

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

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

Sanctuary Candle is given in memory of Doreen Corso's sister Janet.

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Saturday, December 12 –40
 Sunday, December 13: Early – 106 Late – 81 Bible Class – 104
 Monday, December 14: Didache Divine Service – 32
 Wednesday Advent Midweek, December 16 – 147 (8:00, 2:30 & 6:45)
 Thursday, December 17 – Chapel Matins – 52
 Coffee Break Bible Class, December 17 - 32

OFFERINGS:

Last Week's Offering

General Fund:	\$14,887.00
(Loose Plate \$672; Gen. Env. \$14,215)	
Mercy fund:	\$ 50.00
Goehner fund:	\$ 50.00
Parking Lot fund:	\$ 200.00
Nigeria fund:	\$ 100.00
Last Week's Total:	\$15,287.00

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DECEMBER:

General funds received in December:	\$25,226.00
Other funds received in December:	\$ 300.00
Parking Lot funds received in December:	\$ 300.00
Nigeria funds received in December:	\$ 200.00
	\$26,026.00

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Rorate Coeli (Rain down, you heavens)

December 19 and 20, 2020

THEME: JESUS IS OUR REDEEMER KINSMAN

Priests and Levites were sent from Jerusalem to John the Baptist to inquire about his ministry and by what authority he was sent to preach and to baptize. The priests and Levites were custodians of the Old Testament temple worship and should have known what the Old Testament Scriptures and liturgy were preparing for. John clearly confessed that he was not the Christ, but rather "the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" John quoted Isaiah the prophet that the priests and Levites might know that he was the promised forerunner who was sent by God to prepare the way for the Messiah's coming. John testified that the Messiah was the eternal Son of God by stating, "There stands One among you whom you do not know. It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me [or ranks higher than I], whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." By referring to the loosing of Messiah's sandal strap, John testified that Jesus was the true Redeemer Kinsman of His people, who would exercise the right of redemption by laying His foot bare in His death upon the cross. By the shedding of His blood He would redeem His people from their sins and crush Satan under His bruised heel (Gen. 3:15). John's testimony to Jesus and call to repentance continues to ring out today in faithful preaching that we might be prepared to receive Jesus in broken and contrite hearts.

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

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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—*"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 4
- **Saturday:** **Lessons and Carols** (Children's Choirs) 5:00
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service** 7:45 — Advent 4
Bible Class 9:15 — Christ's Birth Is Foretold to Joseph
Lessons and Carols (Children's Choirs) 10:30
- **Monday:** **No Chapel – Chapel resumes January 4**
Didache Divine Service – 10:30
- **Tuesday:** **Youth Didache** 4:30
- **Wednesday:** **Advent Communion Service** at 8:00, 2:30, and 6:45
Theme: Joseph Loves and Cares for His Pregnant Wife
- **Thursday:** **No Chapel Matins or Coffee Break Bible Study**
Christmas Eve Divine Services 4, 6, & 8pm
- **Friday:** **No Chapel** 8:00
Christmas Day Divine Service 9:30am
- **Saturday:** **Divine Service** 5:00—Christmas 1

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 30th Annual Service of Lessons and Carols—Two More 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 are featured at two of the services this weekend and the Senior Choir will be featured at two of the services in January. 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)

Christmas Eve services at 4:00, 6:00, and 8:00 (live stream)

Christmas Day service at 9:30 (live stream)

New Year's Eve services at 4:00 and 6:30 (live stream)

New Year's Day service at 9:30 (live stream)

THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AT HOME: The Birth of John the Baptist

The next **parents' instructional meeting** is **Tuesday, January 5th at 6:30.**

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 23: "Joseph Loves and Cares for His Pregnant Wife"

Matthew 1:18-25

NEWS AND NOTES

Meetings this Month:

Family Prayer Instruction – 6:30 pm Tuesday, January 5.

Board of Elders – 6:30 pm Tuesday, January 12.

Board of Education – 6:30 pm Tuesday, January 19.

Board of Properties – 7:00 pm Tuesday, January 19.

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.

Charts for sanctuary candle and altar flowers for 2021 are posted on the board outside of the church kitchen.

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, January 8 and 22, 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 12/14/2020 (17 families participating)

Gross sales \$5,425

Profit paid to Academy \$297.09

Attendance - 402

Total profit this fiscal year \$2,169.19

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 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 331

“The Advent of Our King”

Introit *sung by the congregation.*

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**
A New Prophet Like Moses

Gradual *sung by the congregation.*

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.
(Ps. 145:18, 21)

Epistle **Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord and be anxious for nothing.

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

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

Holy Gospel **John 1:19-28**

John proclaims Jesus the Redeemer Kinsman

Hymn of the Day 339

“Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors”

Communion Hymns

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom Come” 350

“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring” 353

“Creator of the Stars of Night” 351

Hymn to Depart 375

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”