

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May, Jordan Fischer

Altar Committee: Polly Joubert

Communion Committee: Doreen Corso, Sharon Murphy, Anna Steinhilb

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Matthew Voss

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Elton Volquardsen

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Keith Gierach

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, November 16th – 148 (7:45) 67 (10:30) Bible Class – 100

Monday, November 17th – Didache – 20

Wednesday, November 19th – 25

Thursday, November 20th– Chapel Matins – 28 Coffee Break – 32

Scan to donate:



Last Week's Offering

General fund:	\$ 10,404.35
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 00.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	\$ 00.00
Goehner Scholarship fund:	\$ 300.00
International Mission fund:	\$ 2000.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 531.00
	\$ 13,235.35

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN NOVEMBER 2025:

General funds received in November:	\$ 29,909.35
Capital Improvement funds received in November:	\$ 500.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in November:	\$ 2,500.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in November:	\$ 300.00
International Mission funds received in November:	\$ 2,462.20
Mercy funds received in November:	\$ 537.00
	\$ 36,208.55

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Last Sunday of the Church Year/Trinity 27

November 23, 2025

THEME: The Bridegroom Comes, Awake!

“Waking” and “sleeping” are synonyms for “faith” and “mistrust” respectively. To be “awake” and watchful for the Lord’s coming, is to live in eager anticipation of the consummation of our salvation through the hearing of His Word, the receiving of the Sacrament, contrition and repentance, and the life of prayer. To be asleep is to turn away from these things to find one’s comfort and happiness in what is passing away. Faith in Christ alone makes one wise to salvation. Foolish is the one who casts aside the Gospel of Christ.

The parable of the wise and foolish virgins is a parable about faith and unbelief. To believe in Christ is to love Him and long for His coming again in glory, like a faithful bride and her bridesmaids who await the coming of the Bridegroom. Those who do not believe in Christ have no particular yearning or anticipation for the Bridegroom’s coming. We go to the Sacrament each week, confessing our sins that we might “learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins... so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.” (Small Catechism) To “watch, [that is] pray” is to cry out to our Bridegroom, as His faithful bride, according to the loving promises of His Gospel and the gracious Words of His testament: “take eat, this is My body ... drink of it all of you, this is My blood.”

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.

Thanksgiving Services will be held on Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday morning at 9:30.



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 — “*I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.*” (1 Cor. 12:3). 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 at 7:45 & 10:30 — Trintiy 27**
Bible Class at 9:15 — The Rich Fool
- **Mon-Wed:** **Daily Chapel at 8:00**
- **Monday:** **Didache Adult Catechesis 6:00pm**
- **Wednesday:** **Divine Service at 6:30pm — Thanksgiving Eve**
- **Thursday:** **Divine Service at 9:30am— Thanksgiving Day**

Parable of the Rich Fool will be covered in Bible Class this morning in our ongoing study of the Parables. Next Sunday, will be part 1 of To Everyone an Answer: Millennialism, the Rapture, and the Second Coming.

Sunday Bible Class—The Lutheran Day School and the Three Estates

Our strategic plan for Peace Lutheran Academy entails a significant catechetical study for the whole congregation on the Three Estates: Church, Home, and State. This study is postponed to December. This study builds upon the theological foundation of a Lutheran Day School, published in 1994, by addressing how the Academy is the major mercy ministry of our congregation. Our Academy not only supports our own families but also serves the welfare of our community and other Christian families who share in our values. During these troubled times, schools like our Academy are needed now more than ever. The Academy Mission Statement is key to all the efforts of our strategic plan: *Peace Lutheran Academy partners with parents in Christian education for a life of faith in Christ and service to others.*

No Coffee Break Bible Study on Thanksgiving. Join us instead for Thanksgiving Divine Service at 9:30.

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

Wednesday Advent Midweek Services prepare us for the celebration of our Lord’s nativity, His second coming, and His daily coming in Word and Sacrament. 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 3— **The Signs of the End of the Age—Luke 17:20-37**
- December 10— **The Coming of the Son of Man—Luke 21:5-24**
- December 17— **Watch and Pray—Luke 21:25-38**

Didache Meets on Monday Evenings at 6:00

This week’s lesson is *The Creed – Second Article—The Resurrection and Ascension*. Come find renewal, comfort, and fellowship as we study God’s word in the Bible, Catechism, and Hymnal. Past lessons are available on the church website (under “Additional Recordings”) and at your favorite podcast provider.

Sunday School Christmas Program is Sunday, December 14

3-yr-olds through 8th graders are preparing for the program – The Christmas Story – during the Sunday School hour. Final practice for the program will be at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 13. Parents, please mark your calendars.

Family Prayer Devotional Studies will continue to be recorded by Pastor Bender and posted online weekly. The lesson this week is *The Wise and Foolish Virgins—Matthew 25:1-13*. Look for the Family Prayer lesson and podcast on the congregation website under the Family Prayer tab.

NEWS AND NOTES

Parish Council: Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m.

The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving.

We will be having The Giving Tree again this holiday season as a special way to thank our teachers and staff. If you would like to participate, please purchase RaiseRight gift cards to be distributed evenly to the teachers and staff. The gifts will be anonymous. You can use the special Giving Tree order form, and if you also order cards for yourself, you can still pay with a single check or with cash. Your gifts will not only be a nice surprise for our teachers and staff but will also increase the RR profit, which benefits the Academy. Thank you!

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 11/16/2025

Number of families participating: 8 (in-person) + 10 (online)
Attendance: 250
Gross sales: \$2520.00 Profit earned this week \$75.25
Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$3182.36
Profit paid to the Academy: \$2609.44

\$10 and under gift cards are once again available for ordering. Find order slips at the Scrip Counter and in the office.

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***. You will need our specific Enrollment Code: 9L292E7881L5.

Sunday Order of Service
The Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 23, 2025

Divine Service Setting Three
Lutheran Service Book p. 184

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 **525**

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”
Choir sings stanza 2

Introit *sung by the choir*

Antiphon (Rev. 1:8; 21:3b)

I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the Ending,
which is and which was and which is to come, the Almighty.
Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,
and He will dwell with them;
and they shall be His people,
and God Himself shall be with them and shall be their God.

Psalm (Ps. 24:7)

Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
And be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors:
and the King of Glory shall come in.

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 65:17-25**
The Glorious New Creation

Gradual *sung by the choir*

The King's Daughter shall be brought unto the King:
the virgins, her companions that follow her,
shall be brought unto Thee.
With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought:
They shall enter into the King's palace.

(Ps. 45:14-15)

Epistle **I Thessalonians 5:1-11**
The Day of the Lord

Alleluia - Verse *sung by the choir*

Alleluia! I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem,
coming down from God out of heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Alleluia!

(Rev. 21:2)

Holy Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13**
The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins

Athanasian Creed *confessed after the Holy Gospel*

Hymn of the Day **516**

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”
Choir sings stanza 2

Proper Preface

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, our of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” **515**
“At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing” **633**
“Jerusalem, O City Fair and High” **674**

Hymn to Depart **673**
“Jerusalem, My Happy Home”