



**Peace Lutheran Church
First Sunday of Advent
“Be Born in Us Today – Bringing Blessings”
November 27, 2022**

Introduction to the day

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Levi family

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

We light the first candle on the Advent wreath as we rejoice in the blessings that have come to us through the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. God told Abraham that through one of his descendants "all families of the earth shall be blessed."

Holy Child of Bethlehem, you were born among us to live and die and rise in fulfillment of God's promise to bless all nations.

The promised descendant of Abraham, Jesus Christ, is a blessing for people of all nations who trust in him for salvation. "So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith."

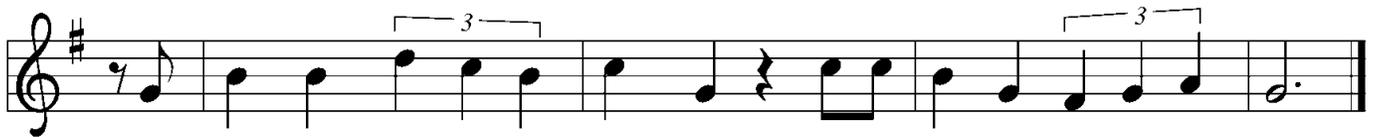
Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Through faith in your name, Lord Jesus, we have the blessings of forgiveness and salvation.

WE SING "HE CAME DOWN" *He Came Down* (ELW 253) Verse 1

He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (ELW 254)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE – GLORIA

To God Be the Glory

Malcolm Archer
The Ashgrove

3

To God be the glo - ry, all glo - ry in the
Lord Je - sus, the on - ly be - got - ten of the

high - est and peace to his peo - ple who dwell here be - low, Our
Fa - ther we praise and we bless you, the Son and the Lamb. The

hea - v'n - ly Fa - ther, our Lord, and our sov - 'reign, to
sin of the world you have tak - en up - on you, have

you, the Al - migh - ty, our prai - ses be - stow. We wor - ship and a -
mer - cy up - on us, the Great I AM. For ho - ly, you

dore you, we bow here be - fore you with grate - ful thanks - gi - ving, our
meet us, yet low - ly you greet us, the Lord in the high est, the

song let us raise. All glo - ry and hon - our and glad a - do -
Ho - ly One. All glo - ry to the Fath - er, the Son and the

- ra - tion to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.
Spi - rit, From a - ges ev - er - last - ing, the Three in One.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Zion Hears the Watchman Singing* Arr. John Shannon

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-8

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-8

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it

was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ⁶So also David speaks of the blessedness of those to whom God reckons righteousness apart from works: ⁷"Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸blessed is the one against whom the Lord will not reckon sin."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-56

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your

greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." ⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

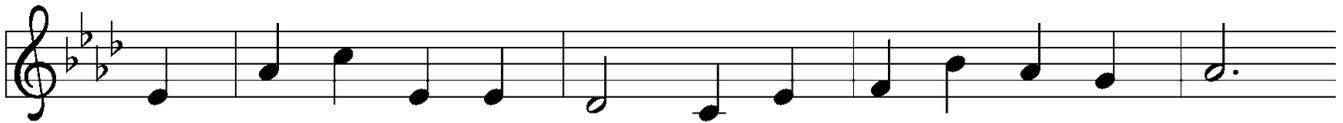
MESSAGE Pastor Neil Brady

HYMN OF THE DAY *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (ELW 244)

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

CREED

Let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord and Savior, you were born among us in fulfillment of the promise to Abraham, that one of his descendants would be a blessing to people of all nations. By your suffering and death, you atoned for the sins of the world. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Be born in us today. Like Abraham, we too are blessed to be a blessing to others. Guide and protect all who carry the good news of Jesus to every community and nation. Help us to support them with our gifts and prayers.

Lord and Savior, Abraham believed your promise and his faith was counted as righteousness. Through faith in your name, we too are counted righteous. Through your suffering, death and resurrection, we have received the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Be born in us today. We pray that the Holy Spirit will work through our acts of love and our words of witness so that others will come to know and worship you as Lord.

Lord and Savior, have mercy on those who are suffering through illness and loss. Today we remember _____ and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Watch over them and comfort them through the promises of your holy Word. Lead us as we seek ways to help and serve those in need so that we might share our blessings with them. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

Be born in us today. As we have been blessed through your birth, help us to bless others in your name.

Lord and Savior, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you, confident in the promise of resurrection from life.

Be born in us today. Guide us as we strive to live out the examples of saintly lives, now gathered in your heavenly kingdom.

