

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

I O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
Refrain
 Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
 Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Tune and text: Public domain



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 – Isaiah 7:10–17

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the

good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”



Gradual

- A** Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*
 Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
 Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
 righteous and having sal- | vation.
 Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*
 From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle - Romans 1:1–7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:
 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



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The Holy Gospel – Matthew 1:18–25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a

son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took

place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.



Soli Deo Gloria

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

A Biblical, Confessional and Traditional congregation in the Chicago region committed to ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

THE DIVINE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

PAGE 203

Welcome in the Name of Jesus!

Today, as we gather in the Lord's House, we are united with all the saints—both visible and invisible—around the throne of the Lamb. Here, the Triune God serves us through His appointed Means of Grace: the preaching of His Word and the administration of His Holy Sacraments. These are not optional extras—they are the very heart of the Christian life and the Church itself. Apart from these Means of Grace there are no Christians and there is no Church! In the Divine Service, God takes center stage, delivering His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. It is God's Service to His people. This sacred gathering finds its high point in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, where Christ Himself feeds us with His body and blood.

Dear Visitors and Friends: As the first Christians devoted themselves to the Lord's Supper, they also devoted themselves to the Apostles' Doctrine (Acts 2:42). The two went hand in hand. As we devote ourselves to the Lord's Supper today, we also want to be faithful to the Apostles' Doctrine

For this reason, the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of "Closed Communion." **If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Divine Shepherd, or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.** We do invite those who are not a member of the LCMS to come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like a blessing, as you kneel at the altar, please cross your arms so that your right hand is on your left shoulder and left hand is on your right shoulder. God bless you for Your understanding. **is on your right shoulder. God bless you for Your understanding.**