

**SECOND SUNDAY**  
OF  
*Advent*

**Evening Prayer**  
December 6, 2018

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**Second Sunday in Advent**

**December 6, 2018**

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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, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:30 am

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

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**WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE** May God's Holy Spirit prepare our hearts to welcome our newborn 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.

**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to you; here, Lord abide! Oh, enter with your saving grace; show me your kind and friendly face. Your Holy Spirit guide us on until our glorious goal is won. Eternal praise and fame we offer to your name. Amen. (*See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of Christian Worship.*)

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**SERVICE THEME** The Lord is coming. Prepare the way before him.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP** *Evening Prayer* on page 52 in the front of the hymnal

### 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 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.*

**OPENING HYMN** **“Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”**  
*Hymn 12*

M: ♪O Lord, open my lips.

C: ♪**And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

M: ♪Hasten to save me, O God.

C: ♪**O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

M: ♪The Lord be with you.

C: ♪**And also with you.**

M: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need in life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

### LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

♪ **Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord

C: **Amen.**

### FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

*Malachi foretold the coming of John the Baptist who would prepare the way for the Lord.*

“See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify

the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

## PSALM 24

page 73 in the front of the hymnal

## SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

*At the time of his second Advent (Coming) God will reveal whose hearts are prepared.*

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God.

## HYMN

**“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**

*Hymn 16*

## GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

*In fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy, John the Baptist prepared the way for the Lord.*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God’s salvation.’”

## **“Get Prepared For Christmas”**

*Pastor Guse*

1. Prepare your hearts with repentance.
2. Prepare your hearts with Joy.

## SONG OF MARY

♪ **My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed.**

**The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise made to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his children forever. Amen.**

## GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

C: ♪**Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

C: ♪**Christ, have mercy.**

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

C: ♪**Lord, have mercy.**

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: ♪**Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: **♪Lord, hear our prayer.**

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

C: **♪Thanks be to God.**

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord:

C: **♪Amen.**

#### 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.**

#### SONG OF SIMEON

**♪ In peace, Lord, you let your servant now  
depart according to your word.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared for ev'ry people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the  
glory of your people Israel.**

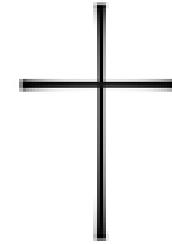
#### BLESSING

M: **♪The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

C: **♪Amen.**

#### CLOSING HYMN

**“Silent Night! Holy Night”**  
*Hymn 60*



**ORGANIST**  
Ruth Koepsell

**GREETERS**  
7:45 ~ Deb Dehring  
10:30 ~ Jim & Marcia Pflum