

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 E. Warwick Dr. ~ Alma, Michigan ~ 48801

463-5754 ~ www.peacealma.org

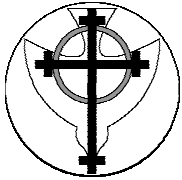
Email: contact@peacealma.org

Office Hours Tues 10-2, Thurs 11:30-12:30, Fri 10-2

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Populus Zion

Second Sunday in Advent

9 December Anno † Domini 2012

Welcome

Welcome to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for the Lord comes to you here in this place to give you His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts. Please take the time to fill out the **Record of Fellowship form** that is in the pew. If you are visiting with us this morning, we want you to know that we are overjoyed that you are here. Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the sanctuary. The Lord be with us in Divine Service this morning!

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Holy Communion Practice

- The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. In preparation for receiving this blessed Sacrament, you may refer to Martin Luther's "Christian Questions with Their Answers" found on pages 329-330 in *LSB*.
- Communicants at this altar are to be in full confessional fellowship with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the LCMS are asked, out of love and Christian responsibility, to refrain from partaking with us this morning. If you have any questions regarding Holy Communion, you are invited and encouraged to speak with the pastor before or after the Service.
- See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Our Mission Statement

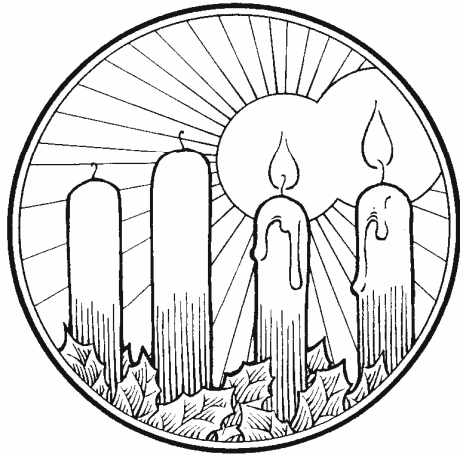
The mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to welcome all people into the fellowship of God's love by proclaiming the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ and to nurture our members with God's Holy Word and Sacraments.



"Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you 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." (Luke 21:29b-31)

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LSB DIVINE SERVICE 3, PAGE 184

The Service of Preparation

(Upon entering the nave, silence should be observed to allow all the opportunity to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the Lord and the reception of His gifts)

Preparatory Prayers

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

The Prelude and Ringing of the Bells

(The congregation stands at the Ringing of the Bells and faces the processional cross. It is customary to continue facing the cross as it is processed in, and to bow your head and make the sign of the cross in reverence and admiration to the Lord as it passes your pew. The same applies for the recessional as Service concludes.)

The Processional Hymn: 331 “The Advent of Our King”

The Confession and Absolution (pp. 184-185)

From Martin Luther’s Sermon for the Second Sunday in Advent Luke 21:25-36

Could He admonish, comfort, and strengthen you in a more delicate and loving manner? In the first place He says, You will hear of wars, but you should have no fears. And when He tells you to have no fears, what else does He mean than that He commands you to be of good cheer and to discern the signs with joy? Secondly, He tells you to look up; thirdly, to lift up your heads; and fourthly, He speaks of your redemption. What can comfort and strengthen you if such a word does not? Do you think He would deceive you and try to lead you into a false confidence?

My dear hearer, let such a word not have been said in vain: thank God and trust in it – there is no other comfort or advice if you cast this to the winds. It is not your condemnation but your redemption of which Christ speaks. Will you turn His words around and say, It is not your redemption but your condemnation? Will you flee from your own salvation? Will you not greet and thank your God Who comes out to meet and to greet you?

He has, no doubt, also spoken this word for the fainthearted who, although they are devout and prepared for the last day, are yet filled with great anxiety and are hindered in taking part in His coming with that desire which should be found at the end of the world; therefore He calls attention to their redemption.

The Meaning of Populus Zion

The second Sunday in Advent is traditionally known as Populus Zion, which are the first Latin words of the Historic Introit assigned to this Sunday. Populus Zion means “People of Zion” (Populus Zion, ecce Dominus veniet ad salvandas gentes = People of Zion, behold the Lord shall come to save the nations).

The Service of the Sacrament

(Please read the statement regarding Holy Communion on the back of the bulletin)

The Preface and Proper Preface (p. 194)

The Sanctus (p. 195)

The Lord's Prayer (p. 196)

The Words of Our Lord (p. 197)

The Pax Domini (p. 197)

The Agnus Dei (p. 198)

Communicants are invited to pray the following:

Before receiving the Sacrament:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament:

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

336 "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" *(Choir stanza 3)*

348 "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

624 "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born"

The Nunc Dimittis (pp. 199-200)

The Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Collect (pp. 200-201)

The Salutation and Benedicamus (pp. 201-202)

The Benediction (p. 202)

The Recessional Hymn: 350 "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come"

The Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria!

The Service of the Word

The Introit

Ps. 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Is. 62:11b; 30:30, 29



Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

**The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,*
and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

Restore us, | O God;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Turn again, O | God of hosts!*

Look down from | heaven, and see.

But let your hand be on the man of your | right hand,*

the son of man whom you have made strong | for yourself!

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.

Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

**The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,*
and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.**

The Kyrie (p. 186)

The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 189)

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

¹“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

⁴“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

The Gradual

Ps. 50:2-3a, 5

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Our God comes; he does not keep silence;

**“Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”**

The Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

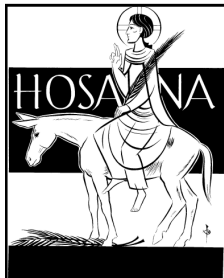
⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.



The Alleluia and Verse



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Verse (choir): The powers of the heavens will be shaken, and then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

²⁵[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Nicene Creed (p. 191)

The Hymn of the Day: 333 “Once He Came in Blessing”

The Sermon

The Offertory (pp. 192-193)

The Offering

(If you have not done so already, please sign and share the Fellowship folders in the pews to assist us in keeping accurate attendance records. Thank you.)

The Prayer of the Church (p. 193)

☐ Lord, in Your mercy,

☑ hear our prayer.