

FRIDAY — ACTIVITY

Fill in the missing words from the following Scripture verses.

The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in _____.

My mouth will speak the _____ of the LORD, and let all flesh

_____ his holy name forever and ever. — Psalm 145:18, 21

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down _____;

let the earth open, that _____ and righteousness may bear

_____; let the earth cause them both to _____. — Isaiah 45:8a

I will raise up for them a _____ like you from among their

brothers. And I will put my _____ in his mouth, and he shall speak

to them all that I _____ him. — Deuteronomy 18:18

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of _____; all those who practice it

have a good _____. His praise endures forever! — Psalm 111:10

And the _____ of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard

your _____ and your _____ in Christ Jesus. — Philippians 4:7

And Elizabeth was filled with the _____, and she exclaimed

with a loud cry, “_____ are you among women, and blessed is the

_____ of your womb! — Luke 1:41b-42



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Lambs at Pasture™

Rorate Coeli — The Fourth Sunday in Advent

2017

INTROIT

Psalm 19:1, 4–6; antiphon: Isaiah 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 glory of God,

and the sky above proclaims 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.

Glorify be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. 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.

DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

An answer key is available for download at www.stluth.org/lap

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 40:17b

Alleluia. You are my help an my deliverer; do not delay, O my God! Alleluia.

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB #357 — O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CATECHISM CONNECTION:

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism with Explanation (pages 23–25)

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

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. Amen.

DID YOU KNOW?

The word “advent” is derived from the Latin words, *advenire* (to come to) and *adventus* (an arrival). That we might be prepared to celebrate the blessed Feast of the Nativity of Christ our Lord, the Church has set aside the season of Advent as a time to reflect and meditate upon the coming of our Lord Jesus in the Flesh, through His Word and Sacraments, and on the Last Day. Advent is also a time of preparation for Christ’s coming through repentance and faith.

The Forth Sunday in Advent is also known as *Rorate Coeli*, which, in Latin, means: “Drop down heavens” (The ESV translates as “Shower, O heavens). This is the opening phrase of the Introit appointed for the Church’s worship today. — Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness. (Isaiah 45:8 KJV).

MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 111

Describe some of the characteristics of the Lord mentioned in this lesson.

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 24 (page 61)

TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Deuteronomy 18:15–19

Who is the prophet Moses is referring to in this passage?

What does verse 18 mean?

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 125 (pages 127–130)

WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read John 1:19–28

What did the Priests and Levites from Jerusalem ask John the Baptist?
And, how did he answer them?

Optional Reading & Discussion Question

Luke 1:39–56

What happened when Mary greeted Elizabeth? (verses 41–45)

Who is Mary? (verse 43)

Where in the Evening Prayer Service is the Magnificat or Song of Mary sung?
(LSB 243–252)

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 298 (pages 240–241)

THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read Philippians 4:4–7

What does this lesson mean?

Review *Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 197 (page 176)

CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with Explanation and *Rorate Coeli*?