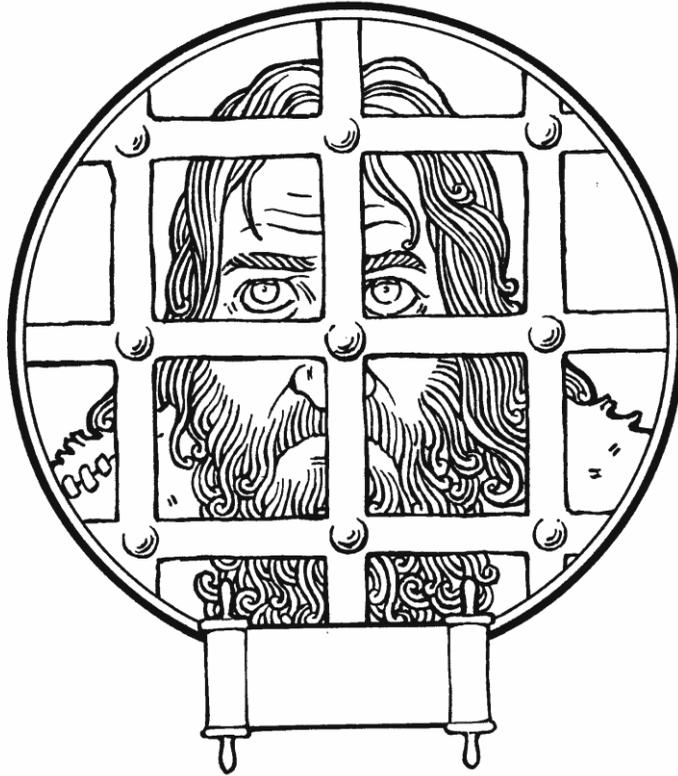


Advent 3 (December 11th, 2022)
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS)
1033 E. 1100 N., Decatur, IN 46733



Rev. Leonard Tanksley, Pastor: 260-246-7470
Church & Study: 260-724-7533
Email: leonard.tanksley@gmail.com
Seminarian: Michael Speckhard
Seminarian: Adam Thiel
Secretary: Jen Fuelling: 815-216-8516
Email: splchurchsec@gmail.com

Opening Hymn: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

Introit

Rejoice in the Lord | always,*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

I will hope con- | tinually*

and will praise you yet | more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation | all the day,*
for their number is past my | knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD | I will come;*

I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have | taught me,*
and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- | sake me,*

until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all | those to come.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord | always,*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.
³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return

and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

James 5:7–11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.”

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed

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.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who offer prayers and supplications, that God would hear them on account of His Son who has enlightened the darkness of our hearts and every corner of creation by His incarnation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all pastors and church workers, that the words they bear would prepare the way of Jesus' second advent and be received by all who hear them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the homes of our land, that God would grant safety and security to all families; and that the faith would be delivered from one generation to the next, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all in authority, that they would be given wisdom and insight until the day when Christ comes again in glory to usher in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick and grieving, especially:

Charlie Crosby

Kay Brown (Sister of Dave and Lynn Matthews) for strength as she receives therapy

Helene Hegerfeld (Mother of Brenda Scherer)

Ron Franz for strength and healing

Lynn and Lori Matthews

Troy Stults (Son of Andy and Brenda Wolf)

Eldora Fuelling

Andy Buuck (Nephew of Suzann Rekeweg)

Shirley Buuck (sister-in-law- to Suzann Rekeweg) for strength and healing
Larry Hockemeyer (Father of Lori Conrad)
Cheryl Caffee
Paul Gunsett

Lori Sprunger who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer
that as the day draws near when blind eyes see, deaf ears hear, lame legs leap and mute
tongues sing for joy, God would grant them healing according to His gracious will, let us
pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faith and joy to receive the Lord's Supper worthily this day, as Christ comes as a
foretaste of the Lamb's marriage feast, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O God, Your love invites us to rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach
us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting
His gracious visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Collect for the Word

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that
we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and
comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of
everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

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.

Hymn to Depart: 338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

In His Service Today:

Preacher: The Rev. Leonard Tanksley

Liturgist: The Sem. Michael Speckhard

Organist: Mrs. Vickie Hammond

Deacons: Bruce Scherer (Head), Joe Werling, Matt Braun, Fred M. Fuelling

Elders: John Fuelling (Head), Andy Wolf, Rod Busick, Jim Fuelling

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS: Home Purpose- \$7,310.47; Missions \$210.00 (now to SPI); Total Offerings- \$7,520.47; SPI- \$75.00.

***NOTE:** Needed each week to meet the ministry needs of St. Peter: \$6,500.00.*

SPECIAL NOTE: St. Peter's Mission budget obligation for 2022 is \$11,000.00. We have met our Mission budget goal for 2022 with surplus going to SPI. Thank you for your ongoing support of the mission & ministry of St. Peter.

RESULTS FROM THE DECEMBER 4th VOTERS ASSEMBLY ELECTION:

-President (1): Dave Bischoff

-Elder (2): Andy Wolf, John Fuelling

-Deacon (2): Louie Fuelling, Matt Rogusz

-Trustee (2): Sam Braun, Barry Scherer

-Recording Secretary (1): Lori Conrad

-Treasurer (1): Marjeana Lemler

-School Board (1): Kyle Bischoff

SEMINARY FOOD CO-OP NEW THEME: During the months of November and December we will be collecting "Baking" items for the Seminary Food Co-op. Suggestions are but not limited to: plastic wrap, parchment paper, foil, cake mixes, brownie mixes, cupcake wrappers, icing, flour, sugar-white, brown, powdered, spices, non-stick spray, oil, corn starch. All donations are appreciated and can be placed in the bag at Church to be delivered to the Seminary.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 11TH, 2022

TODAY	9:00 am	Divine Service
	-----	Bible Study/Sunday School
TUESDAY	-----	Church Elders Meeting
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am	Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Soup Supper
	7:00 pm	Advent Mid-Week Service
SUNDAY	9:00 am	Divine Service with Holy Communion
	-----	Bible Study/Sunday School
	3:00 pm	SPI Christmas Program (@ SPI Gym)

Additional Christmas Worship Opportunities, 2022

Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 pm

Soup Supper beginning at 5:30pm
Mid-Week Advent Service at 7:00pm

Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 pm

Soup Supper beginning at 5:30pm
Mid-Week Advent Service at 7:00pm

Saturday, December 24, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 25, 9:00 am

Divine Service of Holy Communion for Christmas Day,
Festival of Our Lord's Nativity

Saturday, December 31, 7:00 pm

New Year's Eve Service with Holy Communion

Looking Ahead to Next Week

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All 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). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Introit

Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,*
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

**I wait for the Lord, my | soul waits,*
and in his | word I hope;**

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,*
more than watchmen for the | morning.

**O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is | steadfast love,*
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.**

And he will redeem | Israel*
from all his in- | iquities.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,*
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain

Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

- 5 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. Refrain
- 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
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

