

Announcements

SERVING IN THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May Altar Committee: Shirley Weber
Communion Committee: Sherry Prowatzke and Joanne Smith

7:45 Elder: Lance Carus Ushers: Pat Handlos, Jim Mussomelli,
Acolyte: Jake Mussomelli

10:30 Elder: Paul Kachelmeyer Ushers: Bob Corso, Erich Greschner,
Acolyte: Alia Fischer Ben Banasik

6:45 Wednesday Elder: Bryan Stoltenberg

Sanctuary Candle is given by Patty Hasz.

Treats are given by the Carus and Goltermann families.

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, December 16 – 184 (7:45) 87 (10:30) Bible Class 101
Wednesday, Dec. 19 – 83 (2:30) – 50 (6:45)
Coffee Break Bible Study – 43

OFFERINGS:

Last Week's Offering

General Fund: \$6,193.77

(Loose Plate \$209.77; Gen. Env. \$5984)

Other:

Mortgage Fund: \$100.00

Parking Lot Fund: \$17,370.00

Mercy Fund: \$70.00

Nigeria: \$175.00

Last Week's Total: \$23,908.77

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DEC.:

Reduce the Debt Received in December: \$100.00

Other Funds Received in December: \$2,735.00

Nigeria Funds Received in December: \$375.00

General Fund received in December: \$24,321.47

\$27,531.47

TOTAL PARKING LOT FUND: \$25,292.50 = \$50,585

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 23, 2018

THEME: MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD!

This Sunday's Gospel is the story of the Visitation. After the angel Gabriel had announced to the Virgin Mary that she would be the mother of the Son of God and Jesus was conceived in her womb by the Holy Spirit, Mary departed from Nazareth to Judea to visit her cousin Elizabeth who was pregnant with John, the forerunner of the Christ. These two women give us an example of what it means to live humbly by faith in the Lord's Word. They were receivers! That's what a Christian is. We live from the Lord's Word. Faith receives what the Lord says and yields to His will: "Let it be to me according to Your Word." The life of faith to which these two women were called would not be easy. Elizabeth was an older woman. Mary was young and bore the stigma of a suspicious pregnancy. They were each called to believe the Lord's word of grace in their unique offices as women and mothers. Instead of arguing and rebelling against the Lord for the inconvenience and hardship these children would bring into their lives, they accepted the Lord's will with joy and praise of the God who was so generous to them and to all people in fulfilling the promises of the Gospel. We who are called to live in our vocations by the grace of God in the Gospel of His Son can take up Mary's song, the Magnificat, and sing it as our own joyful confession of faith in Him: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior... for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name."

Guests—Welcome to our Divine Service! We are pleased that you are with us. If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you. Before you leave this morning, please sign our guest register in the narthex.

Pastoral Care and Guests at the Lord's Supper We are concerned about the spiritual welfare of all who commune at the Lord's Table. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation. In Christ, Pastor Bender

Advent Responsive Prayer:

The Spirit and the Church cry out: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

All those who await His appearance pray: **Come, Lord Jesus!**

The whole creation pleads: **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Peace Lutheran Church and Academy
W240 N6145 Maple Avenue, P.O. Box 123, Sussex, WI 53089
Office: (262) 246-3200

The Rev. Peter C. Bender, Pastor — (262) 370-1189
The Rev. Gary V. Gehlbach, Asst. Pastor — (262) 325-3032
www.peacesussex.org

Divine Service: Sunday – 7:45 and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday – 6:45 p.m.
Bible Class and Sunday School: Sunday – 9:15 a.m.

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD—“Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, and they also who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” (Rev. 1:7-8) Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

THIS WEEK:

Private Confession and Absolution: *Sundays from 6:30 to 7:00 a.m., after chapel when school is in session, or by appointment — Call Pastor at 246-3200 or 262-370-1189.*

Sunday Service 7:45 The Visitation

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Lessons and Carols

Bible Class 9:15: The Fifth Commandment (Part 2)

Daily Chapel: Will resume Monday, January 7, 2019

Youth Catechesis Monday 4:30: No Class This Week

Didache Monday 7:00: No Class This Week

Wednesday Divine Service 6:45: No Divine Service this week

Thursday Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:00 will resume Jan. 3, 2019

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL SERVICE SCHEDULE:

- *Christmas Eve Divine Service at 4:00 p.m.*
- *Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service at 8:00 p.m.*
- *Christmas Day Divine Service at 9:30 a.m.*
- *New Year's Eve Divine Service, December 31 at 6:30 p.m.*
- *New Year's Day Divine Service, January 1 at 9:30 a.m.*

Wednesday after Christmas, Dec. 26 – No divine service.

