



The First Sunday after Christmas  
Dec. 31, 2022 & Jan. 1, 2023  
Peace Lutheran Church  
Hutchinson, Minnesota

## WELCOME

### HYMN 899 (Maroon): Across the Sky the Shades of Night

#### INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 90)

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

<sup>1</sup> Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations.

<sup>2</sup> **Before the mountains were born  
or you brought forth the whole world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

<sup>3</sup> You turn people back to dust,  
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

<sup>4</sup> **A thousand years in your sight  
are like a day that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.**

<sup>5</sup> Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—  
they are like the new grass of the morning:

<sup>6</sup> **In the morning it springs up new,  
but by evening it is dry and withered.**

<sup>7</sup> We are consumed by your anger  
and terrified by your indignation.

<sup>8</sup> **You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

<sup>9</sup> All our days pass away under your wrath;  
we finish our years with a moan.

<sup>10</sup> **Our days may come to seventy years,  
or eighty, if our strength endures;  
yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow,  
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.**

<sup>11</sup> If only we knew the power of your anger!  
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.

<sup>12</sup> **Teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

Relent, LORD! How long will it be?  
Have compassion on your servants.  
<sup>14</sup> **Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,  
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**  
<sup>15</sup> **Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,  
for as many years as we have seen trouble.**  
<sup>16</sup> **May your deeds be shown to your servants,  
your splendor to their children.**  
<sup>17</sup> **May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us;  
establish the work of our hands for us—  
yes, establish the work of our hands. (NIV)**  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **CONFESSION**

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

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**HYMN: Gloria in Excelsis (Maroon hymnal page 204)**

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father; your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" Our glad reply.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 30:15-17**

<sup>15</sup> This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says:

"In repentance and rest is your salvation,  
in quietness and trust is your strength,  
but you would have none of it.

<sup>16</sup> You said, 'No, we will flee on horses.'

Therefore you will flee!

You said, 'We will ride off on swift horses.'

Therefore your pursuers will be swift!

<sup>17</sup> A thousand will flee

at the threat of one;

at the threat of five

you will all flee away,

till you are left

like a flagstaff on a mountaintop,

like a banner on a hill."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING: Romans 8:31b-39**

If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long;

we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (NIV)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN 384 (Maroon): Of the Father's Love Begotten**

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:13-40**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." <sup>16</sup> And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, <sup>17</sup> and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink,

be merry.” <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

<sup>22</sup> And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup> For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup> And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup> If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup> Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup> And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup> For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup> Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup> “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

<sup>35</sup> “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! <sup>39</sup> But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” (ESV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

#### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**



**Children's Message – Always Near: God's Never Lost**  
**Text: Romans 8:37-39, Matthew 28:20**

**HYMN 733 (Maroon): O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

**MESSAGE Pastor Meyer**

**It Is Good To Be Ready Text: Luke 12:13-40**

- 1. Be Rich Toward God (Be On Guard - Seek His Kingdom)**
- 2. Do Not Be Anxious (Fear Not)**
- 3. You Must Be Ready and Awake (Believing - Working)**
- 4. Repenting of Our Sins - Trusting In Jesus - WE'RE READY!**

**PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS**

**PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

**Page 198, AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God)**

**HYMN 366 (Maroon): It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN 390 (Maroon): Let Us All with Gladsome Voice**

