

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Cheryl Piper

Communion Committee: Sharon Martin, Mary Nitzsche, Melody Ruhbusch,
Nicola Giordano

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Matthew Voss

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Paul Kachelmeyer

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Philip Gehlbach

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, March 16 – 135 (7:45) 72 (10:30) Bible Class – 74

Monday, March 17 (Didache) – NA

Wednesday, March 19 – 150

Thursday, March 20 - Chapel – 44 CBBS - 37

Sanctuary Candle is given in memory of James Nitzsche

Last Week's Offering:

General fund:	\$ 3,529.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 25.00
International Mission fund:	\$ 25.00
	\$ 3,579.00

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN MARCH 2025:

General funds received in March:	\$ 22,632.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in March:	\$ 20.00
Mercy funds received in March:	\$ 45.00
Int. Mission funds received in March:	\$ 25.00
	\$ 22,722.00

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy


The Third Sunday in Lent — March 23, 2025

THEME: My Eyes Are Ever on the Lord

Throughout His ministry Jesus showed forth His compassion and mercy by healing the sick, cleansing the lepers, raising the dead, and casting out demons. Every miracle of His grace was a sign of the power of His death and resurrection to save us from sin, death, and the power of the devil. But His antagonists accused Him of casting out demons by the power of the prince of the demons. This is the way that evil works: what is good, saving, and life-giving, according to God's word and His gifts of salvation, is declared to be evil by the world and the forces of darkness. Evil is called good and good is called evil. Such is the way of Satan. Satan is a powerful "strong man," but Jesus is the "Stronger Man"! Jesus casts out demons, not by being in league with the devil, but by "the finger of God." What is God's finger? Is it not His strong Word and Spirit which is anchored in what Jesus accomplished for us in His death, when He crushed the Serpent's head with His heel? Satan is powerless in the face of Him who by His death has robbed him of his power and who, by the preaching of the Gospel, now casts out demons, muzzles the accuser, and bestows salvation from the devil's power. "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!" for the strong Word of the Stronger Man is our sure and certain defense.

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.” (Rom. 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 — Lent 3**
Bible Class 9:15 — Philippians 1
- **Daily Chapel:** **Mon, Tues, Thur, Friday at 8:30**
- **Monday:** **Didache at 6:00 — The Healing of the Paralytic**
- **Wednesday:** **Lenten Divine Service at 8:00, 2:30 & 6:30**
- **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 *Jesus Celebrates the Passover — Matthew 26:17-19, 26-30*. Throughout the Sundays of Lent our family prayer and Sunday School lessons will focus upon readings from the Passion. This week's lesson focuses upon Jesus' celebrating the Old Testament Passover. He is the fulfillment of the Passover in His death and resurrection, and the New Testament Passover is the Lord's Supper. Look for the Family Prayer lesson and podcast on the congregation website under the Family Prayer tab.

Adult Catechesis (Didache) with Compline: We are on *Lesson 21 – The Healing of the Paralytic*, which is the last lesson on Confession. Four weeks remain in this year's Didache class. We will meet in the Nave this week for the story of Jesus forgiving the paralytic. We will also review the rite of Private Confession and Absolution and how this gift is offered at Peace.

Book of Ecclesiastes Bible Study... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by **Lutheran Public Radio** in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon recently started a study on the Book of Ecclesiastes. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

Lenten Midweek Sermon Series 2025—St. Luke Passion

We will meditate on the St. Luke Passion at the Wednesday Midweek Services, Palm Sunday, Holy Wednesday, and Good Friday Tenebrae. The corresponding Old Testament readings are from the Congregation at Prayer. Wednesday Midweek services are at 8:00am, 2:30pm, and 6:30pm. Listed below are all the upcoming festival services

Midweek Lent 3—March 26: Jesus' Arrest—Luke 22:47-55

Midweek Lent 4—April 2: Peter Denies His Lord—Luke 22:54-62

Midweek Lent 5—April 9: Jesus Before the Sanhedrin—Luke 22:63-71

Palm Sunday—April 13: Jesus Before Pilate and King Herod—Luke 23:1-12

Holy Wednesday—April 16: The King of the Jews is Mocked—Luke 23:13-38

Maundy Thursday—April 17: Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet—John 13:1-15, 34-35

Good Friday Tenebrae, April 18 at 9am: Jesus' Death and Burial—Lk. 23:39-56

Good Friday Divine Service at 3pm and 7pm—The St. John Passion

Easter Vigil, April 19 at 7:30pm Confirmations and Reception of New Members

Easter Festival Divine Service, April 20, at 7:45 and 10:30

NEWS AND NOTES

Fish Fry Drive-thru will be March 28 from 5:00-7:00. Please join us and help support the Academy. Anyone wishing to help, please speak with Sherry Prowatzke.

Parish Council meets this Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Thanks Auction Volunteers, Donors, and Attendees

Huge thanks to everyone who volunteered, donated auction items, and participated in this year's auction. Your help and efforts made it all possible. Stay tuned in the weeks ahead for final numbers.

Easter Lily Sign-up – 15 lilies are needed to adorn the altar for Easter. A sign-up sheet is on the board next to the church kitchen. Make checks (\$16/ea.) payable to Peace Lutheran Church. You are welcome to take home your altar lilies after services on Easter.

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 3/16/2025

Number of families participating: 3 (in-person) + 12 (online)

Attendance: 374

Gross sales: \$1,100 Profit earned this week \$23.48

Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$6,372.35

Profit paid to the Academy: \$5,758.04

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 Third Sunday in Lent / Oculi Sunday
March 23, 2025

Divine Service Setting Two
Lutheran Service Book p. 167

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 **614**

“As Surely as I Live,’ God Said”
Choir sings stanzas 1 and 5

Introit *sung by the choir*

Antiphon *(Ps. 25:15-16)*

Mine eyes are ever toward the LORD;
for He shall pluck my feet out of the net.
Turn Thee unto me and have mercy upon me;
for I am desolate and afflicted.

Psalm *(Ps. 25:1-2a)*

Unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul:
O my God, I trust in Thee;
let me not be ashamed.

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 **Exodus 8:16-24**

The Plagues of Lice and Flies

Choral Response *(Ps. 61:1,3-4; 63:1, 4, 3a)*

“Hear, O Lord God” – Antonín Dvořák

Hear, O Lord God, my cry to You, turn Your ear unto my pray’r.
You are my refuge and my strong defense;
a sturdy tower against all my enemies.
I will be a guest in Your tents evermore;
and hide myself beneath Your wings.
Lord God, You are indeed my God; eagerly will I seek You;
my soul is a-thirst for You,

My flesh is fainting after You in a barren and a desert land,
where there’s no water.
So I will sing blessings daily to You,
and lift my hands in prayer and adoration;
yea, my lips shall sing praise to You.

Epistle **Ephesians 5:1-9**

Walk in the Love of the Lord

Gradual/Tract *sung by the choir* *(Ps. 9:19, 3; Ps. 123:1, 3a)*

Arise, O LORD, let not man prevail:
let the heathen be judged in Thy sight.
When mine enemies are turned back:
they shall fall and perish at Thy presence.
Unto Thee lift I up mine eyes,
O Thou that dwellest in the heavens:
Have mercy upon us, O LORD,
have mercy upon us.

Holy Gospel **Luke 11:14-28**

A House Divided Cannot Stand

Hymn of the Day **604**

“I Bind unto Myself Today”

Proper Preface for Lent

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; who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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

“God’s Own Child I Gladly Say It” **594**
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” **656**
“Lord of Our Life” **659**

Hymn to Depart **777**

“Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord”