

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2020

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Church e-mail: plc@premieronline.net

Peace Website: www.peacelutheranrr.com

English Website: elc-cl.faithlifesites.com

IN OUR PRAYERS we remember: Ron Steinberg, Marcia Neelly, Kirk Aeilts, Kim Kimmel, Ray Delfs

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS: Ray Delfs December 22, Harold Wittrock December 25

ORDER OF WORSHIP: Order of Service Hymn 357

THIS WEEK AT PEACE AND ENGLISH:

Dec. 20 8:30 a.m. Worship at English

Dec. 20 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Studies

Dec. 20 10:15 a.m. Worship at Peace

Dec. 24 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service at Peace

Dec. 25 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Peace

Christmas Eve: This week, we will celebrate our Savior's birth at 7:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day at Peace. Our Christmas Eve service will be a little different this year. We are going to relive the Christmas story through readings, prayers, and carols. My hope as a pastor is that the readings, prayers, and carols will interpret one another and deepen our faith in the birth of Christ and what he came to do for us. There is no way of predicting how many people will attend our service. We will try to add seating by setting up chairs in the fellowship hall, but we will not be opening additional pews. Our sanctuary can only seat about a hundred or so with every other pew taped off. Therefore, you may want to arrive early if you want to sit in the sanctuary. I look forward to our Christmas services this year. There is no better time to remember the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the world, than at this moment of our lives.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Our hymn of the day is *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. The seven verses of this hymn are based on seven ancient prayers that were commonly prayed at evening services leading up to Christmas Eve. Each uses an Old Testament title for Christ, and then prays for Christ to come based on this title. For example, stanza two calls Christ the "Wisdom from on high." Based on this title, we pray that Christ would come, show us the path of knowledge, and teach us in her ways to go. In Latin (the original language), these prayers form an acrostic which means, "Tomorrow I will be present." In other words, as we sing this hymn, asking Christ to come, we hear his answer, "Tomorrow I will be present." Rejoice, the promised savior is coming soon.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER: Mary is blessed and favored because she bore the Son of God. God has come in the flesh. We wonder at this mystery of salvation that has been revealed in Jesus. But, above all, by the Holy Spirit, we believe and receive the salvation accomplished for us in Jesus. For this child later died and was raised again to life. He was despised and rejected by men with the result that we live in God's favor.

BIBLE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

WEBSITES: Peace and English both have new websites. There you will find sermon recordings, manuscripts, bulletins, service times and events, as well as an option for online giving. Web addresses for both churches can be found at the top of the bulletin.

Covid-19: Please help us keep others safe by wearing a mask while attending services at Peace Lutheran. Masks may be removed during the service if you are a safe distance from other worshippers.

FRONTIER BANK During the month of December, Frontier Bank is offering a \$5.00 donation check to the charity of your choice. Anyone can stop in for a check; they do not need to be a customer. If you do not want to go into the bank, call ahead and they will bring the check to your car.

THIS MONTH Daughters of Peace will collect drinks (fruit juice, vegetable juice, tea, water, Gatorade, tang, etc.) for Atlas. Thank you all for your support in our monthly projects.

ACOLYTE TODAY is Harper Flying Horse. Next Sunday will be Porter Vogel.

USHERING TODAY is Team 3; Next Sunday is Team 4: Wayne Ranschau, Brad Vogel, Gary Delfs, Marv Flier, Wayne Jepsen, Denton Olson, John Schulte

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

OPENING HYMN: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

LSB 357 Sts. 1-3

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Brief Silence for Inward Confession)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b

Show, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.
The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Show, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.
C **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
From the house of the Lord we bless you.

EPISTLE

Romans 16:25–27

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

Matthew 1:23a

Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26–38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After the Reading

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

LSB 357 sts. 4-5

SERMON

OFFERTORY

Mary, Did You Know?

Paisley Vogel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

BENEDICTION

202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

LSB 357 sts. 6-7

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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