

Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK

Organist: Jordan Fischer

Altar Committee: Cheryl Piper

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

Sunday 7:45am Elder: Mark Schneider

Sunday 10:30am Elder: Philip Gehlbach

Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Tom Aidich

LAST WEEK AT PEACE

Sunday, February 15th – (7:45) – 124 (10:30) – 81 Bible Class – 92

Monday, February 16th – Didache – 23

Wednesday, February 18th – (8:00am) – 57 (2:30) – 70 (6:30) – 80

Thursday, February 19th – Chapel Matins – 32 Coffee Break – 43

Scan to donate:



Last Week's Offering

General fund:	\$ 5,584.00
Capital Improvement fund:	\$ 300.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	\$ 300.00
Memorials	\$ 25.00
Goehner Scholarship Fund:	\$ 00.00
International Mission Fund:	\$ 225.00
Mercy fund:	\$ 50.00
	\$ 6,484.00

TOTAL OFFERINGS GIVEN IN FEBRUARY 2026:

General funds received in February:	\$ 22,683.00
Capital Improvement funds received in February:	\$ 400.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in February:	\$ 2,710.00
Memorials received in February:	\$ 50.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in February:	\$ 145.00
International Mission funds received in February:	\$ 475.00
Mercy funds received in February:	\$ 175.00
	\$ 26,638.00

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 First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

THEME: The Valiant One Defeats Satan for Us!

Man fell into sin when he turned away from that Word that gave Him life. The season of Lent is a time to return to our Baptism in which our “Old Adam” is drowned in repentance and the “New Man” is made alive through the Word of our Savior. Jesus used God’s Word to defeat Satan’s attacks. God’s Word is our defense too. We especially need to rely on God’s promises of forgiveness through Christ. Jesus’ ministry began with His temptation in the wilderness, not simply to give us an example of how we can overcome temptations, nor to show Jesus as our coach, who says, “See, I did it, so can you!” Rather, it is to show Jesus as the faithful Man for us, our Savior, who says, “See, I did it for you!” He is the second Adam who is the man of resolute faith in the Father’s Word that the first Adam failed to be. Therefore, He is also our faithful high priest from whom we can receive grace to help us in every time of need when we are attacked by the Evil One.

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.

First Communion – We give thanks to God that **Mary Bender** will be received at the Altar for her first communion this morning at the 7:45 a.m. service. First Communion is received by those children who have learned by heart the Six Chief Parts of the Small Catechism, who desire the Sacrament in repentant faith, and who have been examined and absolved by the pastor. We give thanks to God for Mary’s confession of faith and pray God’s blessing upon her continued catechesis.

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD — “*Man does not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God*” (*Deut. 8:3/Matthew 4:4*). 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 — Lent 1**
Bible Class at 9:15 — God's Institution of Marriage; Fidelity, Fornication, and the Role of the State
- **Monday:** **Didache at 6:00 pm**
- **Mon-Friday:** **Daily Chapel at 8:00 am**
- **Wednesday:** **LENTEN Divine Service at 8:00, 2:30 & 6:30**
- **Thursday:** **Matins with Communion at 8:00 am**
Coffee Break Bible Study at 9:00 am

Lenten Midweek Divine Services through Holy Wednesday, Apr. 1
Lent is a season of penitence and preparation through catechesis that leads us into Holy Week with anticipation of Easter joy. Midweek services will follow the readings in the Congregation at Prayer. 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. Communion is offered at all three services.

Feb 25:	“The Death of the Firstborn is Announced”	Exodus 11:1-10
March 4:	“The Lord Fights for Israel”	Exodus 14:10-31
March 11:	“The First Battle”	Exodus 17:8-16
March 18:	“The Way, the Truth, and the Life”	John 14:1-6
March 25:	“Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet”	John 13:1-20
April 1:	“Jesus Is Crucified Under Pontius Pilate”	John 19:1-24

Upcoming Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday—March 29: The Passion according to St. Matthew

Holy Wednesday—April 1: “Jesus Is Crucified Under Pontius Pilate”—Jn. 19:1-24

Maundy Thursday—April 2: Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet—Jn 13:1-15, 34-35

Good Friday—April 3: Tenebrae: The Seven Last Words from the Cross

Chief Divine Services: The St. John Passion

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil—April 4: Reception of new members

Easter Festival Divine Service—April 5 at 7:45 and 10:30

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 **Confession—The Prodigal Son**. 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 ***The Temptation of Our Lord — Matthew 4:1-11***.

Sacred Music for the Season of Lent ... “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,” “In the Cross of Christ I Glory,” “My Song Is Love Unknown,” “Glory Be to Jesus,” “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth.” You can listen to sacred music for the Lenten season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

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.

PLA's 24th Annual Goods & Services Auction—Saturday, March 21.

Get a wiggle on and register for the school auction! Currently, ticket prices are \$33 per person or \$240 for a table of 8 (\$30/person) at www.plaauction.com. After March 1st, prices increase to \$38 per person or \$264 for a table of 8 (\$33/person). Please come to support our students and Peace Lutheran Academy.

Lenten fish fries: February 27 and March 6, 13 & 27 from 5-7 p.m. Mark your calendars and tell your friends!

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

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 02/15/2025

Number of families participating: 8 (in-person) + 5 (online)

Attendance: 231

Gross sales: \$2,870.00 Profit earned this week \$103.57

Total profits earned this fiscal year: \$5,664.29

Profit paid to the Academy: \$5,015.19

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 First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026

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

“The Tree of Life”

561

Introit sung responsively with the choir

Antiphon

He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in | trouble; *
I will deliver him and | honor him.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him,*
and show him My sal- | vation.

(Psalm 91:15-16)

Psalm

Because you have made the LORD, who is my | refuge, *

even the Most High, your | dwelling place,
no evil shall be- | fall you, *
nor shall any plague come near your | dwelling;
for He shall give His angels charge | over you, *
to keep you in | all your ways.

In their hands they shall | bear you up, *

lest you dash your foot a- | gainst a stone.

You shall tread upon the lion and the | cobra, *

the young lion and the serpent you shall trample | underfoot.

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)

Kyrie sung by the choir

Kyrie! Eleison! Translation: “Lord, have mercy upon us!”

Old Testament Reading

The fall into sin

Genesis 3:1-21

Choral Response

“Now, Even Now, Declare a Fast” – Setting K. Hildebrand

- 1 Now, even now, declare a fast;
Turn, humbly turn—renounce your sin;
Tear not your robe for guilt amassed
But truly rend your heart within.
- 2 What shall I bring for daily vice,
Proffered before my Maker's eyes?
A contrite heart, the sacrifice
That You, O God, will not despise.
- 3 Ash, only ash I am, O Lord;
Dust, and to dust I shall return.
Death is my end, my just reward,
Solely the wage for sin I earn.
- 4 What shall I do? Where ought I go
To gain the grace I dearly want?
Only to Christ, who will bestow
Life from His pure baptismal font.
- 5 Drown, sinner, drown beneath its wave;
Rise, saint, arise—in Christ made new:
Live out the life your Savior gave,
By words you say and works you do.

Epistle

Romans 5:12-19

Death came through Adam's sin; Life comes through Christ's death.

Verse sung by the choir

Ephesians 6:11

Put on the whole armor of God,
that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.
Put on the whole armor of God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

The Temptation of Our Lord

Apostles' Creed confessed after the Holy Gospel

Hymn of the Day

656

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
Choir sings stanza 3

Rite of First Communion after the Offertory in the 7:45 service

Distribution Hymns

424

“O Christ, You Walked the Road”

666

“O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe”

562

“All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall”

Hymn to Depart

418

“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”