

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### **In Our Prayers**

#### **Members**

Ron; Diane (melanoma); Sindy  
Steinberga & Nikola

#### **Family of members**

Family of †Frank; Diana (old age); Roly  
(dementia); Rita Anniss (health); Claire  
Annis (health); Shirley Thomas (breast  
cancer); Jack & Joan Fast (dementia &  
lung cancer); Doug (heart operation) &  
Myra; Derek (cancer); Sophie Edmonds  
(kidney operation)

#### **Friends of members**

Ilse Kelly (old age); Jim Ferguson (stroke);  
Eunice (cancer); Gus & Mae (health);  
Becky Varsogea (brain tumour); Claire &  
Phil (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke,  
breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP);  
Bob Waters (cancer); Graham (cancer);

John (cancer); Emma (cancer); Gina &  
family; Tim (health); Richard (mental  
health); Katie (depression); Lynette  
Wiebusch (Alzheimer's)

#### **Local Community**

Caroline Deans (cancer); Leanne (health);  
Karen (depression); Tina (depression)

#### **ELCE**

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Pr. Edge;  
Wendy Nicolson (cancer); baby Christian  
Graham (cancer)

#### **The Church of God**

International Lutheran Council; St.  
Columba CofE; Naveed (persecution);  
Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May;  
Somali Christian Mission, Mohamed  
Gurhan

### **HYMN OF THE DAY: O COME, O COME EMMANUEL (LSB357)**

An unknown author of the 12th century brings us one of Christendom's most beloved Advent hymns. Each stanza is taken from the Book of Isaiah proclaiming different titles for the Son of God.

In fine print LSB includes this note "This hymn is based on seven ancient antiphons that were used at Vespers during the last seven days of Advent." (An antiphon is a short verse which aids in establishing the theme of the day. It is often sung at the beginning and again at the end of a Psalm, such as the Introit.)

Each of the seven 'O' antiphons was appointed for a different day between 17–23 December, culminating with "Emmanuel". In the original Latin, the first letters of the antiphons formed an acrostic: read backwards, they spell "ERO CRAS", meaning "Tomorrow I will come"—an answer to the prayer of this hymn.

**Emmanuel** – “God with us,” – “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Emmanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)

**Wisdom from on high** – “And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding...” (11:2)

**Lord of Might** – “For the LORD is our Judge; the LORD is our Lawgiver; the LORD is our King; He will save us.” (33:22)

**Branch of Jesse’s tree** – “There shall come forth a Shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots shall bear Fruit.” (11:1)

**Key of David** - And I will place on His shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. (22:22)

**Dayspring from on high** - The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has Light shined. (9:2)

**King of Peace** - For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (9:6)

*Rev. Adrian N. Sherrill*

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### **Westfield House Sunday**

Westfield House have accepted our invitation to host staff and students again for a weekend. Please mark the first weekend in February (4th–5th) in your diaries! The plan, as usual, is to hold a Saturday Supper with the students; have them join us for Divine Service on Sunday; and send them home with a packed lunch.

Any offers of accommodation will be gratefully received!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### This Week

|       |          |   |
|-------|----------|---|
| Today | 3.30 pm  | Bible study at Oxford Lutheran Mission    |
|       | 4.30 pm  | Divine Service at Oxford Lutheran Mission |
| Mon   | 10.30 am | Carol Singing at Willow Tree Lodge        |
|       | 2 pm     | Carol Singing at Merry Hall               |
| Wed   | 10.30 am | Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)                |
|       | 2 pm     | Carol Singing at Kiln Lodge               |
|       | 3 pm     | Carol Singing at Hunters Lodge            |
|       | 7 pm     | Advent Vespers (2 Southmead Road)         |
| Fri   | 2.30 pm  | Community Carol Service (Scout Hall)      |
| Sat   | 11 pm    | Divine Service—Midnight Mass (Scout Hall) |
| Sun   | 10 am    | Divine Service (Scout Hall)               |

### Next Month

|           |          |  |
|-----------|----------|--|
| 26-30 Dec |          | Pastor on annual leave                 |
| 1 Jan     | 10.30 am | Divine Service (Scout Hall)            |
| 4 Jan     | 10.30 am | Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)             |
| 6 Jan     | 6.45 pm  | Divine Service—Epiphany                |
| 8 Jan     | 10.30 am | Divine Service (Scout Hall)            |
|           | 12.15 pm | Voters' Assembly                       |
|           | 4.30 pm  | Divine Service at Brighton Mission     |
| 11 Jan    | 10.30 am | Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)             |
|           | 2 pm     | Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge |
| 15 Jan    | 10.30 am | Divine Service (Scout Hall)            |
|           | 6 pm     | Youth Club                             |
| 17 Jan    | 7.30 pm  | Bible study (Parsonage)                |
| 18 Jan    | 10.30 am | Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)             |
| 22 Jan    | 10.30 am | Divine Service (Scout Hall)            |
|           | 3 pm     | Bible study at Oxford Mission          |
|           | 4.30 pm  | Pastor at Oxford Mission               |

### Daily Readings:

Sun: Isaiah 49:1–18 Matthew 1:1–17 *Large Catechism I:222–233*

Mon: Is 49:22–26; 50:4–51:8, 12–16 Matt 1:18–25 *LC I:234–244*

Tue: Is 51:17–52:12 Matt 2:1–12 *LC I:245–253*

Wed: Is 52:13–54:10 Matt 2:13–23 *LC I:254–262*

Thu: Is 55:1–13 Luke 1:1–25 *LC I:263–275*

Fri: Is 58:1–59:3, 14–21 Luke 1:26–38 *LC I:276–291*

Sat: Is 60:1–22 Luke 1:39–56 *LC I:292–302*

Sun: Is 61:1–11 Luke 1:57–80 *LC I:303–310*