



— FOURTH SUNDAY OF —  
**ADVENT**

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**December 24, 2017**

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

1600 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235

[www.stpetersfdl.net](http://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 the peace of the Christ-child fill your heart.

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.

**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew, our sins forgive, our foes suppress, our rooted enmity subdue, and crown your gospel with success. Teach us in watchfulness and prayer to wait for your appointed hour, and fit us by your grace to share the triumphs of your conquering power. Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

---

**SERVICE THEME** Behold our Advent King!

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

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

**Advent 4**

M: We light four Advent candles as we behold Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

**C: With eyes of faith we behold Jesus whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.**

M: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

**C: We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

*Four Advent candles (the Prophecy, Bethlehem, Angel, and Shepherd candles) are lit. The service continues with the opening hymn.*

**HYMN**

**“Before the Marvel of This Night”**

*LAPPY pages 20-21*

**GREETING**

Pastor/**Congregation**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

**“Unto Us Is Born a Son”**

*LAPPY pages 316-317*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**Psalm 89** (responsive reading)

I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;  
**I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**  
I will declare that your love stands firm forever,  
**that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**  
The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,  
**your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.**  
O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?  
**You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**  
Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,  
**who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.**  
They rejoice in your name all day long;  
**they exult in your righteousness.**

*Sing*

**Hosanna to the coming Lord!  
Hosanna to the incarnate Word!  
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King  
Let earth, let heav'n hosanna sing.**

**LESSON**

Romans 16:25-27

*After centuries of waiting, the mystery of the Gospel was fully revealed through the birth of our Advent King.*

Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him—to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

**SOLO BY JOY SCHWARK****“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”****GOSPEL**

Luke 1:26-38

*In fulfillment of God’s promise, King David’s descendant—the virgin Mary—would conceive by the power of the Holy Spirit and give birth to our Advent King.*

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.” “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God.” “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

**HYMN OF THE DAY****“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”***LAPPY pages 94-95***SERMON**

2 Samuel 7:8-16

*One thousand years before Jesus was born, the Lord promised King David that through the birth of our Advent King his throne would be established forever.*

“Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. ‘The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’”

**“God Fulfilled His Promise to King David”***Pastor Zuberbier*

1. Through his son Solomon.
2. Through his greater Son Jesus.

**SERMON RESPONSE****“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”***LAPPY pages 152-153***OFFERING**

Instrumentalist: Heidi Zabel

**“Stars Were Gleaming”***by Jon Schmidt***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.**

**SERMON HYMN**

**“Still, Still, Still”**  
*LAPPY page 289*

**CLOSING COLLECT**

**BLESSING**

**HYMN**

**“He Is Born, the Child Divine”**  
*LAPPY pages 102-103*



**ORGANIST**  
Pam Zuberbier

**GREETERS**  
7:45 ~ Deb Jaeger, Barb Krug  
10:30 ~ Diana Kent

*Members: Please remember to check your mailbox*