2019 Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle sign-up sheets are now available on the board outside the church kitchen.

News and Notes

\$200,000 Parking Lot Matching Fund Gift! Moved by the Gospel, an anonymous donor has pledged \$200,000 to be used in a “dollar for dollar” matching fund program for the parking-lot fund. This means that every dollar that is contributed to the parking-lot fund will be matched up to 200,000. This program will begin now in 2018 and continue through 2019, allowing the greatest opportunity for tax-deductible contributions over two tax years! We give thanks to God for this wonderful opportunity!

Parish Council does NOT meet in December.

Office hours – This week the church office will be closed Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 and open only until noon Wednesday through Friday.

Please check in the kitchen for empty dishes you may have brought in. They are on the stove top.

Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 30 from 1:30 to 3:30

The Youth Group and Senior Choir will be hosting a Christmas Caroling Party to local nursing homes and shut-ins on the First Sunday after Christmas. Pastor will meet with everyone at church at 1:30; we will pass out song booklets, do a little warm-up, and hit the road. We hope to return to church for some cider and Christmas treats. Everyone is welcome to join us, the more the merrier!

No Senior Choir Rehearsal Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

Sunday School Teachers Meeting Thursday, January 3 at 7pm.

Donations needed for the Academy Auction!

We are in need of donations and sponsors for the 17th Annual Goods and Services Auction to support the Academy! Items that have been donated in the past include tools, gift certificates, sports/event passes, tree cutting services and much more. If you need ideas of what to donate look at the "community chest" table in the narthex. Donation and sponsor forms are available online at www.plaauction.com. Please bring all donations into the church office by January 14, 2019, and if you have any questions contact John Bender at 262-247-5335.

A Girl and A Gun, Saukville Chapter, in conjunction with MPD, will be presenting a 2 hour Active Shooter Preparedness Class on Jan 19th at 6:30pm in Loehle Hall. Taught by law enforcement, you will learn how to react in an emergency in public places. This class is open to adults and teens. Cost is \$30 per person, payable in cash the night of class. Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in hall or on the Facebook event. Questions? Contact Theresa Schneider at tacpjs@yahoo.com or 262-424-4788.

Academy Thought of the Week: Christmas trivia: On the tenth day of Christmas my true love gave to me ... seventh and eighth grade are having fun answering Christmas trivia!

Scrip Update for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year (beginning July 2018)

Year-to-Date Profit: \$ 4,050.51

Last Week's Profit: \$154.33

Participating families last week: 20

Looking for volunteers to help man the Scrip counter in 2019, especially after late service. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Laurie Vogt at lehrerin.laur@gmail.com. Thank you!

Scrip Orders During the Holidays – The Scrip Center will be closed the week of December 23. Ordering will resume on January 7, 2019.

Sunday Order of Service

The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 23, 2018

Divine Service Setting Three Lutheran Service Book p. 184

“And with thy spirit” is the response in this service to the salutation, “The Lord be with you.”

Please follow the order of service printed in the hymnal beginning on page 184. The propers for the day (readings, hymns) are listed below.

Hymn of Invocation **382**
“We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth”

Introit *Sung by all in unison and the Gloria Patri from Setting 3.*

Antiphon *(Is. 45:8a)*

Rain down, you heavens, | from above, *
and let the skies pour down | righteousness;
let the earth | open, *
let them bring forth salvation,
and let righteousness spring up to-| gether.

Psalm *(Ps. 19:1, 4-6)*

The heavens declare the glo-|ry of God; *
and the firmament shows His | handiwork.
Their line has gone out through | all the earth, *
and their words to the end | of the world.
In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,
which is like a bridegroom coming out of his | chamber, *
and rejoices like a strong man to | run its race.
Its rising is from one end of heaven,
and its circuit to the | other end; *
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. *(Antiphon is repeated.)*

Old Testament Reading **Deuteronomy 18:15-19**
Jesus is the Prophet greater than Moses who was foretold.

Gradual *Sung by the congregation* *(Ps. 145:18, 21)*

The LORD is near to all who call up-| on Him, *
to all who call upon | Him in truth.
My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD, *
and all flesh shall bless His holy name forever and | ever.

Epistle **Philippians 4:4-7**
Rejoice in the Lord always.

Alleluia-Verse *Congregation sings the triple Alleluia; Pastor sings the verse*

You are my help and my de-| liverer;
do not delay, O my God. *(Ps. 40:17b)*

Holy Gospel **Luke 1:39-56**
The Visitation

Hymn of the Day **385**
“From East to West”

Distribution Hymns
“A Great and Mighty Wonder” **383**
“The Angel Gabriel” **356**
“Magnificat” **248**

Hymn to Depart **381**
“Let Our Gladness Have No End”