

**Christmas Day (December 25th, 2024)
St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMS)
1033 E. 1100 N., Decatur, IN 46733**



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1st Year Seminarian: Joshua Camp
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Opening Hymn: 388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*

break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

**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.**
For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given,*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
**and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.**

Kyrie

LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P Glory be to God on high:
C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free
from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,

who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”
⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1–6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

- C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–14

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.
C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 370 What Child Is This

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

Sit

Offering- St. Peter Choir: “Away in a Manger”

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this congregation, that as the eternal light dawned on our darkness in the incarnation of God’s only begotten Son, so His glory would shine on us in the grace and truth of His Word, and we would receive Him with joy and believe in His name, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all pastors, that through their proclamation of Christ, God would bring the good news of joy and salvation to all who hear them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who suffer persecution for the sake of Christ, that though oppression should seek to quench His light in them, they would be sustained in the truth that the darkness cannot overcome Him, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For families who gather in this holy season, that they may have patience and be slow to judge and quick to forgive, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the lonely, that they may be comforted with Christ's presence and we may extend to them the welcome of our homes and the friendship of His grace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those in poverty or want, that they may be helped; that God would increase our generosity; and that we would present our bodies as living sacrifices, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and those who suffer in our midst, including:

Kay Brown (Sister of Dave and Lynn Matthews)

Lynn and Lori Matthews

Troy Stults (Son of Andy and Brenda Wolf)

Eldora Fuelling

Cheryl Caffee

Shelly Gerke (Wife of Troy Gerke)

Jim Thieme

Glen Deatrick for healing from a fall

Keith and Suzy Scherer

Susan Gerke (Sister of Steve and Jim Fuelling)

Phil Liechty (Father of Megan Buuck) as he recovers from surgical complications

Janell Harper for strength and healing

The family of Melvin Ohler as they mourn his death

that they may be healed according to the good purposes of our incarnate Savior; and for the grieving, that they may receive comfort in the Babe of Bethlehem, who was born that the dead might live, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who commune, that they would receive the body and blood of Jesus worthily with faith in His bodily presence; and that they would depart having received grace upon grace from His fullness, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Joining in heaven’s eternal praise for the revelation of Your love in Your Word made flesh, we boldly lay all our petitions before You, dear Father, trusting that You will hear us for His sake, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord’s Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

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 \dagger 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.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

St. Peter Choir- “Angel Carol”

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

384 Of the Father’s Love Begotten

624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,

a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A** Bless we the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen, amen, amen.

Hymn to Depart: 387 Joy to the World

In His Service Today:

Preacher and Celebrant: The Rev. Leonard Tanksley

Organist: Mrs. Jackie Sanderson

Deacons: Nathan Scherer (Head), Louie Fuelling, Dan DeLong, Joe Werling

Elders: John Fuelling (Head), Andy Wolf, Fred D. Fuelling, Steve Fuelling

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missions: For 2024 there have been six organizations- Immanuel House, Lutheran Military Vets and Families Ministries, Tanzania Mission(sponsored by Bingen Lutheran Church), Siberian Mission, Indiana District, Fort Wayne Seminary- receiving the Mission offerings graciously given by this congregation. Each organization will receive \$2,000. For 2025 if anyone has an organization in mind that you would like to see as a recipient of our Mission offerings, please give suggestions to either Dave Bischoff or Duane Franz. Thank You!

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST BENEFIT

When: Saturday December 28th, 2024

Time: 7:00 am-1:00 pm

Cost: \$10/person (Kids Under 5 yrs Eat Free)

Location: St. Peter Immanuel Lutheran School 3845 E 1100 N Decatur, IN 46733

Dine In or Carry Out Available (No Drive Thru)

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE GRAINERY
(THE FRANZ FAMILY)**

THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET IN BACK OF CHURCH FOR VOLUNTEERING TO HELP OUT AT THE PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST BENEFIT. WE WILL NEED HELP WITH SET UP & ALSO THE DAY OF THE EVENT. THANK YOU!

If you are unable to volunteer your time, but would still like to help out, the following link is to sign up for specific donations for the pancake & sausage benefit.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A44AAAA22A7FF2-54025099-donations#/>

Un-needed Items: There are a few items in the basement of the church that are no longer needed- an old T.V., phone, and multiple chalkboards/room dividers. All these items are grouped together; they are in between the trophy case and the green room divider. If anyone has a use for these items, please feel free to take them.

2025 Offering Envelopes: The offering envelope boxes are going to be distributed. If you do not receive one but would like one, please let Josh Franz or Pastor know. Thanks!

St. Peter Church Christmas Decorating Committee: The 2024 Christmas Committee will be taking down decorations on **Sunday January 12th at 1:00pm**. This year's committee is:

2nd Year

Cy & Maddie Hurst
John & Jody Hurst
Jon & Jenny Keller

1st Year

Allison Kukelhan
Royce Kukelhan
Marjeana Lemler
Doug, Doyle, & Dan Fuelling

Results from the Voter's Assemble Election:

President: Dave Bischoff

Elders: Matt Braun (head 2026), Rod Busick

Deacons: Mitch Billington (head 2026), Nathan Scherer

Trustees: Tony Ohler (head 2026), Marshall Scheumann

Treasurer: Marjeana Lemler

School Board: Shelby Billington

Recording Secretary: Lori Conrad

Christmas Post Office: Every year here at St. Peter Church, we have our own Christmas Card Exchange. You bring your Christmas cards for congregation members to church and place them into the "mailbox". There will be a free will donation can for "postage fee". The deacons and Ladies Aid will distribute the cards in alphabetical order on the tables in the narthex. Be sure to check the tables for your cards.

SEMINARY FOOD CO-OP THEME for December and January - “Breakfast: During the months of December and January we will be collecting “Breakfast items” for the Seminary Food Co-op. Suggestions are but not limited to: Hot chocolate, coffee/tea, cereal, oatmeal, pop tarts, breakfast/granola bars, juice, syrup, muffin/pancake mix, jelly/jam. Other items that are always in demand are breakfast cereal (excluding Chex) and tomato products. All your donations are greatly appreciated by the Seminary and are a great benefit to the students and their families. Many report that 75-85% of their grocery needs are met at the Co-Op. Items can be placed in the gray and white bag at Church. **Thank you for all your donations.**

Sermon Report Materials for SPI Students: The clipboards and papers are in a box underneath the deacon’s desk in back of church.

Lunch Volunteers Needed: SPI is looking for lunch volunteers. Responsibilities include: **Hours 10:30am-12:30pm Mondays and Wednesdays**, pick up meals from St. Rose school in Monroeville, IN at 10:45am, serve meals at SPI for both lunch periods, clean up lunch trays/pans after lunch. Contact Kelly Schlemmer (419)-203-8883 or kschlemmer@yahoo.com if interested.

JV Boys Basketball: SPI is excited to have a JV Boys Basketball team this year! The remaining games on the schedule are:

January 6th, at SPI vs. Zion Decatur at 5:30pm

January 9th, at SPI vs. St. Joe 5th at 5:30pm

January 21st, at SPI vs. Ossian at 5:30pm.

If you can help with the home games, please visit

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A44AAAA22A7FF2-53101984-spibasketball#/> to sign up. Thank you!