

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Rev. Adam Moline | Rev. Thomas Goodroad
Vicar Jacob Garrison

3825 Wildbriar Lane, Lincoln, NE
Church Office: (402) 423-7639

Meet at the cross:
KNNa 95.7 FM or
www.thecross957.org

E-Mail:
info@goodshepherdlincoln.org
Website:
www.goodshepherdlincoln.org

Services are broadcast live on
Sundays at 8 am and 10:30 am
and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Communion Statement:

In our congregation we follow the historic Lutheran practice of closed communion. This is nothing new, nor a novel innovation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Rather, for many centuries, this was the universal practice of all of Christendom, and to this day, is still practiced by the majority of the Christian Church.

We observe closed communion because the Lord's Supper is a public profession of our unity of faith. (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

We believe Christ's body and blood are truly present in the bread and the wine for forgiveness of our sins. (1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

We observe closed communion to protect people in body and soul from taking the Lord's Supper to their judgment and harm. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Our practice is prompted by our love, care, and concern for all people. If you are not a communicant member of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please do not commune today.

However, please know that we look forward to having you at the Lord's Table soon. We sincerely invite you to visit with Pastors Moline or Goodroad about the joys of Holy Communion. They will offer you instruction about our Lutheran faith and this sacrament of the Lord's Supper, so you will be ready to stand with us and partake of this wonderful meal. **If you are not yet prepared to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest and the pastor will give you a baptismal blessing.**

Fourth Sunday in Advent Rorate Coeli

December 24, 2023

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



Shower, O heavens, | from above,
and let the clouds | rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;*
let the earth | cause them both to sprout.
The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,*
and the sky above pro- | claims his handiwork.
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,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,*
and, like a strong man, | runs its course with joy.
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.*

**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.**

Shower, O heavens, | from above,
and let the clouds | rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;*
let the earth | cause them both to sprout.*

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.

Gradual (Ps. 145:18, 21)

The LORD is near to all who | call on him,*
to all who | call on him in truth.
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,*
and let all flesh bless his holy name for- | ever and ever.

Alleluia and Verse (Psalm 40:17b)



You are my help and my de- | liverer;*
do not delay, | O my God!

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE LSB 184

Welcome and Prayer

Opening Hymn..... LSB 331

Invocation, Confession and

Absolution.....LSB 184-185

Introit—*See Propers**

Kyrie* LSB 186

Salutation and Collect of the Day*

Scripture Readings (*on back*):

Old Testament...Deuteronomy 18:15-19

Gradual—*See Propers*

Epistle.....Philippians 4:4-7

Alleluia and Verse*—*See Propers*

Gospel*John 1:19-28

Nicene Creed* LSB 191

Hymn of the Day..... LSB 357

Sermon*Pastor Adam Moline*

Offertory and Offering* LSB 192-193

Prayer of the Church*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface*LSB 194

Sanctus*LSB 195

Lord's Prayer* LSB 196

Words of Institution*LSB 197

Agnus Dei* LSB 198

**Distribution HymnsLSB 334,
350, 353, 347, 332**

Nunc Dimittis*LSB 199-200

Thanksgiving*LSB 200-201

Salutation*LSB 201

Benedicamus*LSB 202

Benediction*LSB 202

Closing Hymn..... LSB 383

*Please Stand

Hymns for today—

OPENING HYMN

LSB 331 ...The Advent of Our King

SERMON HYMN

LSB 357O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 334..... O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

LSB 350..... Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

LSB 353Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

LSB 347 ... Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 332 Savior of the Nations, Come

CLOSING HYMN

LSB 383..... A Great and Mighty Wonder

Old Testament:

Deuteronomy 18:15–19

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—¹⁶just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’¹⁷And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.’”

Epistle: Philippians 4:4–7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: John 1:19-28

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He con-

fessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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Missouri Synod
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