

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Building on the Rock of Jesus and His Word

1600 S. Main St. Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

stpetersfdl.net ~ 920-922-1160

Worship: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 am

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Pastor Peter Lindemann 920-342-6924 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 305

Pastor Luke Boehringer 920-579-8150 (cell) or 922-1160 ext. 304

St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Courtney Meyer, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

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 pastors.

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
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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.

SERVICE THEME

Christmas is Rooted in Repentance

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Setting Two | 172-182, 171



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.

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. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-7b

Through God's Word and the messengers who proclaim it, the Lord encourages his people to return to him in humble repentance.

Look! I am sending my messenger! He will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord, whom you are seeking, will come to his temple! The Messenger of the Covenant, in whom you delight, will surely come, says the LORD of Armies.

²But who can endure the day when he comes? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire, like launderer's bleach! ³He will be seated

like a refiner and a purifier of silver. He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and like silver. They will belong to the LORD and bring him an offering in righteousness.

⁴Judah and Jerusalem's offerings will be pleasing to the LORD as they were in the days of old, in years long ago.

⁵I will approach you to judge you. I will be quick to give testimony against those who practice occult arts, those who commit adultery, those who swear false oaths, those who cheat workers out of their wages, those who wrong a widow and a fatherless child, those who turn away a resident alien—all those who do not fear me, says the LORD of Armies.

⁶Certainly I, the LORD, do not change. That is why you, sons of Jacob, have not come to an end. ⁷Since the days of your fathers, you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of Armies.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Welcome the King of Glory | 24

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:3-11

God began his good work in us at our baptism, empowering us to love, to demonstrate discernment, and to produce fruits of repentance.

I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴Every time I pray for all of you, I always pray with joy, ⁵because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am convinced of this very thing: that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷I am equally convinced that it is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, for both in my chains and in my defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all share in this grace with me. ⁸Yes, God is my witness of how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And I pray that your love may still increase more and more in knowledge and every insight. ¹⁰This will result in your approval of the things that really matter, so that you will be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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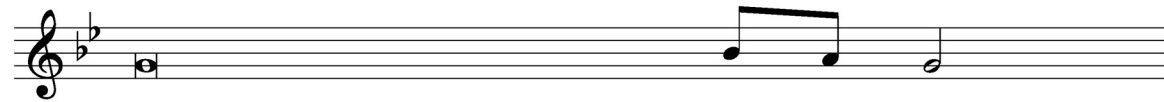


Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

Refrain



And all people will see God's sal - va - tion.

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GOSPEL (sermon text)

Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist prepared people to meet their Savior by preaching a message of repentance and forgiveness.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. ³He went into the whole region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴Just as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

“Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be made low.

The crooked will become straight, and the rough ways smooth.

⁶And everyone will see the salvation of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry | 316

SERMON

Pastor Luke Boehringer

“Jesus Humbles Those He Loves”

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Meaning of Baptism for Our Daily Life (The Small Catechism)

What does baptizing with water mean?

Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death.

It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

Saint Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, “We were buried with Christ through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please be seated.

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

HYMN

Comfort, Comfort All My People | 312

PRAYERS & BLESSING

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CLOSING HYMN

Arise, O Christian People | 310

ORGANIST:
Kris Lindemann

GREETERS:
8:00 ~ Travis & Brindah Birkholz
10:30 ~ Sue Repp

Christmas Services & Concerts



- Dec. 11 Christ Child Concert **6:30 pm**
Dec. 13 Joyful Witness Concert **7:00 pm**
@ St. Paul's, North Fond du Lac
Dec. 14 Joyful Witness Concert (repeat) **2:00 pm**
@ St. Paul's, North Fond du Lac
Dec. 15 St. Peter's Day School Prek-1st Christmas Service **10:30 am**
Dec. 19 WLA's Christmas Concert **7:00 pm**
@ Winnebago Lutheran Academy
Dec. 20 WLA's Christmas Concert (repeat) **1:00 pm**
@ Winnebago Lutheran Academy
Dec. 22 St. Peter's Day School 2-8 Christmas Service **2:00 pm**
Dec. 24 St. Peter's Christmas Eve Services **3:30 pm** or **6:30 pm**
Dec. 25 St. Peter's Christmas Day Service **9:00 am**
Dec. 31 New Year's Eve with Communion **6:30 pm**

*****Thursday & Sunday Services are as Regularly Scheduled*****