

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May Altar Committee: Sherry Prowatzke
 Communion Committee: Rosanne Fell, Robin Oehlert, Anna Steinhilb
 Sunday 7:45am Elder: Lance Carus
 Sunday 10:30am Elder: Philip Gehlbach
 Wednesday 6:45pm Elder: Paul Kachelmeyer

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, December 4 – 138 (7:45) 79 (10:30) Bible Class – N/A
 Wednesday Advent Midweek, December 7 – 141 (8:30, 2:30 & 6:30)
 Thurs, December 8: Communion Matins - 39 Coffee Break -40


Altar Flowers – given by Mike and Angela Christopherson

Last Week's Offering

General fund:	
(Loose Plate \$1,615 Gen. Env. \$11,975)	\$ 13,590.00
Music:	\$ 200.00
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 120.00
Goehner Scholarship fund:	\$ 50.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 850.00
Nigeria fund:	\$ 2,100.00
Last Week's Total:	\$ 16,910.00

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DECEMBER:

General funds received in December:	\$ 13,590.00
Music funds received in December:	\$ 200.00
Capital Imp. funds received in December:	\$ 120.00
Goehner Schl. funds received in December:	\$ 50.00
Mercy funds received in December:	\$ 850.00
Nigeria funds received in December:	\$ 2,100.00
Total Offerings received in December:	\$ 16,910.00



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. Brennick T. Christiansen, Assoc. Pastor — (262) 236-6104
 The Rev. Gary V. Gehlbach, Asst. Pastor — (262) 325-3032

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

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Third Sunday in Advent

Gaudete (Rejoice) December 11, 2022

- **Time Change for the Sundays of Christmas Day and New Year's Day:** Only one service will be held at 9:30 a.m. on these two Sundays.
- **Christmas Eve** Divine Services at 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 (Candlelight Communion Service at 8:00 p.m.)
- **New Year's Eve** Divine Service at 5:00 p.m.

THEME: "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"

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 Phil. 4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!"

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

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD’S WORD—*Jesus prayed, “Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it” (Luke 11:28).* Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

THIS WEEK:

- **Private Confession and Absolution:** *Sundays 6:30 to 7:00 a.m. or by appointment — Call Pastor at 262-246-3200 or 262-370-1189.*
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service 7:45 & 10:30** —Advent 3
Bible Class 9:15 SS Program on the Ministry of Angels
- **Daily Chapel** **Monday through Friday at 8:30**
- **Wednesday:** **Advent Communion Service** at 8:30, 2:30, and 6:30
- **Thursday:** **Holy Communion Matins at 8:30**
- **Thursday:** **Coffee Break Bible Study 9:30** — Gospel of Matthew

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: GENESIS! In addition to our weekly introduction to the Congregation at Prayer at the beginning of Bible Class, we will be studying the book of **Genesis** this year. Next week’s Bible class will look to the Tower of Babel

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND FAMILY PRAYER AT HOME

This week’s lesson: The Visitation

The Family Prayer lesson and its accompanying podcast devotion are posted on the website weekly.

“**Family Prayer/Sunday School Devotional Studies**” will be recorded by Pastor Bender and posted online weekly in preparation for each Family Prayer/Sunday School lesson. Look for our posting each week on the congregation website under the Family Prayer tab.

Sunday School Christmas Program – The Ministry of Angels - is today Sunday, December 11 between the services at about 9:30.

Advent Midweek Services—Saints Day’s Celebrations

This year’s midweek advent services will prepare us for the celebration of our Lord’s nativity and His Second Coming by celebrating four saints’ days that are often overlooked but which provide a rich opportunity to meditate upon what our Advent King has accomplished in the lives of His chosen ones. There are, once again, three divine service opportunities each Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. as part of Day School Chapel; 2:30 and 6:30 p.m.

December 14—**St. John, Apostle** (transferred)

December 21—**St. Thomas, Apostle**

The Great O Antiphons are provided along with the Congregation at Prayer to supplement your daily prayers leading up to Christmas. They begin this coming Saturday and continue through the morning of Christmas Eve.

High School/College Youth Group, TODAY, Sunday, December 11
Youth group will meet for lunch, study, and prayer after the 10:30 Divine Service from noon to 1:30. The topic for December 11: A Christian view of courtship, dating, engagement, and preparation for marriage.

NEWS AND NOTES

Giving Tree – show your support and appreciation for our Academy teachers with a Christmas gift from the Giving Tree. Here’s how:

1. Visit the bulletin board in the narthex and choose a hanging ornament off the tree. Select as many ornaments as you wish.
2. Take the ornament to the Scrip/RaiseRight counter where you will be assisted in selecting your gift.

All gifts should be purchased or ordered no later than December 11th.

The 32nd Annual Service of Lessons and Carols is Sunday, December 18, at 3pm. All the choirs of the congregation will lead the congregation in meditations upon the great texts of Scripture that lead up to and include the birth of Christ. The choirs will sing from the chancel, so there will be extra room for everyone to hear, see, and enjoy the service. Preservice music will begin at 2:45pm.

Lessons & Carols Rehearsal is Saturday, December 17th. The Senior Choir will begin at 8:30 a.m. All the children’s choirs will assemble in the narthex at 8:50 a.m. The Seraph and Cherub Choirs will be dismissed at 9:30 a.m. All the other choirs will finish at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Poinsettias for the Altar - Sign-up to purchase poinsettias for the altar/chancel. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Fifteen plants are needed (\$12 each). Make checks payable to Peace Lutheran Church.

All Boards and Parish Council meet Tuesday, December 20th at 6:00 p.m. The meeting begins jointly in the nave with opening prayer and study. Each board will begin its meeting at 6:30 p.m. The Parish Council will convene at 7:30 p. m. **Agendas, reports, and board minutes should be posted on Teams by Monday December 12th.**

Weekly RaiseRight Report (formerly Scrip): Week of 12-4-2022
Number of families participating: 15 (in-person) + 4 (online)
Gross sales: \$3,835.00 Profit paid to Academy: \$86.82
Attendance: 367 Total profits paid this fiscal year: \$2,374.17

Walgreen eGIFT cards are available to order online or through the app.

Order forms for \$10 and under cards are available at the RR counter.

The LAST RaiseRight order to be placed with guarantee of delivery BEFORE Christmas will be Dec.12th. The final RaiseRight order of 2022 will be placed on 12/19. Routine weekly orders will resume Jan 3rd.

The Third Sunday in Advent

Gaudete (Rejoice)

December 11, 2022

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 347

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Choir sings stanza 2

Introit *sung by the choir.*

Antiphon (Phil. 4:4-6)

Rejoice in the Lord always;

and 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.

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 ministry of comfort in the preaching of the Gospel is described.

Choral Response

“Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain” – Richard W. Gieseke

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,

you who will bring the good news to Zion.

Lift up your voices and boldly proclaim:

“See the Lord God! He comes in power!”

Write down the vision, inscribe it on tablets,

ready for a herald to carry it swiftly.

Soon, very soon He will come to you.

Live by faith, my righteous ones!

Epistle I Corinthians 4:1-5

The faithful minister is a steward of the mysteries of grace.

Intervent Chant/Alleluia Verse *Sung by the choir* (Ps. 80:1-2)

Thou that dwellest between the cherubim, shine forth;

stir up Thy strength and come.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock. Alleluia!

Stir up Thy strength and come and save us. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus encourages John the Baptist and his disciples.

Hymn of the Day 344

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Choir sings stanza 2

Distribution Hymns

“Arise, O Christian People”

354

“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide”

355

“When All the World Was Cursed”

346

Hymn to Depart 342

“What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”