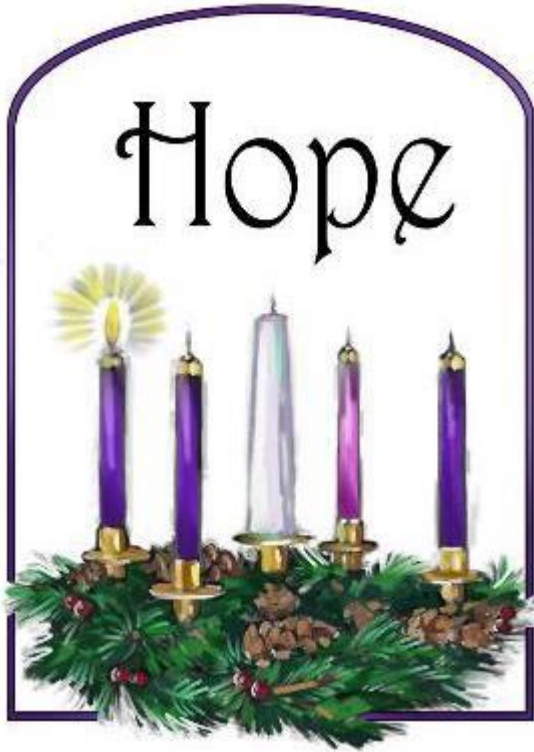


Welcome to
St. Peter's Lutheran Church



First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

10:15 Worship Service

Pastor Brandon Johns

BELL RINGING

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray. Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
you hurry to gather all people to your peace. **Amen.**

The first candle is lit as the litany begins.

ADVENT LITANY: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(We sing the indented lines together. For the first verse we begin after it is played through once. Afterwards, we sing after a chord is played.)

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.**

Isaiah declared that hope was on the way for God's people who were lost and abandoned.

There is hope for us, too, who are lost in sin and abandoned by the world.

Emmanuel has come.

He finds us where we are and makes us part of God's family through his birth in Bethlehem.

So we live in hope.

We live our lives for Jesus.

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.**

We are guided in hope by the Christ Child who points us to heaven.

Come and lead us, Lord Jesus.

Jesus arrives to brighten our future and tell us God loves us without end.

Come and be with us forever, Lord Jesus.

**O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
And bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
And turn our darkness into light.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.**

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

ADVENT WREATH

The Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:1a, 2

¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

The Reflection

The Blessing

Stir up your might and come to save us.

Reveal your face to us, and give us life.

Let us pray. Holy are you, God of righteousness and peace: You promised to wait with patience for all to come to repentance, and to send your prophet to cry in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord. As we light these candles during this season of Advent, open our ears to hear you speak tenderly to your people, and open our hearts to welcome you as a shepherd who gently leads the flock. **Amen.**

ADVENT PARAMENTS

The Scripture Reading: Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God: for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

The Reflection

The Placement of the Paraments

Sunday School Choir

Light One Candle

The Blessing

Stir up your might and come to save us.

Reveal your face to us, and give us life.

Let us pray. Holy are you, God of power and glory: You have commanded us to show your splendor to our children; and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy. As we adorn your holy house with these paraments, open our eyes to see the beauty of holiness so that our lives, like these paraments, might proclaim the glory of your majesty through the power of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

The Noel Carol

Mary E. Caldwell

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PSALM: 25:1-10 (*Read Responsively*)

¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of
my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for
the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(The assembly stands, if able, to welcome the gospel.)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The holy gospel according to Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34 “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35 like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

This is the Holy Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
 and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
 the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.



Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all
people and places that long for God's presence.**

A brief silence.

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world.

The response for each petition is:

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Our offerings are made processionaly, which means dropped into the plates located near the entrances to the nave.

CANTICLE OF ADVENT ANTICIPATION (to the tune of "The Doxology")



Stir up your pow'r, O Lord, and come. A - gain we
pray, "Your will be done." May Ad - vent blue to
us fore - tell the ech - o of E-mman - u - el.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, **we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord.


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE (*It is indeed right... join their unending hymn*)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup,
we remember your Word dwelling among us full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us.
Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God
incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

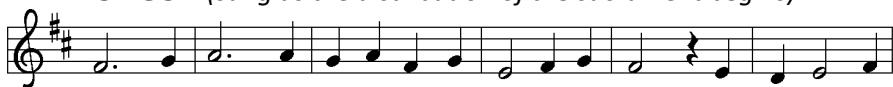
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and help us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

LAMB OF GOD *(sung as the distribution of the sacrament begins)*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Sacrament will be offered with these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. *And* The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Optional responses **Amen or Thanks be to God or Renew us, Lord**

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

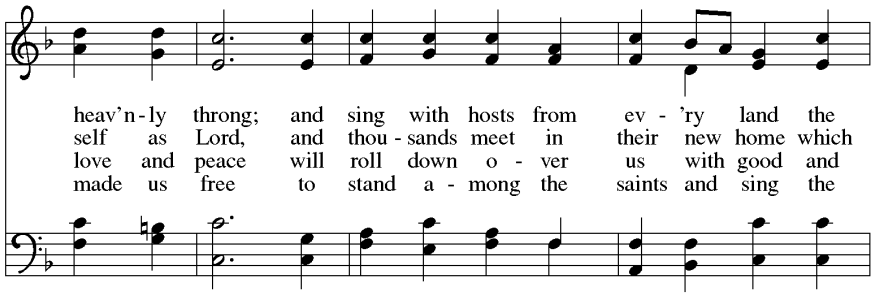
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

