



— FIRST SUNDAY OF —
ADVENT

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
December 3, 2017

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
1600 S. Main St.
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235
www.stpetersfdl.net

Worship: Thursday, 6:30pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:30am
Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808 Pastor Matthew M. Guse: 517-9000
For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808.
St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Andrew Mildebrandt, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302
Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE May Christ's Holy Spirit prepare a place in our hearts for our Advent King.

Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or a pastor.

- Family restrooms are available in the multi-purpose room off the narthex or on the right side of the large hallway leading to the school wing.
- A parent's room with audio feed and a window into the sanctuary is available.
- Listening devices and six large print hymnals are available, please ask an usher.
- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
- Please silence your cell phone and all other electrical devices to help minimize distractions during Divine Worship. Thank you.
- Hymns and songs are reprinted under OneLicense #A-713891. Artwork obtained from churchart.com. Scripture texts are taken from the New International Version 1984 translation.
- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

HOLY COMMUNION Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason we respectfully request that all of those who are not members of the WELS or our sister ELS please speak with one of the pastors before communing with us. We remind you to be sure to fill out a communion registration card and place it in the offering plate. For your personal preparation before communing, turn to pages 156 and 11 in the front of the hymnal. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free; from our sins and fears release us by your death on Calvary. Israel's Strength and Consolation, hope to all the earth impart, dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart. Born your people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now your gracious kingdom bring. By your own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by your all-sufficient merit Raise us to your glorious throne. Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

SERVICE THEME Jesus is coming. Watch!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

These sentences will be spoken and the Advent candle lit immediately following the tolling of the bell at the beginning of the service.

Advent 1

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: **We remember Jesus who will come at the end of time. None of us knows what day that will be.**

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: **We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

One Advent candle (the Prophecy Candle) is lit.

The service continues with the opening hymn.

OPENING HYMN

“The Advent of Our King”

Hymn 1 v 1-4

- M: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

- M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

SONG OF PRAISE

“The Advent of Our King”

Hymn 1 v 5-6

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C: **♪Amen**

THE WORD OF GOD

LESSON

1 Peter 3:18-22

The waters of the flood saved Noah and his family from God’s judgment, safely lifting them above the death and destruction that lay beneath. The waters of baptism save us from God’s everlasting judgment through the power of Christ’s resurrection.

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

VERSE OF THE DAY

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 13:32-37

Jesus reminds us to constantly watch for his Second Advent.

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’”

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **♪Praise be to you, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall”

Hymn 378

SERMON TEXT

Genesis 6:1-3, 5-14, 17-22

Even as the Lord gave the world of Noah’s day a 120 year time of grace in order to repent, so also he gives the world today a time of grace before Christ’s Second Advent.

When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. Then the LORD said, “My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years.” The LORD saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So the LORD said, “I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them.” But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. Noah had three sons: Shem,

Ham and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, “I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons’ wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.” Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

“Keep Watch For The Coming!”

Pastor Guse

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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **♪And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **♪We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **♪It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

♪ Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glory.

You are my God, and I will exalt you.

I will give you thanks for you have become my salvation.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glory.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **♪Amen**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

♪ O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“As Angels Joyed with One Accord”

Hymn 5

“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

Hymn 207

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

Hymn 309

THANK THE LORD

♪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you
here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming
of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in
his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live
a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪Amen

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve
the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: ♪Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Hymn 57



ORGANIST

Ruth Koepsell

GREETERS

7:45 ~ Guy & Sue Repp

10:30 ~ Nancy Kowalkowski