

"Keep awake therefore,  
for you know neither  
the day nor the hour."



Matthew 25:13

**Peace Lutheran Church**

**Hutchinson, MN**

**November 12, 2023**

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

**6:30pm HYMN 515 (Maroon): Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers**

**8:30am HYMN 588 (Maroon): Jesus Loves Me**

**10:30am SONG: Mighty to Save**

**INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 70)**

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

<sup>1</sup> Hasten, O God, to save me;  
come quickly, LORD, to help me.

<sup>2</sup> **May those who want to take my life be put to shame and confusion;  
may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace.**

<sup>3</sup> **May those who say to me, "Aha! Aha!"  
turn back because of their shame.**

<sup>4</sup> **But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;  
may those who long for your saving help always say,  
"The LORD is great!"**

<sup>5</sup> **But as for me, I am poor and needy;  
come quickly to me, O God.**

**You are my help and my deliverer;  
LORD, do not delay. (NIV)**

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CONFESSION**

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**SONG: Thy Word**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path**

**When I feel afraid and I think I've lost my way, Still You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear as long as You are near, Please, be near me to the end. (Chorus)**

**I will not forget Your love for me, and yet my heart forever is wandering  
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side and I will love You to the end. (Chorus)**

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*Readers: 6:30pm Corinne Higgins; 8:30am Melissa Weckwerth; 10:30am Renae McKimm*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Amos 5:18-24**

<sup>18</sup> Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why would you have the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, and not light,

<sup>19</sup> as if a man fled from a lion,

and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,

and a serpent bit him.

<sup>20</sup> Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup> "I hate, I despise your feasts,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

<sup>22</sup> Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,

I will not look upon them.

<sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs;

to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

<sup>24</sup> But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (ESV)

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

**EPISTLE READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words. (ESV)

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

**▲ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to His name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to His name.**

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:1-13**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup> And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup> But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. (ESV)

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

*The final three weeks of the Church Year are traditionally concerned with “the last things.” The lessons of the Church bring a special opportunity to reflect on the end of time and on the end of our earthly lives.*

*In the Apostles’ Creed, we affirm our belief in the resurrection of the body, which is God’s good but temporary gift to us while we are living on earth. With all who have died in the faith before us, we await the coming of the Lord.*

*In these, the final three weeks of the church year, we will be reading one article of the creed each week, along with a portion of Luther’s Small Catechism. We encourage you to read the rest of Luther’s explanation as a part of your Bible study this week.*

### **The Apostles’ Creed: The First Article**

In the First Article, we confess that our bodies are a gift of God. It is the gracious action of our Creator that continues to preserve us during our earthly life. That care continues beyond death as we look forward to everlasting life. We confess:

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

What does this mean?

**I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

**He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.**

**He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.**

**This is most certainly true.**



**8:30am Preschool children sing: God Made the Cows**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Ready and Blessed**

**8:30am Elementary children sing: Give Thanks**

**6:30pm HYMN 801 (Maroon): How Great Thou Art**

**10:30am: Hosanna (I See the King of Glory)**

**SERMON: Ready, Working & Waiting For Homegoing! (Matthew 25:1-13) Pastor Meyer**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it along to others. As it is passed back to the center aisle, please take the opportunity to note the names of others seated in your pew.*

#### **PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **10:30am SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

**SONG: As We Gather; Grace Flows Down**

**BENEDICTION** - The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

**6:30pm HYMN 891 (Maroon): O Light Whose Splendor**

**10:30am SONG: Go Light Your World**

#### **8:30am SONG: This Little Light of Mine**

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Hide it under a bucket? No! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Hide it under a bucket? No! I'm gonna let it shine  
Hide it under a bucket? No! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
3. Don't let Satan "poof" it out! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Don't let Satan "poof" it out! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Don't let Satan "poof" it out! I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
4. Shout it out through Hutchinson. I'm gonna let it shine.  
Shout it out through Hutchinson. I'm gonna let it shine.  
Shout it out through Hutchinson. I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.



November 12 – Sunday School sings at 8:30am

November 18, Saturday – Turkey Dinner, 11am-3pm  
Children/Youth- Thankful Painting, 10am-12pm

Nov. 22 at 6:30pm, Nov. 23 at 9:00am – Thanksgiving Worship services

Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> – Carols and Bells  
5:30pm Baked Ham dinner & 6:30pm Handbell program

December 3 – PRAYZ team sings at 10:30am

December 6, 13 and 20 – Wednesday Advent Services.  
11:30am, 4:30pm (Peace Center), 6:30pm

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – Cookie Sale

December 16<sup>th</sup> – Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal, 10am-12 (noon), plus pizza party  
December 17<sup>th</sup> – 10:30am Children's Christmas program

Saturday, December 23: No Worship.

\*Sunday, Dec. 24 services: 9:00am worship, Fourth Sunday of Advent  
No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study

\*Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> Candlelight Services at 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm.

\*Christmas Day, Dec. 25: 9:00am

\*Communion at all Christmas Eve and Day services

December 30-31 Normal worship times  
No Sunday School or Adult Bible Study

September 22, 2023

To Peace Lutheran Church Congregation,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that a Nominating Committee has been seated and we are beginning the work of establishing the slate of candidates who will run for open seats on the Church Council and the Board of Elders. All elected positions serve two-year terms. The election will be held at the annual Voter's/Congregational Meeting on/about January 2024. The actual date for the meeting will be posted once it has been set.

The Church Council consists of a total of nine members; four officers, and five at large council members. The church council is the governing body of the Peace Lutheran Church congregation. The Church Council has the authority to enforce the Constitution and Bylaws, and develops policies as required to execute the goals approved by the Congregation.

There are five Church Council seats up for election this year. They are as follows: President, Vice President, and three At-Large seats.

The Board of Elders consists of ten male members of the Congregation who serve staggered two-year terms. The Board of Elders elects their own Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary. The Board of Elders nurtures and encourages the spiritual growth of the Congregation and supervises, advises and assists the pastors in worship, preaching, congregational care, administration of the sacraments, and church discipline.

There are five Board of Elders seats up for election this year. Given that the Board of Elders elects its own officers, all seats up for election are At-Large seats.

The Nominating Committee asks you to prayerfully consider serving PLC in an elected capacity. If you are interested in doing so, please contact a member of the committee to express your interest.

Thank you and God bless you!

PLC Nominating Committee

Chuck Jones, Vice President, PLC Church Council  
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Robbie Peterson, Chairman, PLC Board of Elders  
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Pastor Glenn Meyer, Intentional Interim Pastor  
402-580-2929 [gmeyeriim@gmail.com](mailto:gmeyeriim@gmail.com)

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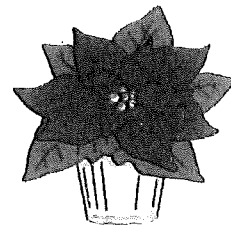
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# Poinsettias

Peace members and visitors will again be enjoying beautiful decorations during the Christmas season. **This year we will need only 25 poinsettias to decorate our church for the Christmas season.** The cost of a plant is \$12.00.



If you would like to buy a poinsettia plant as a memorial, or perhaps to honor a special person in your life, or give a donation for a project or ministry such as **TTNG** (7 yr. Debt Free Initiative), **General Fund**, or **Other**, please fill out the form below and return to church along with your donation **by December 8<sup>th</sup>**. Your name and the name of the person in whose memory or honor you are giving a poinsettia or donation will be listed in the bulletin.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Poinsettias x \$12.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to \_\_\_\_\_

TTNG (7 yr. Debt Free Initiative), Organ Repair, General Fund or Other

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

**OR** In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_