Holy Savior, Lord of all nations, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING HYMN - *Praise and Thanksgiving* (ELW 689 – verse 1)

Praise and Thanksgiving



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread and wine, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

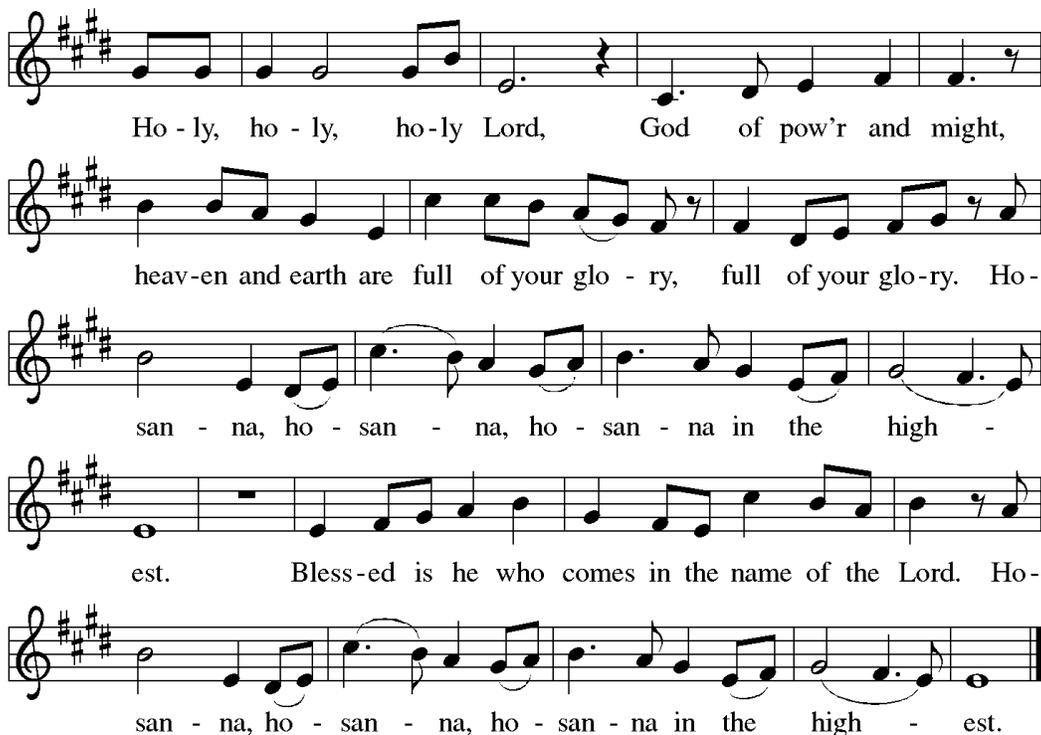
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

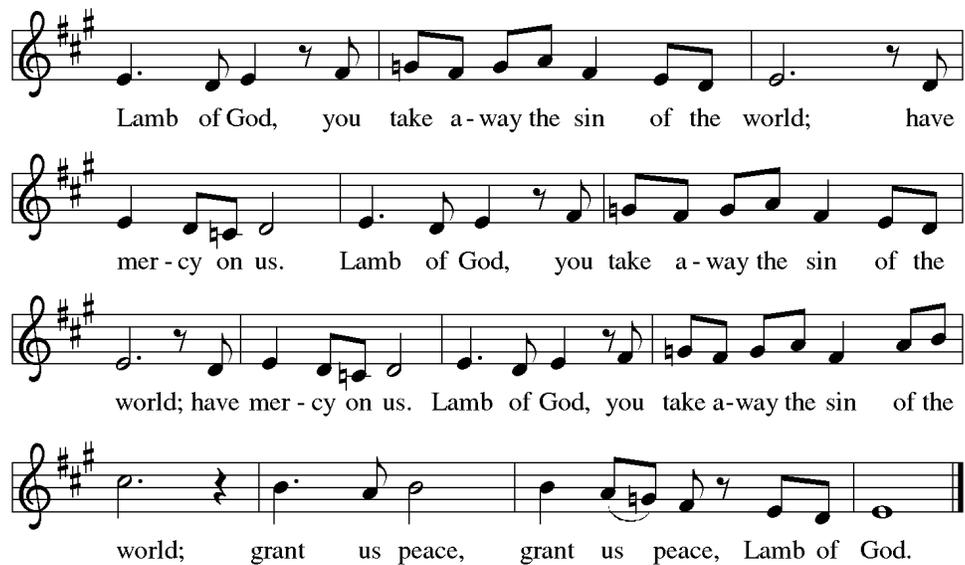
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN *What Feast of Love* (ELW 487)

What Feast of Love



1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?
2 What light of truth is of-fered here, what cov-e-nant from heav-en?
3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink from heav-en?

