

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
Service of Holy Communion for 10:30
Dec. 1, 2024 – First Sunday of Advent
Welcome – Pastor Cathy Schibler**

PRELUDE

GATHERING

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

~Silence for Reflection~

God of mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,

**we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have
trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day is near.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

#244

1. **Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.**
2. **The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.**
3. **The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore,
shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.**
4. **Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord to see
the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!**

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.

KYRIE (p. 184)

Kyrie, eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie, eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie, eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie, eleison, ev'ry day.

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor, that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie, eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie, eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie, eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie, eleison, ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie, eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie, eleison, ev'ry day.

ADVENT CANDLE PRAYER

Let us pray. Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*"The King Shall Come"
Verses 1 and 2*

#260

1. **The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.**
2. **Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ,

**and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins,
and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

BELL CHOIR (8:00 & 10:30)**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****WORD****FIRST READING**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says 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. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called; 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SENIOR CHOIR (10:30)

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever 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, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p. 188)

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words for eternal life.

Alleluia. - - - Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia. - - - Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 21: 25-36

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke in the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 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, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.' Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Cathy Schibler

HYMN OF THE DAY*"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"*

#436

1. **Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;
awake, Jerusalem, at last. I hear
Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!"
Alleluia! Rise and prepare the feast to share;
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.**

2. **Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious, the strong in grace,
in truth victorious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
Now come, O Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
and follow to the banquet hall.**

3. **Gloria! Let heav'n adore you! Let saints and angels sing before you,
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming, lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,
with angel choirs around your throne.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thund'ring might of such glory.
There we will go: what joy we'll know!
There sweet delight will ever flow.**

NICENE CREED

With the whole church let us confess our faith:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

(brief silence)

Petitions end: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

OFFERING SONG

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

#247

1. **Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.**
2. **Come now, O God of Love, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.**
3. **Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.**

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

- 4. Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. Creator God,
**you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We
 praise you for those gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may
 live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

At the conclusion: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 THE TABLE

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace.**

Grant us peace. Lamb of God.

“Christ Be Our Light”

#715

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow’r to save us. Make us your living voice.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

3. Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

5. Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

“On Jordan’s Bank”

#249

1. On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh:
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!
2. Then cleansed be ev’ry life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.
3. We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away like flow’rs that thither and decay.
4. Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.
5. All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

TABLE BLESSING *At the conclusion: Amen.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *At the conclusion: Amen.*

SENDING

BENEDICTION *At the conclusion: Amen.*

SENDING SONG *"People Look East"* #248

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today – Love, the Guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today – Love, the Rose, is on the way.
3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as the sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today – Love, the Star, is on the way.
4. ^wAngels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today – Love, the Lord, is on the way.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE