



The Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025
Peace Lutheran Church
Hutchinson, MN

6:30pm & 8:30am

HYMN 349 (Maroon): Hark the Glad Sound

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

6:30 Higgins family; 8:30am Weckwerth family

On this third week of Advent, we light the candle of joy. When Christ is in our lives, he brings the fullness of joy. He anoints our hearts with gladness. When Jesus was born, the angels said that His coming was good news of great joy for all people. Because Christ has come to us, we can live every day in the joy of the Lord.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
(Psalm 98: 4).

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice! (1 Chronicles 16:10).

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22).

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice. (Philippians 4:4)

We light this candle in joy, the joy of our coming Savior, Jesus.

(Light two blue candles and the pink candle)

Come, Lord Jesus. **Come and bring us joy.**

**SONG: O come, Thou Key of David come, And open wide our heav'nly home
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**



CONFESSION

Through Jesus, we live new lives and understand our sins through his sacrifice on the cross. God's Word reminds us that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and He calls us to repentance.

Lord God, our lives are filled with sin. We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to fulfill your desire for us to love one another. We have not followed the paths you have given us, instead following our own. For our worrying and hurrying this Advent season, forgive us. For the way we make this a season of shopping rather than waiting, forgive us. For the comfort and joy we seek from places other than you, forgive us. Bring us comfort and hope, through Jesus Christ, the hope for all nations.

The good news of this Advent season is this: God so loved the world that he gave sinful and broken humanity a gift—Emmanuel, God with us. This is good news that shows God's love toward us! Because of Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross, death and resurrection, you are forgiven. Amen.

SONG: ADVENT KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Gracious God and Savior. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Come, restore, renew us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Readers: 6:30pm Dick Higgins, 8:30am Nona Anderson

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³ And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 John 4:7-16

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

▲ HYMN: Sing We the Song of Emmanuel by Keith & Kristin Getty.

**1. Sing we the song of Emmanuel
This the Christ who was long foretold
Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem
Promise of dawn now our eyes behold
God Most High in a manger laid
Lift your voices and now proclaim
Great and glorious, Love has come to us
Join now with the hosts of heaven**

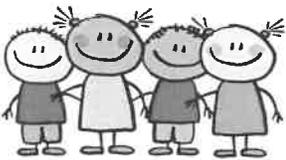
**2. Come we to welcome Emmanuel
King who came with no crown or throne
Helpless He lay, the Invincible
Maker of Mary, now Mary's son
O what wisdom to save us all
Shepherds, sages, before Him fall
Grace and majesty, what humility
Come on bended knee, adore Him**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1st chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed^[f] to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

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



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN 357 (Maroon): O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 1, 2, 4 & 6

**1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go.**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**4. O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree, Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**6. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to thee, O Israel!

SERMON God is Always with Us to Bring Us Joy Pastor Weber

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.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS JoEllen Kimball, violin soloist

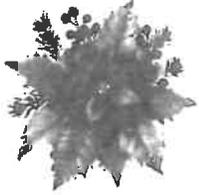
Please sign the friendship pad in the pew and pass it along to others. As it is passed back to the center aisle, please take the opportunity to note the names of others seated in your pew.

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HYMN 348 (Maroon): The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns





Poinsettias

Peace members and visitors will again be enjoying beautiful decorations during the Christmas season. The cost of a plant is \$13.

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** (Debt Free Initiative), **General Fund**, or **Other**, please fill out the form below and return to church along with your donation **by December 17th**.

_____ Number of Poinsettias x \$13 = \$ _____

\$ _____ Donation to _____

Donated By _____

OR In Honor of



Children's Christmas Pageant – Today at 10:30am

Midweek Advent Worship Services

**Wednesday, December 17; 11:30am followed by lunch
4:30pm (Peace Center)**

December 21st at 10:00am – One weekend worship service

**Service of Lessons, Carols and Bells
11:30am Lunch, Congregational Meeting**

December 24th, Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

December 25th, Christmas Day Worship

9:00am, with communion

Sunday, December 28th

One weekend worship service at 10:00am, with communion

January 3-4, 2026, Epiphany

Return to normal worship schedule (6:30pm, 8:30am, 10:30am)

Installation of Elia Peterson as Director of Family, Youth and Children's Ministry

9:30am Welcome brunch for all members,

Sunday School students and Youth, parents and teachers in the Peace Center

Please join us as we welcome Elia to Peace!

Sunday School students sing at 10:30am.