

## Announcements

### SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May                      Altar Committee: Cathy Petersen  
Communion Committee: Joanne Smith, Rosanne Fell, Lois Scaffidi  
Saturday 5:00pm Elder: Mark Schneider  
Sunday 7:45am Elder: Lance Carus  
Sunday 10:30am Elder: Paul Kachelmeyer  
Wednesday 2:30pm Elder: Mark Goltermann  
Wednesday 6:45pm Elder: Kent Franklin

**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God.

### LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Saturday, December 5 – 20  
Sunday, December 6: Early – 105 Late – 74 Bible Class – 108  
Monday, December 7: Didache Divine Service – 25  
Wednesday Advent Midweek, December 9 – 126 (8:00, 2:30 & 6:45)  
Thursday, December 10 – Chapel Matins – 52  
Coffee Break Bible Class, December 10 - 30

### OFFERINGS:

Last Week's Offering

<b>General Fund:</b>	\$10,339.00
(Loose Plate \$1690; Gen. Env. \$8649)	
<b>Mercy fund:</b>	\$ 200.00
<b>Parking Lot fund:</b>	\$ 100.00
<b>Nigeria fund:</b>	\$ 100.00
<b>Last Week's Total:</b>	\$10,739.00

### TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DECEMBER:

General funds received in December:	\$10,339.00
Other funds received in December:	\$ 200.00
Parking Lot funds received in December:	\$ 100.00
Nigeria funds received in December:	\$ 100.00
	\$10,739.00

## Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

### The Third Sunday in Advent

*Gaudete (Rejoice)*

December 12 and 13, 2020

### THEME: REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS!

John the Baptist didn't have a very long ministry. He had no retirement. He had no pension. He preached for a few years preparing the way for Jesus' coming. He was imprisoned by King Herod Antipas and, shortly after the events of this Gospel reading, his head was cut off and presented to the king's brother's wife Herodias with whom Herod had been in an adulterous marriage. So goes the way of God's faithful prophets in this world. When they preach repentance, uncovering man's sin in order to proclaim to them God's salvation in Christ, they are persecuted and put to death. The imprisonment and death of John the Baptist teaches us that there are more important things in life than happiness and success, namely Christ. He is our Lord and Savior. He is the object of our worship and the focus of our hope. It is Christ alone who leads us by and through His suffering and death to the glory of eternal life with God. By all the things through which we suffer, faith is tried in a furnace, the dross is purged, and we are fitted for the Kingdom of God. This is why the introit for this Sunday is the Word of God from Philippians 4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"

### 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!**

**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



**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](http://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**—*"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."* (Colossians 3:16). Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

**THIS WEEK:**

- **Saturday:** **Divine Service** 5:00— Advent 3
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service** 7:45 and 10:30— Advent 3  
**Bible Class** 9:15 — The Birth of John the Baptist
- **Monday:** **Chapel** 8:00  
**Didache Divine Service** – 10:30
- **Tuesday:** **Chapel** 8:00  
**Youth Didache** 4:30
- **Wednesday:** **Advent Communion Service** at 8:00, 2:30, and 6:45  
**Theme:** Raised at Christ's Coming
- **Thursday:** **Chapel Matins with Holy Communion** 8:00  
**Coffee Break Bible Study** 9:00 — O.T. History
- **Friday:** **Chapel** 8:00
- **Saturday:** **Lessons & Carols** (Children's Choirs) 5:00

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

**The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Service of Lessons and Carols—Four Opportunities!**

To afford opportunity for many people to come, yet afford social distancing, there will be four service opportunities this year. The Children's Choirs will be featured at two of the services and the Senior Choir will be featured at two of the services. Sign-up is required for these services. All of these are live streamed

- Children's Choirs on Saturday, Dec. 19, at 5 p.m. (no communion)
- Children's Choirs on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 10:30 (no communion)
- Senior Choir on Sunday, January 3, at 4 p.m. (no communion)
- Epiphany Choral Divine Service, Wednesday, January 6, at 6:45 p.m.  
(Holy Communion will be offered at this service)

**THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AT HOME: The Birth of John the Baptist**  
The next **parents' instructional meeting** is **Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.**

**First Communion**

We give thanks to God that Elisabeth and Savannah LaFore will be received at the Altar for their first communion Saturday, December 12 at the 5:00pm. Divine Service. First Communion is received by those children who have learned by heart the Six Chief Parts of the Small Catechism, who desire the Sacrament in repentant faith, and who have been examined and absolved by

the pastor. We give thanks to God for Elisabeth's and Savannah's confession of faith and pray His blessing upon their continued catechesis.

**Advent Midweek Divine Services—The Sanctity of Life**  
**Wednesdays in Advent at 8:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.**

As we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth, our Advent midweek services will focus upon the sanctity of life. Communion will be offered at all three of the Advent Services.

- December 16: "Raised at Christ's Coming"** 1 Thess. 4:13-18  
**December 23: "Joseph Loves and Cares for His Pregnant Wife"** Matthew 1:18-25

**NEWS AND NOTES**

**Meetings this Month:**

Board of Education – 6:30 pm Tuesday, December 15.  
Board of Properties – 7:00 pm Tuesday, December 15.  
No Parish Council meeting in December.

**Care During the Coronavirus**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we provide many opportunities to receive the Word and Sacrament in somewhat reduced crowds. We continue to ask for your help in signing up for the services, so that we do not overcrowd our nave. If you have signed up for multiple service and your plans change, please let the office know so that someone else can fill that spot. The Lord's Supper is offered at the Didache Divine Service on Mondays, all three Advent Services on Wednesdays, and at the Chapel Matins Service on Thursday.

**Offering envelopes** are available for pick up in the narthex. Please do not use them until January 2021 as many people have new envelope numbers.

**Christmas Poinsettias for the Altar** - Please sign-up to purchase poinsettias for the altar. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. A total of 15 are needed. \$10 each. Make check payable to Peace Lutheran Church.

**Fish Fry Drive-thru** on Friday, December 18th, 5:00-7:00. Mark your calendars and come pick up dinner for family. Tell your friends!

**Baking Volunteers Needed** for fish fry. Each fish fry event we offer a signature homemade "dessert of the week" like cookies or brownies. If you are willing to bake for a fish fry, text or call John Bender at 262-247-5335.

**Weekly Scrip Report:** Week of 12/06/2020 (17 families participating)

Gross sales \$4,172	Profit paid to Academy \$76.50
Attendance - 322	Total profit this fiscal year \$1,872.10

**The last date to order gift cards to guarantee delivery before Christmas is December 14, 2020.**

## The Third Sunday in Advent

December 13, 2020

### Divine Service Setting Three Lutheran Service Book p. 184

*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 344

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

#### Introit *sung by the choir*

*Antiphon* (Phil. 4:4–6)

Rejoice in the Lord alway;  
again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known unto all men;  
the Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in everything,  
by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be made known unto God.

*Psalm* (Ps. 85:1)

Lord, Thou hast been favorable unto Thy land;  
Thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.

*Gloria Patri*

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 Isaiah 40:1-11

The comforting ministry of the Gospel is foretold.

#### Choral Response

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrows load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them.  
Tell her that her sins I cover and her warfare now is over.

#### Epistle I Corinthians 4:1-5

The pastor is a steward of the mysteries of grace

**Alleluia-Verse** *The congregation sings the triple Alleluia before and after the verse of the Day. Choir sings the appointed verse.*

Stir up | your strength\*  
And come and | save us. (Ps. 80:2b)

#### Holy Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

John the Baptist points to Christ

#### Hymn of the Day 345

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

**The Rite of First Communion - Elisabeth and Savannah LaFore**  
*(Saturday, December 12, 5:00pm Divine Service)*

#### Communion Hymns

“Hark the Glad Sound” 349

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” 347

“When All the World Was Cursed” 346

#### Hymn to Depart 849

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”