

Advent Midweek III Vespers

17 December A+D 2025



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church U. A. C.
& Rainbow Preschool
145 S. 6th Street
Waterford, Wisconsin

We are a member congregation of
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

Hymn: 331 The Advent of Our King

Order of Worship: Vespers LSB p. 229

Psalm Psalm 85 antiphon: *O antiphon Dec 17 (insert)*

Sit

Office Hymn: 356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-15

In those days: The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!” Then he said, “Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good.”

Response

A O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Thanks be to God.

Lesson

Luke 1:26-57

At that time: The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!” But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elisabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.” Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word. And the angel departed from her. Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elisabeth. And it happened, when Elisabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.” And Mary said: “My soul magnifies the Lord, And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. And His

mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, And exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, And the rich He has sent away empty. He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy, As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and to his seed forever.” And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house. Now Elisabeth’s full time came for her to be delivered, and she brought forth a son.

Response

- A** O Lord, have mercy upon us.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory (Advent) p. 230

Sermon

Stand

Canticle p. 231

Kyrie p. 233

Lord's Prayer LSB 957 (*insert*)

Collects p. 233 *ff*

Hymn to Depart: 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *st. 2*

Looking Forward to Sunday (Memento Nostri: Advent IV)

Lessons: Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Philippians 4:4-7, John 1:19b-28

Hymns: 341-334-517:1,6,3-343/346/349/355/623/470-357

Looking Forward to Christmas Eve (5:00 PM & 7:00 PM)

Lessons: Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-15a, Luke 2:1-20

Hymns: 358-361-363-364-366-368-370-379-380-383-384-389-390

Looking Forward to Christmas Day (9:30 AM)

Lessons: Isaiah 52:6-10, Hebrews 1:1-12, John 1:1-18

Hymns: 358-364-367-368-376-382-384-385-386-387 Tunes: 366-383-380

Sunday School Christmas Program Sunday at 8:30am

No service Wednesday December 31

Epiphany Divine Service Tuesday January 6th at 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

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We Welcome Our Guests Today!

We're glad you've joined us in worship today. Please fill out a Visitor Card (located in the pew rack) and hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate. We also ask that you read *"Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion"* printed below. Please visit our **Welcome Center** in the narthex and worship with us again soon.

Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion

In keeping with the tradition of the early Church and the Lutheran Confessions, we celebrate the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. Because Holy Communion is an expression of complete unity of faith and doctrine, only active and repentant members of St. Peter's or a sister Missouri Synod congregation may commune. This is not a judgment of the faith of others, but rather an indication of our obedience to the Lord's command that those who kneel together at His altar be in complete unity regarding what they believe and teach (please read I Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:17-32). Your respect for our practice concerning the Lord's Supper is appreciated. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions.

If communing with individual cup, please hold your empty cup until Pastor has passed you with the chalice. And please remember to fill out a Communion card.

The Gathering of the Offerings

God finances His church. The gathering of the offerings is, therefore, not merely collecting money. It is a holy privilege for those who believe in Jesus Christ. This is our opportunity to gratefully respond to God's love and grace by returning a portion of the gifts He has given us. As God's children, we consider it a special honor to build and extend His kingdom through our offerings. St. Paul writes, "God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7b NKJV). Our visitors and guests are in no way compelled to contribute to this offering. We ask nothing of our guests except that they return here often to hear more about God's great love in Jesus Christ, our Lord. If anyone wishes to give electronically, you may scan this QR code to set up an account.



Small Children

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). Jesus wants your little ones present with Him during our worship service. And so do we.

When you're little, it's hard to sit without fidgeting or making some noise. And of course babies join us with their songs, too! We consider their small voices to be a part of our sacred music as they learn with us what it is to be a Christian. We encourage their presence throughout the entire service.

If you feel that your children are being too disruptive, please feel free to take them to the nursery that is located on the other side of the Conference Room. A closed-circuit television will bring the service to you. An usher will be happy to direct you.

"Repetitio est mater studiorum: Repetition is the mother of all learning." The more they're here, the easier it will get.

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