



**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation**  
December 4, 2022

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

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, 8:00 & 10:30 am  
Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808                      Pastor Luke 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 Advent of our King refresh your soul and renew your spirit.

*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 weekend's 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.

**HOLY COMMUNION** Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason, we respectfully request that all of those who are not members of the WELS or our sister ELS please speak with one of the pastors before communing with us. Thank you.

**A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward. Without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay. Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and lift us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on us to shine, and fill the world with love divine. Amen.

**SERVICE THEME**

Come, Lord Jesus! – As Judge

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*Setting Two & Setting One* | 172-182, 165-170



**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

*These sentences will be spoken and the Advent candles lit immediately following the ringing of the bells 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**

*There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying* | 308

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** 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.

**All: Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON (Sermon Text)

Isaiah 11:1-10

*From the family tree of Jesse, father of King David, another King would come to judge the world with righteousness and establish an everlasting kingdom.*

A shoot will spring up from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>He will be delighted with the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, nor will he render decisions based on what he hears with his ears, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he will judge the poor, and he will render fair decisions in favor of the oppressed on the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath from his lips he will put the wicked to death. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness will be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his hips. <sup>6</sup>The wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, the calf, the young lion, and the fattened calf together, and a little child will lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear will graze together, and their young ones will lie down together. The lion will eat straw like the cattle. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child will play near a cobra's hole, and the weaned child will put his hand into a viper's den. <sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain, or the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>This is what will take place on that day. The peoples will seek the Root of Jesse, who will be standing like a banner for the peoples, and his resting place will be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## ADULT BELLS (THURSDAY EVENING)

*"Advent Hope"*

by Derek K. Hakes

## SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

*God's people face the coming judgement not with fear but with hope because God has raised up the Root of Jesse as our Savior.*

Indeed, whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that, through patient endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we would have hope. <sup>5</sup>And may God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that with one mind, in one voice, you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>For this reason, accept one another as Christ also accepted you to the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I am saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for

the sake of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs. <sup>9</sup>He also did this so that the Gentiles would glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: For this reason, I will praise you among the Gentiles, and I will sing to your name. <sup>10</sup>And again it says: Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people. <sup>11</sup>And again: Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples give him praise. <sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says: There will be a Root of Jesse, and he is the one who will rise up to rule the Gentiles; on him the Gentiles will place their hope.

<sup>13</sup>Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

page 179

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Come to us, Emmanuel; come and set your people free.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

*To prepare us for the coming judgement, God sent John the Baptist, a voice in the wilderness, calling to repent.*

In those days, John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near!" <sup>3</sup>Yes, this is he of whom this was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

A voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

"Prepare the way of the Lord. Make his paths straight."

<sup>4</sup>John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem, all of Judea, and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him. <sup>6</sup>They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup>Therefore produce fruit in keeping with repentance! <sup>9</sup>Do not think of saying to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. <sup>10</sup>Already the ax is ready to strike the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>I baptize you with water for

repentance. But the one who comes after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor. He will gather his wheat into the barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Behold, a Branch Is Growing* | **360**

**“A Judged Stump That Bore the Righteous Judge”**

*Pastor Boehringer*

**NICENE CREED & PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*pages 180-182*

**PRESENTING OF OUR OFFERING**

**THE SACRAMENT**

*pages 165-169*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

*Prepare the Royal Highness* | **302**  
*When All the World Was Cursed* | **317**

**THANKSGIVING & BLESSING**

*page 170*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Rejoice, the Lord is King* | **524**



**ORGANIST**

Pam Zuberbier

**GREETERS**

8:00 ~ Chris, Courtney, Brayden, Sophia & Aubrienne Stolper

10:30 ~ Eric & Tracy Freiberg