

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Holly Schneider

Communion Committee: Joanne Smith, Becca Ligrow, Rosanne Fell

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Joseph Schneider

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Michael Ferguson

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Kent Franklin

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, December 31 – 90 (7:45) 78 (10:30) Bible Class – 73

New Year's Eve: 71 (5:00)

New Year's Day: 73

Wednesday, January 3 – 35

Thursday, January 4 – Communion Matins – 44 Coffee Break - 42

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DEC. 2023:

General funds received in December:	\$ 89,831.67
Music funds received in December:	\$ 1,500.00
Memorials received in December:	\$ 50.00
Goehner Schl. funds received in December:	\$ 125.00
Sacred Appts. funds received in December:	\$ 15,000.00
Capital Imp. funds received in December:	\$ 340.00
Mercy funds received in December:	\$ 2,430.00
African Mission funds received in December:	\$ 2,075.00
	\$ 111,351.67

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN JANUARY 2024:

General funds received in January:	\$ 1,635.00
Capital Imp. funds received in January:	\$ 100.00
Mercy fund received in January:	\$ 100.00
	\$ 1,835.00

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The First Sunday after Epiphany

January 7, 2024


THEME: Lord, I Love the Habitation of Your House!

Luke alone records the occasion of Jesus, at 12-years of age, lingering in the Temple in Jerusalem after the Passover both listening to the teachers of the Law and asking them questions. At the age of 12 Jesus begins to take on the calling of a man by occupying Himself with God's Word. Mary and Joseph were confused. Why would Jesus linger? Why had He not returned with them to Nazareth? The words of the prophet Malachi come to mind, "The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant whom you delight in" (Malachi 3:1). It had been the Passover Feast. It was now the third day. One cannot help but think about Jesus' death on Good Friday and His resurrection on the third day. He is the true Temple of the Lord. He is the place of God's saving presence. And after His resurrection He will bring us into His saving presence through the preaching of the Gospel. Jesus returned to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph and submitted Himself to them. But at the age of 12 we see a foretaste of His Messianic ministry.

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

Special Congregational Assembly meeting is this morning at 9:15 a.m., for preliminary salary approval and for the potential of calling an Academy teacher for the 2024-2025 school year.



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 — “*LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells*” (Psalm 26:8). 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**— Epiphany 1
Bible Class 9:15 — Congregational Assembly
- **Daily Chapel Monday at 10:30** to invite the Circuit Pastors
- **Daily Chapel Tuesday to Friday at 8:30**
- **Wednesday: Didache Divine Service 6:30** — A Gentile Woman Prays to Jesus
- **Thursday: Matins with Communion at 8:30**
Coffee Break Bible Study at 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 Boy Jesus in the Temple*. 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 marriage, family, the vocation of being single, and what it is to be human. This “retreat in the Word” is for everyone! Recordings will be made, and handouts will provide a resource for continued study and encouragement in the Word of God. The study will resume January 14.

Youth Group Meets Today, Sunday, January 7

Our high school and college-aged youth will meet with Pastor Bender on Sunday, January 7 for lunch and study after the 10:30 service. Contemporary challenges to the Christian faith and spiritual support for each of our young adults is always the order of the day. Our gathering will conclude by 1:30.

Unanswered Bible Questions... Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org, Facebook: [facebook.com/issuesetc](https://www.facebook.com/issuesetc), or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](https://www.issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

NEWS AND NOTES

“Raiders of the Lost Ark Academy Auction”—March 23, 2024!

Save the date! The Academy Auction will be held on March 23rd from 4-8:30pm at Lake Country Lutheran High School. Save the date on your calendar and plan to attend this exciting event.

Make your reservation today to attend the auction.

Individual Ticket: \$31

Table of 8: \$224 (\$28 per person); Prices increase March 1st

Consider donating a basket to be auctioned. Simply get a basket, choose a theme, fill it with goodies, and submit your basket with its contents online at www.plaauction.com under “Donate Items”. Please drop the basket off in the church office by February 19th.

Thank you! The staff and faculty of Peace deeply appreciate the kindness you have shown to us through Advent and Christmas, with your cards and gifts. But even more, we rejoice in your reception of the blessings that Jesus, our Savior gives here in the Divine Service and the catechesis.

Fish Fry Drive-thru is this **Friday, January 12**, from 5:00-7:00. Please join us and help support the Academy. Tell your friends!

International cook-off Sunday, January 21st after second service. Put your ethnic cooking skills to the test with a fun & friendly competition. Sign up to cook a meal from the country of your choice for the chance to win a prize. If you prefer to sample the fare, sign up to vote for the best entry! For more information or to sign up, please see the bulletin board or contact Nicola Giordano at 414-915-1999.

Board of Elders meets Tuesday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Properties meets Tuesday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Education meets Tuesday, January 23 at 7:15 p.m.

Parish Council meets Tuesday, January 30 at 7:00 p.m.

2024 offering envelopes are available in the narthex. Please remember to pick up your box!

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.

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 1/2/2024

Number of families participating: 9 (in-person) + 5 (online)

Gross sales: \$2,450.00

Profit paid to Academy: \$108.62

Attendance: 375

Total profits paid this fiscal year: \$3,107.36

Sunday Order of Service

The First Sunday after Epiphany

January 7, 2024

Divine Service Setting Two Lutheran Service Book p. 167

“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 384

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Choir sings stanza 2

Introit *sung by the choir*

Antiphon *(Is. 6:1, Rev. 19:6)*

I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne,
high and lifted up,
And I heard the voice of a great multitude, saying,
“Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

Psalm *(Ps. 100)*

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands!
Serve the LORD with gladness;

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 I Kings 8:6-13

The Ark of the Covenant is brought into the Temple.

Choral Response

“We Saw His Glory” by Erhard Mauersberger

We saw his glory, the glory of the only begotten Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth. We saw his glory.

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Thou, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o’er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Epistle

Romans 12:1-5

Our bodies are a living sacrifice.

Gradual/Verse *sung by the choir* *(Ps. 72:18, 3; Ps. 100:1-2a)*

Blessèd be the LORD God,
the God of Israel,
Who only doeth wondrous things,
and blessed be His glorious name forever.
The mountains shall bring peace to Thy people,
and the hills righteousness.
Alleluia. Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands;
serve the LORD with gladness. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Hymn of the Day

410

“Within the Father’s House”

Offertory Hymn

402

“The Only Son from Heaven”

Distribution Hymns

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” **398**

“No Temple Now, No Gift of Price” **530**

“From God the Father, Virgin Born” **401**

Hymn to Depart

862

“Oh, Blest the House”