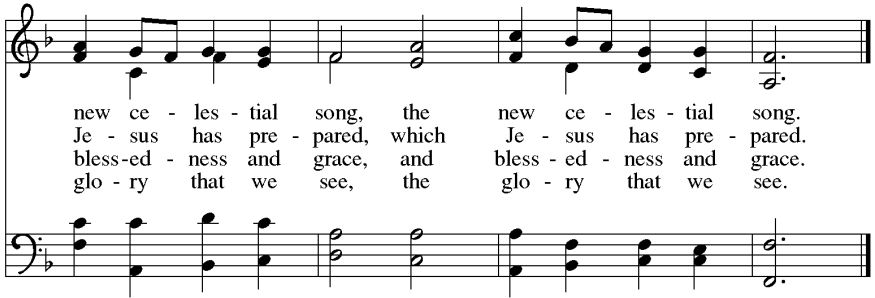
SENDING SONG: Oh Happy Day When We Shall Stand



1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand a - mid the
2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him -
3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and
4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has



heav'n - ly throng; and sing with hosts from ev - 'ry land the
self as Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which
love and peace will roll down o - ver us with good and
made us free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the



new ce - les - tial song, the new ce - les - tial song.
Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared.
bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace.
glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797–1866; tr. composite
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561
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SHARING FOR SERVING: Mission Notices and Birthdays

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Joy And Praise

Janet Rand

Our Monthly Benevolent Cause will support
Bethesda Lutheran Services. To support this cause,
 please mark the *Other* line on your envelope.

Prayers Have Been Requested Recently for the Following:

Cole Barkley	Troy Barkley	Luke Clawson
Lucille Wingard	Roberta Domhoff	Lisa Burr
Kay Burr	Tony Platek	Roy Marburger

The families of Thomas Geiger, Kathy Pfeifer and Ruth Blank
 Please hold these members and friends of St. Peter's in your prayers.
"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:16

*Today's Altar Flowers
 are given by Eilene Budisky
 in memory of Ron Crider*



*The Eternal Candle is presented
 by Barb Graham
 in memory of Harold Graham*

St. Peter's Upcoming Events:

Mon.-Friday	4-6 pm	After School Program
Mon. Dec. 2	6:30 pm	Fellowship Meeting
	7:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Tue. Dec. 3	6:30 pm	WELCA General Meeting
	7:00 pm	Property Meeting
Wed. Dec. 4	10:00 am	Community Quilting Group
	5:30 pm	Manna Night
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
Thur. Dec. 5	10:00 am	Quilters Group
	1:00 pm	Mary Circle
	7:00 pm	Bible Study
Fri. Dec. 6	12:00pm	500 Club & Lunch

Advent Lunch – Please join us after worship today for our annual kickoff to the Advent season. Any funds donated for the lunch will support next summer's youth mission trip.

Poinsettias – Please have order forms back by Sunday, 12/15.



ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
*is a congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).*

Pastor	The Rev. Brandon Johns
Organist & Music Director	Marlene Domhoff
Sexton	Joe Ludwik
Secretary	Kimberly Peaco
Acolyte	Myka Plank
Assisting Minister	Robin Van Dyke
Bell Ringer	Wes Schmidt
Greeters	Becky Rengers & Jan Hogan
Lector	Tom Ayers
Nursery	Melissa Bonicky
Tech Support	Adam Price
Ushers	Dan & Casey Guerriero

WELCA – The Christmas WELCA General Meeting will be held on 12/3 at 6:30 pm in Luther Hall. **All women are invited.** Please bring a covered dish to share and your table setting. After our meal, we will have a brief meeting and fellowship.

Christmas Cookie Sale – Sun., Dec. 15th following our worship service, cookies will be provided by Lutherlyn camper families for fellowship time. If you enjoy the sweet, festive treats, then you are invited to purchase more to take home in order to help defray the cost of camp for our youth. Christmas tins will be available to fill.

Sunday School Christmas Program – Save the Date: 12/22, 6:30pm.

Christmas Dinner and Caroling – On Friday, December 20, we will have our annual Christmas dinner at 5 pm. All are welcome! If you're planning to attend, please let Pastor know so enough food can be prepared. Following dinner, we will be going caroling. Even if you can't make it to dinner, you are invited to come along on this wonderful service ministry of sharing God's love at Christmastime.

Lunch Bunch – Christmas outing to Springfield Grille, Mars, 12/18.

Christmas Ornament –Wendell August Forge Christmas ornaments marking our congregation’s 175th anniversary are available for \$20 each and come with a color picture of our Shepherd window and a brief history of our congregation on the back. Please see Marsha Reedy to get yours today, for yourself or as gifts to family members.

Welcome to St. Peter’s

We are thankful that you are here to worship with other Christians today. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray that your worship experience will fill you with the grace and mercy of Almighty God through his Holy Spirit.



Newcomers and Guests

New to St. Peter’s? Please sign the GUEST REGISTER behind the last pew. A handicapped accessible RESTROOM is located near the Van Buren Street entrance (through Luther Hall, past the kitchen, restroom is on the left in the foyer). You are welcome to commune with us if that is your practice.

Nursery - is staffed by a volunteer and available for children and caregivers. Exit the rear of the nave and follow the steps to the basement, the nursery is on the left. There are activity bags in the back of the sanctuary and children’s bulletins geared for children ages 5 and up are at the nave entrances.

Staying in Touch:

Our church office is open Monday through Friday from 9 am until noon. Pastor is often there also or by appointment.

Please feel free to contact us by phone or internet:

Church Office: 724.538.5810

Church Email: stpeterslcec@zoominternet.net

Pastor Email: rev.brandonjohns@gmail.com

RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS:

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