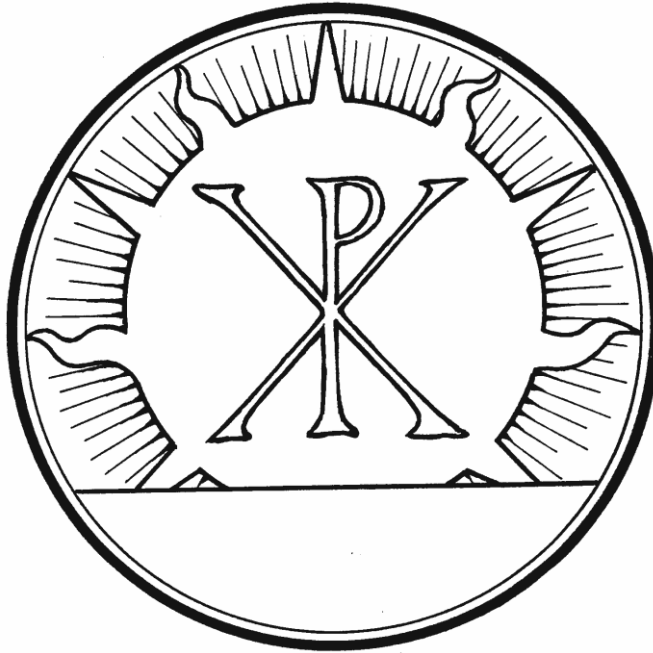


**Advent Midweek 3 (December 20th, 2023)
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS)
1033 E. 1100 N., Decatur, IN 46733**



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Opening Hymn: 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Stand

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

Sit

Office Hymn: 834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10–14

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.”

- L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Luke 1:26–38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

- L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Responsory

LSB 230

- L** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C** This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.
- L** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.
- C** This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

Hymn of the Day: 356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Sermon

Stand

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
- C** and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Magnificat: 933 My Soul Rejoices

Sit

Offering

Kneel/Stand

Kyrie

LSB 233

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

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.

Collects

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

- P** 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.

Collect for Peace

- L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 234

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** Amen.

Hymn to Depart: 921 On What Has Now Been Sown

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE is accepting donations to help with the cost of new decorations. A basket is available in the Narthex.

THE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE will be taking down decorations on Sunday, January 7th at 1pm.

NOTE: I will no longer be taking care of the church's flower gardens beginning this Spring but will continue with care of the old parsonage. -Jim Gariepy

Elections for the 2024 Council:

Vice-President: Duane Franz (uncontested)

Elders: Fred D. Fuelling (Head 2025), Steve Fuelling (2 positions; uncontested)

Deacons: Nathan Scherer (Head 2024), Joseph Werling (Head 2025), Dan DeLong (3 positions; uncontested)

Trustees: Vern Witte (Head 2025), Greg Fuelling (2 positions; uncontested)

School Board (1): Fred M. Fuelling (over Dane Fuelling)

Financial Secretary: Josh Franz (uncontested)

ACCEPTED BIDS:

Janitor: Jana Neher (\$300/month); Uncontested; Current rate was \$300/month

Groundskeeper: Chris Neher (\$400/month plus supplies and gas); Uncontested; Current rate was \$400/month plus supplies and gas

Secretary: Amber Shaffer (\$300/month) over Jen Fuelling (\$400/month); Current rate was \$400/month

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY: Thank you for allowing me to serve the congregation since July 2012. I have been privileged to raise my children here as my helpers, allowing them to help me with the simpler tasks like folding bulletins and newsletters, stamping newsletters, filling the copier with paper, and changing or pulling numbers for the sanctuary. This job was a blessing to our family. I am thankful I could help St. Peter with the secretarial duties and helping advance some of the technology. I am sad to leave this position, but I am thankful for the past 11 years. My last day as St. Peter secretary will be December 31, 2023. -Jen Fuelling

Additional Christmas Worship Opportunities, 2023

Sunday, December 24, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 31, 7:00 pm

New Year's Eve Service with Holy Communion

Monday, December 25, 9:00 am

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