Announcements

SERVING THIS WEEK
Organist: Kathy May
Altar Committee: Sherry Prowatzke
Communion Committee: Sharon Martin, Mary Nitzsche, Melody Ruhbusch, Nicola Giordano
Sunday 7:45am Elder: Matthew Voss
Sunday 10:30am Elder: Elton Volquardsen
Wednesday 6:30pm Elder: Keith Gierach

LAST WEEK AT PEACE
Sunday, November 15 – 125 (7:45); 96 (10:30); 116 (Bible Class)
Wednesday, November 18 – 22
Thursday, November 19 – Chapel Matins – 34 Coffee Break – 39

Altar Flowers: Given in celebration of Bob and Pat Rothe's 50th wedding anniversary and in memory of Del Duwe

Scan to donate:

Last Week's Plate Offering

General fund:	$ 5,910.00
Capital Improvement fund:	$ 00.00
Sacred Appointments Fund	$ 00.00
Memorials	$ 260.00
Goehner Scholarship Fund:	$ 75.00
International Mission Fund:	$ 25.00
Mercy fund:	$ 00.00
	$ 6,270.00

TOTAL PLATE OFFERINGS GIVEN IN NOVEMBER 2026:

General funds received in November:	$ 21,306.00
Capital Improvement funds received in November:	$ 00.00
Sacred Appointments Fund received in November:	$ 00.00
Memorials received in November	$ 260.00
Goehner Scholarship funds received in November:	$ 600.00
International Mission funds received in November:	$ 625.00
Mercy funds received in November:	$ 00.00
	$ 22,791.00

Needed for general ministry for 2026-27: $594,500
Received fiscal year-to-date from all sources: $211,934 (36%)

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 Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 22, 2026

THEME: "Come, Inherit the Kingdom Prepared for You!"

Jesus gives us a picture of the last judgment. When He returns in glory with all His holy angels, He will sit upon the throne of His glory, all nations will be gathered before Him and He will separate believers in Christ (the sheep) from unbelievers (the goats). Believers in Christ will hear the result of Christ's forgiveness that they have believed: "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Unbelievers who have rejected Christ and despised His forgiveness will hear: "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and all His angels." In the picture Jesus paints, both the sheep and the goats are shocked that Jesus draws attention to what they have or have not done. Since Christians do not trust in their works for salvation, they are shocked when Jesus refers to them in the judgment. Since unbelievers DO trust in their works, they are shocked to hear that they have done nothing deserving of salvation. Works do not save us, but they do testify to the faith of our heart. The works that are truly "good works" are those done entirely out of faith in God's mercy in Christ. These works are not produced by our own goodness or moral strength; rather, they are the fruits of God's good work of love and forgiveness that we have received. Since they are the fruits of faith—a faith that is entirely fixed upon Jesus—the believer may not even be aware of these works because his faith is fixed upon Christ for salvation. This explains their reply to Jesus in the judgment: "Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?" From this we learn that our faith must be always fixed upon Jesus who first fed us, clothed us, and came to our aid in His work of salvation, only then will the works of faith be manifest in us.

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 — *"Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it" (Luke 11:28).* 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 a.m.**
  Bible Class at 9:15 a.m. — Adult Catechesis
- **Mon-Wed: Daily Chapel at 8:00 am**
- **Wednesday: Divine Service at 6:30 — Thanksgiving Eve**
- **Thursday: Thanksgiving Day Divine Service at 9:30 a.m.**

Coffee Break Bible Study will not meet this week. Instead, join us for Thanksgiving Divine Service at 9:30a.m.

Adult Catechesis: Didache and the Augsburg Confession continues during Bible Class. This adult catechesis class will link together an in-depth study of *Lutheran Catechesis* with an in-depth study of the Augsburg Confession, the seminal confessional document of the evangelical Lutheran Church. **Today's session**: *Lutheran Catechesis* – Lesson 2 (The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Commandments).

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 Angel Gabriel Announces the Birth of John the Baptist—Luke 1:5-25.***

The Sunday School Christmas Program is Sunday, December 13
Children are practicing during the Sunday School hour. Final practice for the program will be at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 12.

Thanksgiving Eve and Day Divine Services—November 25 and 26
The Festival Divine Services for the Day of National Thanksgiving will be 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve and 9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day. This year, the service will feature the Children's choirs on Thanksgiving Eve and the Senior Choir on Thanksgiving Day.

36th Annual Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols—December 20
Join us on Sunday, December 20, 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.

Join us for Advent Mid-week Divine 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. This year's discussion will focus on the pre-nativity narratives from the Old and New Testaments. Other than December 23, 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 2—**Ruth Gleans Grain in the Field of Boaz—Ruth 2:1-23**
December 9—**The Song of Hannah—1 Samuel 2:1-11**
December 16—**The Nativity of St. John the Baptist—Luke 1:57-66**
December 23—**The Journey to Bethlehem—Luke 2:1-14** (6:30 only)

NEWS AND NOTES

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

Ladies of the Congregation—The Lord presents us with many opportunities to serve Him in our church community. As a member of the Communion Committee for a number of years, my experience has been one of spiritual fulfillment through this service. If you are looking for a way to give back to the Lord, please consider joining our team. Please contact Rosanne Fell for more information (262-246-6215).

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

Weekly RaiseRight Report: Week of 11/15/2026
Number of families participating: 9 (in-person) + 10 (online)
Attendance: 243
Gross sales: $3,733.00 Profit earned this week $189.12
Total profits earned this fiscal year: $3,715.00
Profit paid to the Academy: $2,942.15

Get the enrollment code from Julie Goltermann or the church office.

$10 and under RaiseRight Gift Cards are available with form at counter.

The 2026 Giving Tree to thank our teachers and staff runs through December 13. Please see the bulletin board in the narthex and use the special order forms at the Scrip counter to participate. You can pay for all of your RaiseRight purchases in one check or cash.

Sunday Order of Service

The Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 22, 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 **741**

"Jesus Christ My Sure Defense"

St. 1 – All	*St. 5 – Women and Children*
St. 2 – Men	*St. 6 – Soloist*
St. 3 – Women and Children	*St. 7 – All*
St. 4 – Men	*St. 8 – All*

Introit *sung responsively with the soloist*

Antiphon *2 Peter 3:13 NIV*

In keeping with His promise we are looking forward
to a new heaven and a | new earth,*
the home of | righteousness.

Psalm *Psalm 39:4-5a, 7-8, 12*

O LORD, make me know my end
and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!
Behold, You have made my days a few | handbreadths,*
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore You.
And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*
My hope | is in You.
Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*
Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!
Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry;
hold not Your peace | at my tears!*
For I am a sojourner with You, a guest, like all my | fathers.

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 **Ezekiel 34:11-16**

The Lord seeks out His sheep.

Gradual Hymn **558**

"Not Unto Us"

Epistle **1 Corinthians 15:20-28**

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Choral Verse

"Before Him" – Knut Nystedt

And before Him will be gathered all the nations,
and He will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
and He will place the sheep at His right hand,
but the goats at the left.

Holy Gospel **Matthew 25:31-46**

Separating the Sheep from the Goats

Athanasian Creed *confessed responsively by whole verse* **319**

Hymn of the Day **532**

"The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns"

soloist sings st. 3

Proper Preface III

It is truly good, 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, out 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…

Distribution Hymns

"Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment"	**511**
"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"	**710**
"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"	**851**

Hymn to Depart **601**

"All Who Believe and Are Baptized"