

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Kathy May

Altar Committee: Gayle Cardo, Melinda Burger

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

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Keith Gierach

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Philip Gehlbach

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Lance Carus

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, November 30th – 81 (7:45) 62 (10:30) Bible Class – 66

Monday, December 1st – Didache – 22

Wednesday, December 3rd – 8:00 – 52 2:30 – 27 6:30 – 57

Thursday, December 4th – Chapel Matins – 30 Coffee Break – 36

Scan to donate:




Last Week's Offering

General fund:	\$ 8,100.00
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 000.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	\$ 00.00
Memorials	\$ 000.00
Goehner Scholarship fund:	\$ 000.00
International Mission fund:	\$ 00.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 00.00
	<u>\$ 8,100.00</u>

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN NOVEMBER 2025:

General funds received in November:	\$ 49,885.01
Capital Improvement funds received in November:	\$ 840.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in November:	\$ 2,500.00
Memorials received in November:	\$ 152.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in November:	\$ 620.00
International Mission funds received in November:	\$ 2,462.20
Mercy funds received in November:	<u>\$ 557.00</u>
	<u>\$ 57,016.21</u>

*Full month offering numbers include online gifts received in November 2025



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.

Peace Lutheran Church and Academy

The Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

THEME: REPENT! FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND!

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” was the message of John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Christ. This phrase summarized the content of John’s preaching. Repentance is that unique Word that refers to how God’s Law shows us our sin and how much we need a Savior. When we “repent” it means that we have heard God’s Word, agree with its judgment and are turning from our sin to faith in Christ for forgiveness and help. John used the Law to crush and condemn so that He might proclaim forgiveness through the coming Savior to those who, by his preaching, were now repentant. The preaching of repentance creates a broken and contrite heart that is hungry for the Gospel. John’s austere and rugged dress and diet were signs of the kind of message that he was called to preach. The Sadducees, out of whom the priests came, didn’t want to hear this message because they did not even believe in life after death, but rather considered religion as a means to obtain power and position in society. The Pharisees believed in life after death but saw it as a reward for their own righteousness and obedience to the Law. Everyone needs to hear the call to repentance. There are no exceptions. There is none righteous. All need Christ, the Savior of sinners. The only true “children of Abraham” are those who hear the call to repentance and believe the promise of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God raises them up by the call to repentance and the preaching of forgiveness for Jesus’ sake. In this way, John was the faithful forerunner of Christ and prepared for His coming.

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.

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD’S WORD — “*Whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*” (Romans 15:4). 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 or texting Pastor Bender at 262-370-1189*
- **Sunday:** **Divine Service at 7:45 & 10:30 — Advent 2**
Bible Class at 9:15 — The End Times
- **Mon-Friday:** **Daily Chapel at 8:00am**
- **Monday:** **Didache Adult Catechesis 6:00pm**
- **Wednesday:** **ADVENT Divine Service at 8:00, 2:30 & 6:30**
- **Thursday:** **Matins with Communion at 8:00am**
Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:00 am

Millennialism, the Rapture, and the Second Coming of Christ is the To Everyone an Answer Study continues **this morning in Bible class.** Join us to clarify the truth on the basis of God’s Word.

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. Like the season of Advent, the season of waiting, this study IS coming soon.

Family Prayer Devotional Studies will continue to be recorded by Pastor Bender and posted online weekly. The lesson this week is ***The Annunciation of Our Lord—Luke 1:26-38.*** Look for the Family Prayer lesson and podcast on the congregation website under the Family Prayer tab.

Coffee Break Bible Study resumes on Thursday at 9:00 a.m., and we will continue our study in the Gospel of Luke.

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 10— **The Coming of the Son of Man—Luke 21:5-24**

December 17— **Watch and Pray—Luke 21:25-38**

“Wonderfully Made” – the Theology of the Body at Youth Group today after the 10:30 service. Copies of the book by Dr. John Kleinig are now available for our youth and others who desire one.

Didache Meets on Monday Evenings at 6:00

This week’s lesson is ***The Creed – Third Article—The Washing of the Disciples’ Feet.*** Past lessons are available on the church website (under “Additional Recordings”) and at your favorite podcast provider.

The Nativity of Our Lord Sunday School Program is Sunday, Dec 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.

35th Annual Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols—December 21

Join us on Sunday, December 21, at 3pm. for this annual celebration of the unfolding of Scripture leading up to Christ’s nativity and the great carols that surround them. All of our choirs will be singing, together with instrumentalists who are working very hard to honor Christ and proclaim the Gospel to you! Join us for this wonderful celebration.

NEWS AND NOTES

Board of Elders: Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education: Tuesday, December 9 at 7:15 p.m.

Board of Properties: Tuesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m.

The last day to order RaiseRight physical gift cards for arrival by Christmas is December 15. You can place a personal order online for "ship to home" until December 18. eGift cards can be purchased online or through the app anytime.

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. Thank you!

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 11/30/2025

Number of families participating: 7 (in-person) + 10 (online)

Attendance: 352

Gross sales: \$1,650.00 Profit earned this week \$95.11

Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$3,397.62

Profit paid to the Academy: \$2609.44

\$10 and under gift cards are once again available for ordering.

If you would like to sign up on the RaiseRight app, please contact Julie Goltermann or the church office to get the enrollment code.

Sunday Order of Service
The Week of the Second Sunday in Advent
December 7, 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 **347**
“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Introit *sung responsively with the choir*
Antiphon (Is. 40:3b)

Prepare the way | of the LORD; *
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

Psalm (Ps. 118:25-28)

Seek the LORD | and His strength; *
seek His face | evermore!

Remember His marvelous works which | He has done, *

His wonders, and the judgments | of His mouth,

O seed of Abraham His | servant, *
you children of Jacob, His | chosen ones!

He is the | LORD our God; *

His judgments are in | all the earth.

He remembers His covenant for- | ever, *
the word which He commanded, for a thousand
gener- | ations.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

(Antiphon is repeated.)

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 11:1-10**
The Messiah descended from the “stump of Jesse”

Choral Response

“Carol of Prophecy” by Shirley McRae

Exultate, jubilate, jubilate Deo! (Rejoice in the Lord!)
The desert will rejoice and blossom as a rose.
It will blossom and shout for joy.

Exultate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!
The wolf and the lamb will live peacefully together,
and a little child shall lead them.

Exultate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!
Behold the glory and majesty of God.
Rejoice, Emmanuel will come.

Exultate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!

Epistle **Romans 15:4-13**

The Scriptures give us patience and comfort.

Alleluia-Verse *sung by the choir*

Alleluia! Prepare the way of the LORD, make His paths straight;
All flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel **Matthew 3:1-12**

The Ministry of John the Baptist

Apostles' Creed *confessed after the Holy Gospel*

Hymn of the Day **344**

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Choir sings stanza 3

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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming
Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of
the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the
wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels
and archangels ...

Distribution Hymns

“Arise, O Christian People” **354**

“When All the World Was Cursed” **346**

“Hark the Glad Sound” **349**

Hymn to Depart **342**

“What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”