What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?
What hope of ev-er-last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv-en?
What stream of ev-er-last-ing life, what pre-cious blood is giv-en?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav-en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of heav-en.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv-en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray,

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

PASTOR'S PRAYER

Sisters and brothers, we live each day with great expectation for the One who is to be born among us. God is with us and the Holy Spirit blesses us with the knowledge of that promise. Together we pray, Christ Jesus, be born in us today.

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *The King Shall Come* (ELW 260)

The King Shall Come



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“What’s Happening at Peace”
Events for the next two weeks...

November 27-December 4

Sunday 11/27 9:30 am Worship Service w/ Noisy Bucket
Fellowship Following the service
10:45 am Sunday School

Tuesday 11/29 10:00 am IT Team Meeting

Wednesday 11/30 7:00 pm Book Club

Thursday 12/1 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

December 4-December 11

Sunday 12/4 9:30 am Worship Service-Fellowship Following

Wednesday 12/7 7:00 pm Book Club

Thursday 12/8 8:30 am Men’s Breakfast

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 12/11 9:30 am Worship Service-Fellowship Following

10:45 am Christmas Play Practice

Announcements:

Flowers today are from Lorene Crigier for Thanksgiving Blessings.

Tree Decorating Tree decorating following today’s worship service. Everyone welcome to help set up and decorate the trees.

Noisy Bucket Sunday Today is Noisy Bucket Sunday. The youth will be passing around a “bucket” for your loose change. The youth decide each month where the noisy bucket offering will be donated. October’s offering was donated to Loads of Love.

Poinsettias for Hunger/Farm Animals

Poinsettias for Hunger / farm animals This year, as we have done in the past, instead of having a multitude of live poinsettias (which die in a few weeks) given in Memory, or for God’s Blessings, or in Honor of someone to decorate the church we will be hanging Poinsettia cards/ornaments on our Christmas tree in the gathering

area at church. Each card will have the name of whom it was given in memory of, or in honor of, or in thanksgiving for written on it. Each card will be \$10.00 and the money donated will go to ELCA's Good gifts to purchase farm animals or food to donate to needy families throughout the world. Poinsettias for Hunger order forms monetary gifts are due back by December 18th.

Snuggly-Throws Bev DeFord has more snuggly-throws both for children and adults. If you would like to purchase one call her at 517-543-0930 to see them. All such money will be given to the Cookie Walk fund.

Our Helping Hands Ministry Each month our Community in Action team will be collecting donations for our continued partnership with the Helping Hands ministry in Charlotte. November's donations are gloves and hand warmers. December's donation will be Peanut Butter.

Our Worship Leaders

Worship Leaders	November 27	December 4
Acolyte	Corbin Lincoln	Logan Levi
Altar Guild	Brenda Morris	Lorene Crigier Kathy Cook
Audio/Visual	Scott Lumbert Phil Lemke	Scott Lumbert Phil Lemke
Choir Director	Scott Myckowiak	Scott Myckowiak
Fellowship		
Lector	Cathey Levi	John Thiel
Pastor	Pastor Neil Brady	Pastor Neil Brady
Musician	Bryan Guarnuccio	Bryan Guarnuccio
Ushers		Harry Moore Don Leiby
Worship Assistant	Barb Myckowiak	Scott Myckowiak

Prayers of Peace...let us continue to hold up in prayer all those in need of God's comfort, healing, and peace in their lives.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

- Having a warm place on cold snowy days

Prayers for Healing and Health

- Linda Badlegy
- Tina Buckman
- Dan Cox
- Dixie Espinosa
- Beverly and Jack DeFord
- Amber Gareiss
- Paul Hamilton
- Frank Herrick
- Nancy Holderread
- Nancy Holtz
- Terry Jorgensen
- Jane LeBlanc
- Bob Leeser
- Beverly and Del Leffler
- Stacy Leiby
- Chuck Leimbach
- Dolores McCoy
- Glen and Linda Meyer
- Bobby Peterman
- Mark Schadd
- Edna Sprague
- Dean Steward
- Teia Zischke

Prayers for Comfort

- The family of Janet Ball

Prayers-“Just Because We Do”

- Compassion children and families
- The people recovering from Hurricane Ian and other places of disaster
- the people of Ukraine and other places in conflict in our world
- our military, our leaders, our firefighters and police/sheriff officers EMT's and Paramedics
- members of Peace Lutheran Church
- family, friends, and yourself

