

Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve
24 December A+D 2025



“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”
Luke 2:11-12

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

Prelude

Stand and face the Processional Cross

Processional Hymn: 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.

Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786

Confession and Absolution

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.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- 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.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 2:1; antiphon: Psalm 2:7b



The LORD hath said unto Me, Thou | art My Son;*
this day have I be- | gotten Thee.
Why do the | heathen rage,*
and the people imagine a | vain thing?
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.
The LORD hath said unto Me, Thou | art My Son;*
this day have I be- | gotten Thee.

Gloria In Excelsis

368 Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray: O God, who hast made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant, we beseech Thee, that, as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light, we may also come to the fullness of its joys in heaven; who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



Sit

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2,6-7a

Thus says the LORD God: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 1-5

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swad-dling
 news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,
 clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the
 joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.
 in - fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann

Epistle

Titus 2:11-15a

Dearly Beloved: The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself

His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 6–10

6 How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the
7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what
8 Wel - come to earth, O no - ble Guest, Through whom the
9 Ah, Lord, though You cre - at - ed all, How weak You
10 Were earth a thou - sand times as fair And set with
shep - herds let us go To see what God for
in the man - ger lies. Who is this child, so
sin - ful world is blest! You came to share my
are, so poor and small, That You should choose to
gold and jew - els rare, It would be far too
us has done In send - ing us His own dear Son.
young and fair? It is the Christ Child ly - ing there.
mis - er - y That You might share Your joy with me.
lay Your head Where low - ly cat - tle late - ly fed!
poor and small A cra - dle for the Lord of all.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

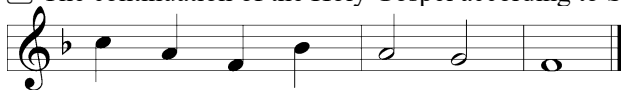
Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann

[The congregation stands and follows as the cross is carried into the nave. The Gospel is read from the middle of the nave, signifying the presence of Christ in the midst of His people.]

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

P The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. ²(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

³And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) ⁵To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. ⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

¹⁴Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace, good will toward men.

¹⁵And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. ¹⁶And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Profession of Faith: 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: 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 11–15



11 In - stead of soft and silk - en stuff You have but
12 And so it pleas - es You to see This sim - ple
13 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly Child, Pre - pare a
14 My heart for ver - y joy must leap; My lips no
15 Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, Who un - to



hay and straw so rough On which as King, so
truth re - vealed to me: That world - ly hon - or,
bed, soft, un - de - filed, A qui - et cham - ber
more can si - lence keep. I, too, must sing with
us His Son has giv'n! While an - gels sing with



rich and great, To be en - throned in roy - al state.
wealth, and might Are weak and worth - less in Your sight.
set a - part For You to dwell with - in my heart.
joy - ful tongue That sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song;
pi - ous mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann

Sermon

Offering Hymn: 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

Prayer of the Church

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.



P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Refrain
 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



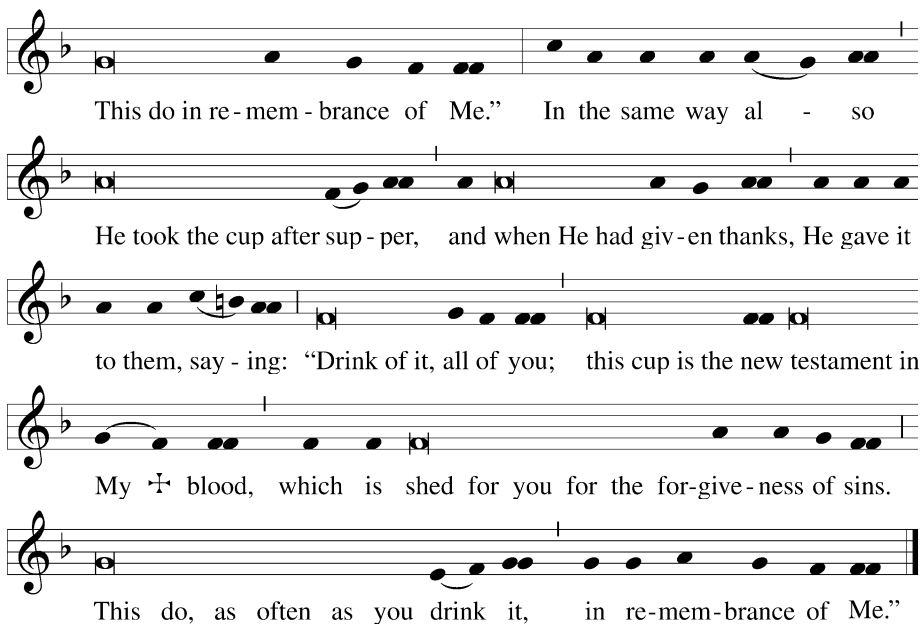
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it

