



New Year's Eve

December 31, 2020/January 3, 2021

Bells

P: 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.

P: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning – though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered.

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past | **CW 441 v 1-2**

**O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home,**

**Under the shadow of your throne Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.**

P: We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. The length of our days is seventy years – or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past | **CW 441 v 3-4**

**Before the hills in order stood Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**

P: Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Hymn *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* | **CW 441 v 5-6**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.**

**O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!**

Confession and Absolution (Pastor/Congregation)

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

I confess to God Almighty, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed—by my fault, by my own fault, by my own grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

Amen.

I confess to God Almighty, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed—by my fault, by my own fault, by my own grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

Amen.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, before whom all generations rise and fall, teach us to think earnestly on the brevity of our lives and on the immensity of your goodness. Help us to enter the

new year trusting in the name of your Son and walking in the way of his peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Lesson **Isaiah 51:1-6 (NIV)**

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. When I called him he was but one, and I blessed him and made him many. The LORD will surely comfort Zion and will look with compassion on all her ruins; he will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the LORD. Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of singing. Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation: The law will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations. My righteousness draws near speedily, my salvation is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail.

Hymn *Abide with Me* | **CW 588 v 1-2**

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!**

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me!**

Second Lesson **1 Peter 1:22–25 (NIV)**

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring

word of God. For, “All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.

Hymn

Abide with Me | **CW 588 v 4-5**

**Thou on my head in early youth didst smile,
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me oft as I left thee.
On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.**

**I need thy presence ev’ry passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter’s pow’r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me!**

Gospel

Luke 13:6-9 (NIV)

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’ ‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

Hymn

Abide with Me | **CW 588 v 6-7**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death’s sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**

Sermon

Psalm 90

A prayer of Moses the man of God. Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn men back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, O sons of men.” For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning—though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered. We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Our Timeless Lord Gives Us Time

Pastor Zuberbier

1. Time to understand our mortality
2. Time to understand his unfailing love
3. Time to labor under his blessing

Hymn

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me | **CW 439 v 1 & 3**

**Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life’s way;
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.**

**Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that you will strengthen My steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.**

Presenting of our Offering

Prayer of the Church

(Pastor/Congregation)

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. **Every day I will praise you and extol your name.** It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you. **You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.** You clothe your creation with beauty; you feed even the birds and tell us that we are much more valuable than they. **You know what we need, and you give us all good things.** Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself—all these come to us from your generous hand. **We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.** We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service. **Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to die in your peace. **We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we began this year; in his name we bring it to a close. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **(spoken) And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **(spoken) We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

C: **(spoken) It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name, saying, “Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.”

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: **(spoken) Amen. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us and grant us your peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away | CW 71

**The old year now has passed away; We thank you, O our God, today
That you have kept us through the year When danger and distress were near.**

**We pray you, O eternal Son, Who with the Father reigns as one,
To guard and rule your Christendom Through all the ages yet to come.**

**Take not your saving Word away, Which lights and cheers our souls each day.
Abide with us and keep us free From error and hypocrisy.**

**Oh, help us to forsake all sin, A new and holier life begin!
Forgive the old year’s sins, and bless The new year with true happiness,**

**Wherein as Christians we may live Or die in peace that you can give,
To rise again when you will come And enter your eternal home.**

**There shall we thank you and adore With all the angels evermore.
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith To praise your name through life and death.**

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

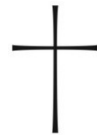
C: (spoken) Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Father, Let Me Dedicate | CW 75 v 1-2

Father, let me dedicate All this year to you,
In whate'er my earthly state, In whate'er I do.
Not from sorrow, pain, or care Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer: Glorify your name.

Can a child presume to choose Where or how to live?
Can a father's love refuse All the best to give?
More you give me ev'ry day Than the best can claim;
Help me trust you that I may Glorify your name.



ORGANIST

Pam Zuberbier

GREETERS

7:45 ~ Joe & Nancy Birkholz

10:30 ~ Jim & Marcia Pflum

Weekly Announcements

PIANO STUDENTS will be playing some of the music on December 31 and January 3.

BAPTISM Elodie Ann Ketter, newborn daughter of Daniel and Cheryl Ketter, will be received into the Kingdom of Grace through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in the 10:30 service on Sunday. May Elodie always remain faithful to her baptismal covenant.

MEMORIALS Family and friends of Sandra "Sue" Topp have given special gifts to the Radio Ministry and General Fund in her memory. A special gift has been given to SPLS Tuition Assistance in memory of Alice Wessel.

DIVINE CALL MEETING We will have a Divine Call Meeting January 3 after the second service.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES have been put in your mailboxes. Please check your offering envelopes to make sure the number labeled on top of your box matches ALL of the envelopes inside your box. If they do not, please let Anna or Ashley in the office know, at 922-1160 or email annagilgenbach@stpetersfdl.net or ashleywill@stpetersfdl.net. Thank you!

PPP LOAN In early December St. Peter's submitted an application requesting loan forgiveness of the PPP loan received on April 15. Just before Christmas we received notification that our loan was paid in full or forgiven and informed there would be no interest assessed. We are thankful to God for the blessing of the loan proceeds and the gift of forgiveness.

VOTERS MEETING A voters meeting will be held Sunday, January 10 immediately following the 10:30 service. The proposed 2021 unified budget will be presented and voted on. We will also be voting for officers and board members to fill expired terms.

Last Week's Stewardship

Christmas Eve Worship: 272 + 210 + 111 = 593

Christmas Day Worship: 155

December 27 Worship: 86 + 118 = 204

Daily Bible Readings

01/03	1 John 2:28-3:10	01/07	John 2, 3
01/04	1 John 3:11-4:6	01/08	Isaiah 40
01/05	1 John 4:7-5:3	01/09	Isaiah 41
01/06	1 John 5:4-21		

First Fruits to the Lord 2020:

<i>December 27 & Christmas Services</i>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Thank offerings in support of the unified budget	\$65,494.51	
Other receipts in support of the unified budget	2,625.00	
Total receipts in support of the unified budget	68,119.51	\$1,548,630.63
Requirement to support proposed unified budget	31,126.98	1,618,605.00
Overage (Shortfall)	36,992.53	(69,974.37)
Improvement Fund	405.00	
WLA Forward in Trust	5.00	
Honoring the Lord!	10.00	
SPLS Tuition Assistance	50.00	
Radio Ministry	25.00	

This Week at St. Peter's

www.stpetersfdl.net/calendar

MONDAY	SPLS Classes Resume	
TUESDAYS	6:30 pm	Coordinating Council
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am	Bible Class
	6:30 pm	Bible Class
	7:00 pm	Communicating Christ
THURSDAY	6:30 pm	Worship