

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Cathy Petersen

Communion Committee: Robin Oehlert, Nicola Giordano, Rosanne Fell, and Joanne Smith

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Lance Carus

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Joseph Schneider

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Kent Franklin

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, December 29 – 122 (7:45) 103 (10:30) Bible Class – n/a

New Year's Eve – 73 New Year's Day – 79

Thursday, January 2 - Chapel - 49

Last Week's Offering:

General fund:	\$ 23,184.00
International Missions funds:	\$ 400.00
Capital Imp. fund:	\$ 115.00
Goehner Scholarship fund:	\$ 125.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 225.00
	<u>\$ 24,049.00</u>

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN DECEMBER 2024:

General funds received in December:	\$ 70,554.00
International Missions funds in December:	\$ 893.25
Capital Imp. funds received in December:	\$ 385.00
Goehner Scholarship funds in December:	\$ 445.00
Sacred appt. funds in December:	\$ 100.00
Mercy funds received in December:	\$ 271.00
	<u>\$ 72,648.25</u>

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Epiphany of Our Lord


January 5, 2025

THEME: We Have Seen His Star and Have Come to Worship Him!

The magi from the East who came to worship Jesus, the King of the Jews, were ancient astronomers, scientists, or “wisemen” as they are sometimes called. The star that they saw rise in the East was a sign from God, according to the Scriptures, which led them to Jerusalem and then Bethlehem to worship Jesus. The Holy Gospel for Epiphany reveals Jesus the dramatic contrast between faith born of the Word of God and the wickedness of unbelief which refuses to hear the call to repentance and trust in the Messiah of Holy Scripture. The amazing gifts of the wisemen illustrate that they knew who He was. Gold confesses Him as the King of Kings and was used in Jewish worship in the construction of the tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant. Frankincense confesses Him as the priest of all priests and was used by the priest in confessing sin and crying out to the Lord before the Altar of Incense. Myrrh was anointing oil used for the anointing of kings and priests, and for the preparing of bodies for burial. It confesses Him to be the Messiah who came into the world to make the ultimate sacrifice for sin. Epiphany reveals Jesus as the Savior of all people, Jew and Gentile alike.

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.



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. 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 — “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.” (Ro. 13:14). 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, by calling Pastor Bender at 262-370-1189*
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service 7:45 & 10:30 — Epiphany**
Bible Class 9:15 — Ephesians 4
- **Daily Chapel: Monday to Friday at 8:30**
- **Monday:** **Didache-Compline 6:00 — The Ministry of the Holy Spirit**
- **Wednesday:** **Divine Service 6:30 — Epiphany**
- **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 Epiphany of Our Lord — Matthew 2:1-12**. Epiphany means, “to be revealed.” The Epiphany of Our Lord celebrates the revelation to the Gentile Wisemen that He is the Savior of all mankind. The Epiphany season has a strong missionary character to it, as well as further “epiphanies” of who Jesus is and what He came to do for all mankind. Look for the Family Prayer lesson and podcast on the congregation website under the Family Prayer tab.

Youth Group, Sunday, January 5—Topic: Making Life Choices

Our high school and college-aged youth will meet with Pastor Bender on Sunday, January 5 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.

Expert Guests, Expansive Topics, Extolling Christ ... Issues, Etc.

is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week’s topics include: The Promises of God, The Top Biblical Archeological Discoveries of 2024, Eastern Orthodoxy, the Book of Lamentations and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

NEWS AND NOTES

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 our Divine Service and in catechesis.

Anyone who purchased an altar poinsettia may take them home today. Plastic sleeves to protect the plants from the weather are available in the kitchen.

Sign-up charts for the sanctuary candle and altar flowers for 2025 are posted on the board outside of the church kitchen. Please sign up to bring fresh flowers for the altar.

Fish Fry Drive-thru is **Friday, January 10**, from 5:00-7:00. Help support the Academy. Tell your friends!

Save the date for the Academy Auction - March 22, 2025!

We’re Off to See the Wizard!

The Academy Auction will be held on March 22nd from 4–8:30pm at Lake Country Lutheran High School. Save the date on your calendar and plan to attend this fun and important event in support of the Academy.

In Preparation for a Congregational Assembly this month

Overlapping Board and Council Meetings are set for January 14:

- **Board of Elders** at 6:00 p.m.
- **Board of Education** joins the Elders at 6:30 p.m.
- **Board of Properties** meets separately at 7:00 p.m.
- **Parish Council** meets at 7:30

Congregational Assembly Meets, Tuesday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m.

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 12/29/2024

Number of families participating: 15 (in-person) + 13 (online)

Attendance: 1,007

Gross sales: \$3,410.00 Profit earned this week \$96.38

Profit paid to the Academy: \$3,226.88

Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$4,278.01

Sign up for the RaiseRight App to use on your phone while shopping. The app is available from the App Store or Google Play as *RaiseRight Fundraising*.

For an online account or to sign up for the app, you will need our specific Enrollment Code: 9L292E7881L5

**Sunday Order of Service
The Epiphany of Our Lord**

January 5, 2025

Divine Service Setting Three, LSB p. 184

Hymn of Invocation **370**

“What Child Is This?”

Introit *sung responsively with the choir; with the Gloria Patri from DS 3*

Antiphon *(Liturgical Text)*

Behold the Lord, the ru-|ler, has come, *
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in His hand.

Psalm *(Ps. 72:1-2, 10-11)*

**Give the king Your judgments, | O God, *
and Your righteousness to the | king’s Son.**

He will judge Your people with | righteousness, *
and Your poor with | justice.

**The kings of Tarshish and of the isles will bring | presents; *
the kings of Sheba and Seba will | offer gifts.**

Yes, all kings shall fall down be-|fore Him; *
all nations shall | serve Him.

**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 60:1-6**

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

Choral Response

“O Nata Lux” by Patti Drennan

The English translation is in italics:

O nata lux de lumine, *O Light born from Light*
Jesus redemptor saeculi, *Jesus, Redeemer of the world,*

Dignare clemens supplicum laudes preces que sumere.

*Mercifully deem us worthy and accept
the praises and prayers of your supplicants.*

O nata lux de lumine, *O Light born from Light*
Jesus redemptor saeculi, *Jesus, Redeemer of the world,*

Qui carne quondam contegi dignatus es pro perditis,
Tui beati corporis.

*Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost ones,
grant us to be members of Your holy body.*

O nata lux de lumine, *O Light born from Light*
de lumine, O lux. *Of the Light, O Light.*

Epistle **Ephesians 3:1-12**

The mystery of the gospel of God’s grace is for all nations.

Alleluia Verse *The congregation sings the Alleluia before and after the verse.*

We have seen His star | in the East *
and have come to | worship Him. *(Matt. 2:2b)*

Holy Gospel **Matthew 2:1-12**

The Visit of the Magi

Nicene Creed *following the reading of the Gospel*

Hymn of the Day **395**

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

St. 1 – All St. 4 – Men
St. 2 – Choir St. 5 – Women and Children
St. 3 – All St. 6 – All

Proper Preface for the Epiphany of Our Lord

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: Holy, Holy, Holy...

Distribution Hymns

“Arise and Shine in Splendor” **396**
“As with Gladness Men of Old” **397**
“The Only Son from Heaven” **402**

Hymn to Depart **839**

“O Christ, Our True and Only Light”