

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Melinda Burger

Communion Committee: Sharon Martin, Melody Ruhbusch, Mary Nitzsche,
Jennifer Scheler

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Lance Carus Acolyte: August Christopherson

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Kent Franklin Acolyte: Clint Duessler

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Philip Gehlbach

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, December 3– 150 (7:45) 81 (10:30) Bible Class – 96

Wednesday, December 6 – 142

Last Week's Offering

General fund:	\$ 12,379.01
Music funds:	\$ 1,500.00
Capital Imp. fund:	\$ 120.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 1,100.00
African Mission fund:	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
	\$ 15,399.01

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DEC. 2023:

General funds received in December:	\$ 12,379.01
Music funds received in December:	\$ 1,500.00
Capital Imp. funds received in November:	\$ 120.00
Mercy funds received in November:	\$ 1,100.00
African Mission funds received in November:	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
	\$ 15,399.01

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Second Sunday in Advent

Populus Zion (People of Zion)

December 10, 2023

THEME: The Son of Man Comes with Great Power and Glory!

The signs in the heavens, the distress of nations, and the perplexities upon earth are nothing for the Christian to fear. Although the whole world might be falling apart around us, the Christian takes courage from the Lord's Word because He knows that these are merely the signs leading up to the Lord's coming. The Lord is in complete and total charge and He will not forsake His flock, no matter how difficult the end times might get. The Lord will have "the last laugh" on the last day, for everyone "will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Our response to the signs of tribulation of the end times is to "look up," that is, to anticipate and look forward to the Lord's return all the more. In other words, when we see the signs which cause the world great distress, we are called to be encouraged that the Lord is fulfilling His Word just as He said. "This generation"—the church—"will by no means pass away till all things are fulfilled. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." That is wonderful comfort for the redeemed of the Lord!

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 LCMS 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, Senior 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.

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD — *“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” (John 17:17).* 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 2
Bible Class 9:15 — **The Ark of the Covenant Daily Chapel Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:30**
- **Wednesday:** **Advent Divine Service 8:00am, 2:30 & 6:30pm**
Jesus Restores to Life
- **Thursday:** **Matins with Communion at 8:30**
Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:30

Sunday School Christmas Program – The Ark of the Covenant - is today Sunday, December 10 between the services at about 9:30.

Family Prayer Devotional Studies will be recorded by Pastor Bender and posted online weekly in preparation for each Family Prayer lesson. The lesson this week is *The Visitation*. Look for the Family Prayer lesson and podcast on the congregation website under the Family Prayer tab.

Family, Life, and Marriage Retreat During Sunday Bible Class

The study is meant to be encouraging to children, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, and the calling of grandparents, widows, and those who are single. Topics will range from a Christian view of dating and courtship to the beauty and sanctity of the one flesh union. We will talk about the joys and opportunities of grandparents and the single Christian. This “retreat” is for everyone! Recordings will be made, and handouts will provide a resource for continued study and encouragement in the Word of God.

Advent Services—Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. 2:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Come, Holy Spirit! Come, Lord Jesus! — Advent is the season of comings. In preparation for our Lord's Second Coming, Jesus promised, “When the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.” (John 15:26; 14:18) The ministry of the Holy Spirit played a vital role in the coming of our Savior in the flesh, and He continues to play a vital role in how Jesus comes to us every day. By the Holy Spirit's ministry in our lives we are prepared for Christ's Second Coming in glory. There are three divine service opportunities each Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. as part of Chapel; 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

December 13—**Jesus Restores to Life – Mark 5:21-42**

December 20—**Jesus Heals the Deaf Mute – Mark 7:31-37**

Sacred Music for the Advent Season... 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

NEWS AND NOTES

Lessons & Carols Rehearsal is this Saturday, December 16th. Senior Choir begins at 8:30 a.m. All children's choirs should arrive at 8:45 a.m. Senior, Academy, and Cantate Choirs will finish at 11:00 a.m. Seraph and Cherub choirs will be dismissed at 9:30 a.m.

The 33rd Annual Service of Lessons and Carols is Sunday, December 17, 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. Preservice music will begin at 2:45pm.

Board of Elders meets Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Properties meets Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Education meets Tuesday, December 19 at 7:15 p.m.

Parish Council will not meet in December.

Sign-up charts for sanctuary candle and altar flowers for 2024 are posted on the board outside of the church kitchen. Please sign up to bring fresh flowers for the altar.

Giving Tree - we will once again be using the Giving Tree as a way to **express our thanks to our teachers and staff at Christmas time**. Please take as many ornaments from the tree on the bulletin board as you would like to the RaiseRight counter to order gift cards to be given to the teachers. These cards will also support the Academy through RaiseRight. If you prefer to take ornaments that support local businesses, you will need to purchase those cards yourself and turn them in to the office. All cards will be pooled and divided among the staff at Christmas and will not be linked with your name. Let's make this a special thanks to our staff!

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 12-03-23

Number of families participating: 22 (in-person) + 1 (online)

Gross sales: \$6,945.00 Profit paid to Academy: \$52.79

Attendance: 259 Total profits paid this fiscal year: \$2,394.11

\$10 gift cards are now available. See the order form at the RR counter or online/in app.

The final RaiseRight order for 2023 will be placed on Monday, Dec. 18, 2023.

Sunday Order of Service

The Second Sunday in Advent - Populus Zion (*People of Zion*)

December 10, 2023

Divine Service Setting Two Lutheran Service Book p. 167

Liturgical Practice: We will observe the “Presiding Minister” and “Assisting Minister” directions in the *Lutheran Service Book*. The “Presiding Minister” typically speaks the sacramental portions of the liturgy in the stead of Christ: the Absolution, the Reading of the Gospel, the Sermon, and is the celebrant at the Lord’s Table. The “Assisting Minister” typically speaks the sacrificial portions of the liturgy and gives voice to the response of the congregation to the Word of God.

“**And also with you**” 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 167. The propers for the day (readings, hymns) are listed below.

Hymn of Invocation **513**
“The Clouds of Judgment Gather”

Introit *sung by the choir*

Antiphon *(Is. 62:11b, 30:30, 29)*

Say to the daughter of Zion,

“Behold, your salvation comes.”

The LORD will cause His majestic voice to be heard,
and you shall have gladness of heart.

Psalm *(Ps. 80:1, 3, 14, 17)*

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

You who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

Restore us, O God;

let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

Turn again, O God of hosts!

Look down from heav’n and see.

But let Your hand be on the man of Your right hand,

the son of man whom You have made strong for Yourself!

Glory 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.

(Antiphon is repeated.)

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

The Sun of Righteousness will bring healing.

Choral Response

“Unto Him That Loved Us” by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Unto Him that loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood
and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father,
unto Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

The Scriptures were written to give us hope.

Verse sung by the choir

(Lk. 21:26b-27)

Alleluia! The powers of the heavens will be shaken,
and then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud
with power and great glory. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

Jesus catechizes us on the signs of His Second Coming.

Hymn of the Day

336

“Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”

Distribution Hymns

“The Night Will Soon Be Ending”

337

“The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us”

514

“O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide”

355

Hymn to Depart

508

“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

Stanzas 1, 5-7