

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

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808      Pastor Luke J. Boehringer: 579-8150  
For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808  
St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Benjamin J. Raddatz, 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 the Holy Spirit cause the eyes of our hearts to anxiously watch for the Advent of our 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.*

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current sermon.
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- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please fill out a Visitor Card and hand it to an usher. 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** O Savior, rend the heavens wide; come down, come down with mighty stride; unlock the gates, the doors break down; unbar the way to heaven's crown. Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies; grim death looms fierce before our eyes. Oh, come, lead us with mighty hand from exile to our promised land. Amen. *(See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of Christian Worship.)*

**SERVICE THEME** Watch for the Advent (Coming) of our King!

*Remain Seated*

**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.*

**GREAT O ANTIPHONS OF ADVENT**

*The Great O Antiphons of Advent have been cherished for centuries by Christian worshippers. Each one consists of a title given to Christ in the Old Testament and a petition asking him to come and fulfill the scriptural promise or prophecy.*

M: Let us pray.

O Emmanuel, our King and our Lord, the anointed of the nations and their Savior, come and save us, O Lord our God.

**C: ♪ Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

M: O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things; come and teach us the way of prudence.

**C:** ♪ Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high, who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai, come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.

**C:** ♪ Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times gave holy law, in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage, come quickly to deliver us.

**C:** ♪ Oh, come, O Rod of Jesse's stem. From every foe deliver them  
That trust your mighty pow'r to save: Bring them in victory through the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close; you close and no one can open; come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

**C:** ♪ Oh, come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home.  
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting, come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

**C:** ♪ Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone for uniting all people, come and save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

**C:** ♪ Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;  
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease, and be yourself the King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

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*Stand*

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

**C:** (spoken) 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:** (spoken) Amen.

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

### SONG OF PRAISE

*Hosanna to the Coming Lord | CW 21 v 1, 3*

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

**O Advent King, our sins forgive; Come in our lives and hearts to live,  
And let our humble souls become A temple worthy of your name.**

## 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

### FIRST LESSON

Genesis 19:15-17, 23-29

*Lot's deliverance from Sodom's destruction reminds us to watch for our deliverance from the world's destruction at the Second Advent (Coming) of our King.*

<sup>15</sup>When the dawn came, the angels urged Lot, "Get going! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, so that you will not be swept away by the guilt of the city." <sup>16</sup>But Lot was taking too much time, so the men grabbed his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, because of the LORD's compassion for him. They led him out and placed him outside of the city. <sup>17</sup>Then when they had taken them out, one of them said, "Run for your life! Don't look behind you, and don't stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, so that you are not swept away!"

<sup>23</sup>The sun had risen over the land when Lot came to Zoar. <sup>24</sup>Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire out of the sky from the LORD. <sup>25</sup>He overthrew those cities, as well as all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and whatever grew in the soil.

<sup>26</sup>But Lot's wife, who was behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

<sup>27</sup>Abraham got up early in the morning and went to the place where he had stood before the LORD. <sup>28</sup>He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and all the land of the plain. As he looked, he saw that the smoke from the land was going up like the smoke from a kiln.

<sup>29</sup>And so when God destroyed the cities of the plain, God remembered Abraham and brought Lot out through the middle of the devastation, when he overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.

### PSALM 25

*page 74 in the front of the hymnal*

## SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

*As we watch for the Second Advent (Coming) of our King, we display his love in our lives.*

<sup>9</sup>Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.

## 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

Luke 21:25-36

*Jesus gives us signs that remind us to always watch for his Second Advent (Coming).*

<sup>25</sup>"There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And on the earth nations will be in anguish, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the surging waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting from fear and expectation of the things coming on the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>But when these things begin to happen, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near."

<sup>29</sup>He told them a parable. "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they are sprouting leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is actually near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Amen I tell you: This generation will not pass away until all these things happen. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

<sup>34</sup>"Watch yourselves or else your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and the worries of this life, and that day may come on you suddenly. <sup>35</sup>For it will come like a trap on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Stay alert all the time, praying that you may be able to escape all these things that are going to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: 🎵 **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Great God, What Do I See and Hear* | **CW 208**

**“Keep Watch for Your Last Day’s Redemption”**

*Pastor Zuberbier*

1. Look at the signs.
2. Look at yourself.

**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.**

**PRESENTING OF OUR OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN**

*Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes* | **CW 9**

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 🎵 **Amen.**

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 upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: 🎵 **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*When All Your Mercies, O My God* | **CW 259**



**ORGANIST**

Pam Zuberbier

**GREETERS**

7:45 ~ Joe & Nancy Birkholz  
10:30 ~ Travis & Brindah Birkholz