is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;
and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who
tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to
temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.
■ For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

■ Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ̣ bod - y, which is giv - en for you.



This do in re-mem-brance of Me.” In the same way al - so

He took the cup after sup-per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it

to them, say-ing: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in

My blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.

This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197

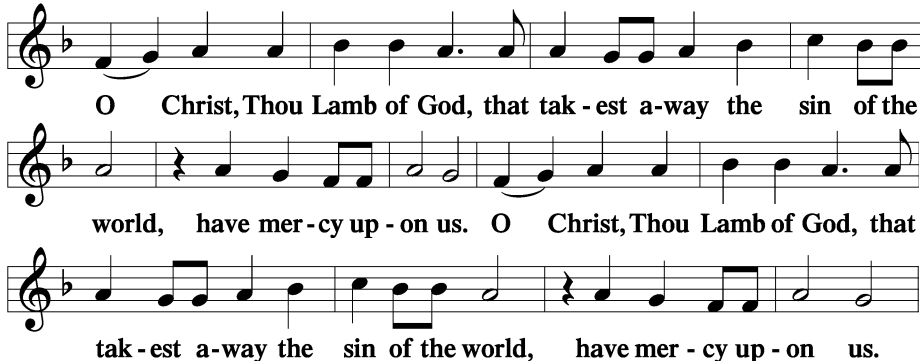


P The peace of the Lord be with you al-ways.

A - men.

Agnus Dei

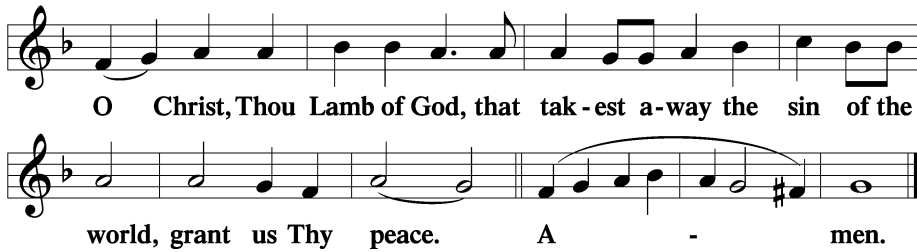
LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



Sit

Distribution

(We welcome our guests and visitors. Thank you for joining us.

Only repentant members in good standing of a Missouri Synod congregation may commune this evening. For more information, please read the back of the bulletin and talk with Pastor.)

- 370 What Child Is This /
- 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem/
- 383 A Great and Mighty Wonder/
- 389 Let All Together Praise Our God/
- 366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear/
- 364 Away in a Manger /
- 390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

Stand

[P] Let us pray.

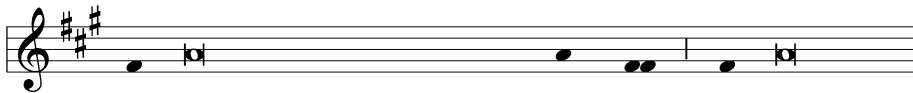
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You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



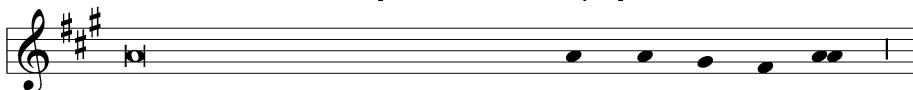
[C] A - men.

