

Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, MN
November 19, 2023
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

6:30pm & 8:30am HYMN 785 (Maroon): We Praise You, O God
10:30am SONG: This is Amazing Grace

INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 90:1-12)

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

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

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

³ You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

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

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

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

⁷ We are consumed by your anger
and terrified by your indignation.

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

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

¹⁰ **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.**

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

¹² **Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (NIV)**
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

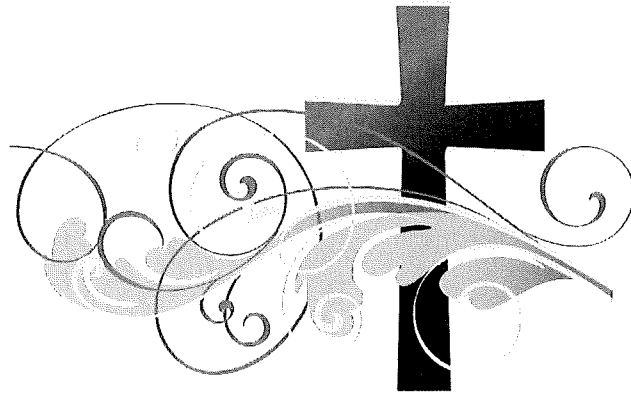
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I 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.**



10:30am Baptism of Bobbi Jo Diane Damlow & Elise Kay Damlow

HYMN G684 (Green): I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷ Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests.

⁸ And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—

“I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹ On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

¹⁰ “On that day,” declares the LORD, “a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills.

¹¹ Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men
who are complacent, those who say in their hearts,
‘The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.’

¹³ Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.”

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there.

¹⁵ A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. (ESV)
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. (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 25:14-30

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

¹⁴ “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants^[c] and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷ So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸ But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’ ²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’ ²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’ ²⁶ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ (ESV)

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

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 final weeks of the church year, we are 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 Second Article

In the Second Article, we confess the work of our Savior Jesus Christ, who takes away our sin and rescues us from the snares of the devil. We confess:

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.

What does this mean?

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,
who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,
that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.
This is most certainly true.**

6:30pm & 8:30am HYMN: O God, Our Help in Ages Past

10:30am SONG: Days of Elijah

MESSAGE “To the Least of These” Matthew Chapter 25 Pastor Meyer

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

PRAYERS & THE LORD’S PRAYER

6:30pm & 8:30am SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Agnus Dei, page 163

HYMN 893 (Maroon): Sing to the Lord of Harvest

HYMN 894 (Maroon): For the Fruits of His Creations

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 & 8:30am HYMN 895 (Maroon): Now Thank We All Our God

10:30am SONG: We Believe



Nov. 22 at 6:30pm, Nov. 23 at 9:00am – Thanksgiving Worship services
Pastor Bode will be leading the services

TODAY – 2pm Coming Together in Song, Christ the King Lutheran Church
Annual fundraiser for Common Cup Ministries

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

December 3 – PRAYZ team sings at 10:30am
December 3 at 2pm – Crow River Singers Concert

December 3 & 10 – 11:30am Congregational Meetings

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

Saturday, December 9th – Cookie Sale

December 16th – Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal, 10am-12 (noon), plus pizza party
December 17th – 10:30am Children's Christmas program
No regular Sunday school at 9:40am. We will meet at 10am to prepare for the 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. 24th 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: 6:30pm, 8:30am, 10:30am
No Sunday School or Adult Bible Studies

January 7, Epiphany Sunday – Sunday School sings at 10:30am

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
320-583-1411 cjones@broadband-mn.com

Robbie Peterson, Chairman, PLC Board of Elders
320-250-3382 rrrspete@hutchtel.net

Pastor Glenn Meyer, Intentional Interim Pastor
402-580-2929 gmeyeriim@gmail.com

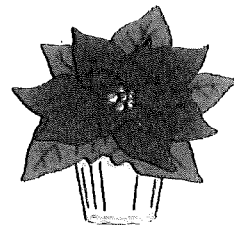
John Kalenberg
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Josh Schmidt
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Poinsettias



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 8th**. 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 _____