



— SECOND SUNDAY OF —
ADVENT

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 10, 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 the love of our Advent King dwell in us richly.

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, O precious Ransom, come, only Hope for sinful mortals! Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to you all portals. Come, your beauty let us view; anxiously we wait for you. Enter now my waiting heart, glorious King and Lord most holy. Dwell in me and ne'er depart, though I am but poor and lowly. Ah, what riches will be mine when you are my guest divine! Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

SERVICE THEME Prepare for the Advent (the Coming) of our 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 2

M: We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

C: **We remember Jesus who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.**

M: We hear his call to repent.

C: **We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

*Two Advent candles (the Prophecy and Bethlehem candles) are lit.
The service continues with the opening hymn.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Common Service on page 15 in the front of the hymnal

OPENING HYMN

“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”
Hymn 13

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **♪Amen**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord; let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

♪ **Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.**
Lord, have mercy on us.

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**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”

Hymn 12

**Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev’ry heart prepare a throne And ev’ry voice a song.**

**He comes the captives to release, In Satan’s prison held.
The gates of brass before him burst; The iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace To enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall proclaim,
And heav’n’s eternal arches ring With your beloved name.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪Amen

THE WORD OF GOD

LESSON

2 Peter 3:8-14

The longer our King delays his Second Advent, the more time people have to be prepared for his coming.

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

*Prepare
the way
of the
LORD.*
ISAIAH 40:3

Psalm 14

Refrain

Come, Lord Je - sus, come. Come, Lord Je - sus,
come. Re - store your peo-ple and bless them.

Psalm Tone

The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”
They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.

The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men
to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt;
there is no one who does good, not even one.

Refrain

Will evildoers never learn—
those who devour my people and do not call on the LORD?

You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor,
but the LORD is their refuge.

Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
let Israel rejoice and be glad!

**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.**

Refrain

M: The gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter 1.

C: **♪Glory be to you, O Lord!**

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

Jesus’ harbinger (forerunner), John the Baptist, preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, preparing the hearts of the people for the Advent of the Promised One.

The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way” – “a voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: “After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **♪Praise be to you, O Christ!**

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Arise, O Christian People”

Hymn 14

SERMON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Isaiah encourages us to prepare a highway in our hearts for the Advent of our King.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: “In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?” “All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.” You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

“The LORD Prepares Us to See His Glory”

Pastor Zuberbier

1. He enters our hearts with his comfort.
2. Our hearts overflow with his comfort.

CREATE IN ME

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not
away from your presence, and take not your
Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy
of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.**

HYMN

“Comfort, Comfort All My People”

Hymn 11

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ’s holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪Amen.

M: 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

“Hosanna to the Coming Lord
Hymn 21



ORGANIST
Phil Otto

GREETERS
7:45 ~ Laurel Woschnick, Jill Reynolds
10:30 ~ Jim & Marcia Pflum