

## Announcements

### SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Jordan Fischer

Altar Committee: Cheryl Piper

Communion Committee: Sharon Martin, Mary Nitzsche, Nicola Giordano

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Keith Gierach

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Philip Gehlbach

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Tom Aidich

### LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, February 1st – (7:45) –133 (10:30) – 103 Bible Class – 86

Monday, February 2nd 26 – Didache – 22

Wednesday, February 4th – 28

Thursday, February 5th – Chapel Matins –28 Coffee Break – 37

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### Last Week's Offering

General fund:	\$ 8,625.00
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 100.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	\$ 100.00
Memorials	\$ 25.00
Goehner Scholarship Fund:	\$ 120.00
International Mission Fund:	\$ 200.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 100.00
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	\$ 9,270.00

### TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN JANUARY 2026:

General funds received in January:	\$ 38,570.20
Capital Improvement funds received in January:	\$ 100.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in January:	\$ 280.00
Memorials received in January	\$ 390.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in January:	\$ 1,005.00
International Mission funds received in January:	\$ 10.00
Mercy funds received in January:	\$ 225.00
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	\$ 40,580.20

\*Full month numbers include online gifts.

**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

### Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 8, 2026

### THEME: You are the salt of the earth!

Christians are called “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world” because they have the Gospel of Christ’s forgiveness and believe in Him. The Gospel is like salt that preserves us from sin and death or like light that illuminates the darkness of unbelief and banishes the falsehood of human self-righteousness. Christians must never let go of the Gospel. The Church must continue to preach and confess it in all its truth and purity. The Gospel is the power of God for salvation and the source of true wisdom and real truth. We are called to let the light of the Gospel shine forth in works of mercy and charity that reflect God’s undeserved love for sinners. Jesus did not come to overturn or destroy the demands of the Law, but to fulfill them by the sacrifice of Himself upon the cross. He did the Law and taught the Law in His death upon the cross. His suffering and death for sin is God’s righteousness. We receive it by faith in Him. It is the only righteousness that can save us and the only righteousness that can save the world.

**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 — Epiphany 5**  
**Bible Class at 9:15** — God's Institution of Marriage; Fidelity, Fornication, and the Role of the State
- **Monday:** **Didache-Compline 6:00 pm**
- **Mon-Thurs:** **Daily Chapel at 8:00 am**
- **Wednesday:** **Divine Service at 6:30 pm — Epiphany 5**
- **Thursday:** **Matins with Communion at 8:00 am**  
**Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:00 am**

**No Chapel on Friday, February 13 or Monday, February 16.**

The Academy will be on winter break.

**The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18<sup>th</sup>**

Plan to come to one of three services: 8:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. All three Ash Wednesday Divine Services include the imposition of ashes and the Service of Corporate Confession and Individual Absolution.

Midweek services will continue to be at 8:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday through April 1.

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

**Didache Meets on Monday Evenings at 6:00**

This week's lesson is **Holy Baptism — Part 3—Naaman is Washed in the Jordan River**. Past lessons are available on the church website (under “Additional Recordings”) and at your favorite podcast provider.

**Sunday School is for the whole family!** The lessons your children begin learning on Sunday morning are posted under the Family Prayer tab on our website for your family to meditate upon during the rest of the week. There are lessons to print as well as recordings by Pastor Bender to help guide the study. The lesson this week is **Jesus Forgives the Paralytic — Matthew 9:13**.

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Ladies of Peace**, through our Lord's body and blood that He gives for us to eat and to drink at the altar at each Divine Service, we receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation! What great gifts He gives! Please consider assisting in the preparation of Holy Communion for our congregation. It is a loving service to your brothers and sisters in Christ and does not require a large time commitment. If you would like to learn more, please reach out to Rosanne Fell or call the church office.

**Peace Lutheran Academy's 24th Auction is fast approaching!**  
**Register now to attend on Saturday, March 21!**

This event will be the berries! Invite your favorite coworkers, your boss, your neighbors, your extended family. Buy a table and invite some of the folks in your life that have been such a blessing to you. This is a great way to say thanks to them while supporting the gift of the Academy.

Ticket prices are \$33 per person or \$240 for a table of 8 (\$30/person) and can be purchased at [www.plaauction.com](http://www.plaauction.com).

**Support Peace Lutheran Academy by spreading the word about our Lenten fish fries on February 20 & 27 and March 6, 13, & 27** from 5-7 p.m. If you are able to volunteer your time to help on any of these dates, please reach out to Deaconess Sherry Prowatzke. It is a great way to be involved in the life of the Academy and enjoy the camaraderie of other members of Peace.

**Board of Elders** meets Tuesday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m.

**Board of Properties** meets Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.

**Board of Education** meets Tuesday, February 17 at 7:15 p.m.

**Parish Council** meets Tuesday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m.

**Weekly RaiseRight Report:** Week of 02/01/2025

Number of families participating: 9 (in-person) + 7 (online)

Attendance: 263

Gross sales: \$4,000.00 Profit earned this week \$199.75

Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$4,419.40

Profit paid to the Academy: \$4,861.40

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 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany  
February 8, 2026

## Divine Service Setting Two Lutheran Service Book p. 167

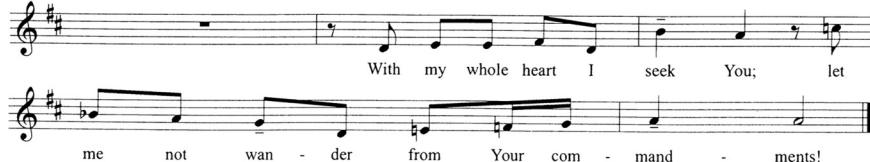
*Please follow the order of service printed in the hymnal beginning on page 167. The propers for the day (readings, hymns) are listed below.*

### Hymn of Invocation

563

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”  
*Choir sings stanza 3*

**Psalm 119: 9-16** *The first time the choir sings the Refrain, repeated immediately by the congregation. Thereafter the congregation sings the Refrain.*



How can a young man keep his | way pure?\*  
By guarding it according | to your word.

**With my whole heart I | seek you;\***  
**let me not wander from your com- | mandments!**  
I have stored up your word | in my heart,\*  
that I might not sin a- | gainst you.  
**Blessèd are you, | O LORD;\***  
**teach me your | statutes!**  
With my lips | I declare\*  
all the just decrees | of your mouth.

In the way of your testimonies | I delight\*  
as much as in all | riches.

**I will meditate on your | precepts\***  
**and fix my eyes | on your ways.**  
I will delight in your | statutes;\*  
I will not for- | get your word.

**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.

Refrain

Refrain

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3-9a

True repentance turns from sin and lives in mercy toward others.

### Gradual sung by the choir

Praise the LORD, all nations!  
Extol him, all peoples!  
For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Praise the LORD, all nations!  
Extol him, all peoples!  
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering and come into his courts!

Praise the LORD, all nations!  
Extol him, all peoples!  
Extol him, all peoples!

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

### Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Faith is a miracle of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel.

### Alleluia-Verses sung by the choir

Alleluia!  
Let your light shine before others,  
so they may see your good works  
and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.  
Alleluia!

### Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

You are the salt of the earth, the light of the world, a city on a hill.

### Nicene Creed confessed after the Holy Gospel

### Hymn of the Day

578

“Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness”

### Distribution Hymns

“If Your Beloved Son, O God” 568  
“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” 575  
“Rise, Shine, You People” 825

### Hymn to Depart

865

“Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”