Benediction

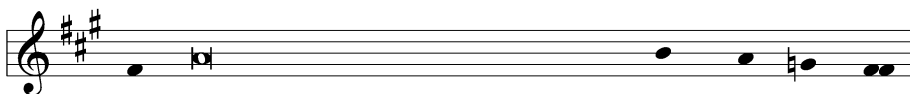
LSB 202



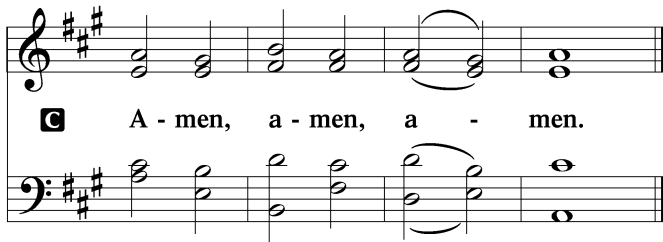
[P] The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

(At this time all candles will be lit. Light from the outside to the middle of the pew tipping only the unlit candles. Children may also turn on their candles.)

363 Silent Night, Holy Night



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God.



ein - sam wacht Nur das hei - li - ge El - tern - paar,
 all is bright Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face



Das im Stal - le zu Beth-le-hem war, Bei dem himm - li - schen
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
 Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy



Kind, peace, Bei dem himm - li - schen Kind.
 born! Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 birth, Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Postlude

Flowers gracing our church were given to the glory of God by:

Peter & Debbie Berndt; Corrie & Dawn Blawat; The Buchholtz family in loving memory of

Merton, Carol, and David Buchholtz; Tom & Kathy Carlson; Jerry & Jan Christiansen; The Collins Family in memory of Glenn Collins and Bruce Scott; Pastor & Stephanie Conradt; Frank & Sandi Czuta; Michael & Sandy Dessecker; Jim & Jeannie Dumke; Ryan & Cheryl Gilgenbach; Dick, Marcy & Tim Gay; Bruce & Jill Grindeland; Bob & Luanne Hassey; Sharon Jardas; The David & Kristin Keeling family in memory of Roger & Donna King; Lloyd & Carie King; Jodi Kirincich; Karen Luick in loving memory of her husband Duane and her daughter Jenni; Lee Ann Michelau in loving memory of husband Joe Michelau and nephew Cody Webb; Jarrod & Jeanette Morby; Jaime & Tina Multhauf; Ted & Cheryl Myers; George & Bertha Neumueller; Jeff Ostovich; Jillane Persch; Tammy Peterson; Leona Robran; Sandy Senft & family in loving memory of Floyd Senft; Winnie Shelton; The Strueder Family in loving memory of Larry, Elaine and Don Strueder; Irene Tuscany in loving memory of Norman Tuscany.

ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP TONIGHT

Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Joshua P. H. Conradt
Organist Mr. Benjamin Grosskreuz
Elders:
 5:00p.m. Mr. Matthew Kenitzer
 7:00p.m. Mr. Matthew Eberhardt
Acolytes:
 5:00p.m. Mr. Trevor Myren & Mr. Zachary Myren
 7:00p.m. Mr. Logan Eberhardt & Mr. Gabriel Eberhardt

Catechism for the Day: Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed Meaning:

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil. He did this not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, so that I may be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Looking Forward to Christmas Day TOMORROW (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

Looking Forward to Sunday (Holy Innocents/Life Sunday)

Lessons: Exodus 1:8-22, Revelation 14:1-5, Matthew 2:13b-18
Hymns: 385-LSB 969(printed)-370-364/725/716/390/372/666/625-588

No service Wednesday December 31
Epiphany Divine Service Tuesday January 6th 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.

Church

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Visit us at www.stpeterswaterford.com or on Facebook

