

Peace Lutheran Church

Contemporary Service First Sunday in Advent December 1st, 2024

The first Advent candle is known as the prophecy candle or the candle of hope. We hear again the first promise and prophesy made in the Garden of Eden after the fall into sin: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." The Lord has kept His Word through the mouths of prophets who, for generations, pointed people to the promised Savior to come. He has also kept His Word through His very own Son, the Word of God made flesh. Just as He came into the world once already, we look forward to the day when He will come back to this world, and we celebrate the new kingdom He ushered in while we await His return.



****Today we celebrate Holy Communion. A statement of our practice here at Peace may be found at the conclusion of this order of service.****

Welcome

Opening Song "Holy Spirit"

(Stand)

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession And Absolution

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

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for prayer and personal confession.)

P As we have confessed in our hearts, we now confess with our mouths:

C Merciful Father, we confess we have not rejoiced in the promises that the Lord made and fulfilled and have instead found our fulfillment in the temporal things of our lives and this world. We confess that our love has been misguided. We have not loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. We confess we have not remained ready for Your return, nor realized time is short for the work You've called us to do. For all of this, we ask for Your forgiveness for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Lead us in new paths of obedience to the glory of Your name.
Amen.

P 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.

C Amen.

(Sit)

Old Testament-

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Song of Praise

"Broken Vessels"

(Stand)

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Confession of Faith

**C 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.

Song of the Day "What A Beautiful Name"

Offering

An offering basket is available at the entrance

Our tithes and offerings are brought forward and placed on the altar.
For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You. - 1 Chronicles 29:14

(Sit)

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Dueker

Prayers of the Church

Holy Communion

(Stand)

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

1 Corinthians 11:26

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Communion Song "Goodness of God"

Communicants are invited to come forward by sections. Grape juice is available in the center of the communion trays from those distributing. The cups can be placed in the baskets on either side of the sanctuary.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P 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.
C Amen.

Closing Song "The Blessing"

† Go in peace and serve the Lord. †

Peace Lutheran Church - Rogers City, MI

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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Our mission as a caring family is to reach out to all, share Christ's love, and teach God's Word.

Regarding Holy Communion:

The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, is celebrated here at Peace in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another.

Our congregation believes that participating in the Lord's Supper acts as a statement that those communing agree with everything our church body teaches. *See 1 Corinthians 11:26.*

Out of loving care and concern, therefore, we want to do all that we can to make sure that those who participate in our Communion celebration don't violate their own conscience or a public confession of faith made through another church body by making that joint statement of faith with us. In addition, because the New Testament teaches that those who eat and drink of the Lord's Supper unworthily or without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment upon themselves, we want to protect those of a different public confession from potentially suffering spiritual harm. (See 1 Corinthians 11:27-30.)

For these reasons, we ask those who don't know or agree with the teachings of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to consider refraining from communing until a more thorough conversation is possible. In so doing, please understand that we are in no way judging your personal faith. On the contrary, we want to invite you into a deeper fellowship with us that begins with further consideration of what we believe, teach, and confess here at Peace. In the meantime, please sing, pray, and worship with us, and, if you'd like more information about Lutheran teachings or Communion practices, contact the church office at (989) 734-7621 or via email at office@peacelcms.org. If you'd like to come forward during Communion to receive a blessing from Pastor, you are more than welcome. You may indicate the desire to participate in this manner by simply folding your hands across your chest when you come forward. If you simply wish to remain in your seat during Communion, that's okay, too. You won't be alone. Anyone desiring to have Communion brought to them at their seat, perhaps because of a physical or other challenge, please speak to Pastor or the Elder on duty prior to the service.