

# Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

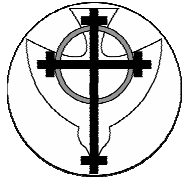
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## Welcome

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!

## 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.

# Last Sunday of the Church Year

## Sunday of the Fulfillment

### 23 November Anno † Domini 2008



*"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom." (Matt. 25:1)*

# Last Sunday of the Church Year

Sunday of the Fulfillment

16 November Anno † Domini 2008



**LSB DIVINE SERVICE 1, PAGE 151**

## 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 Opening Hymn:** 663 “Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

**The Confession and Absolution** (p. 151)

## From *Sacred Meditations*

By Johann Gerhard

*“It is not the will of your Father which is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish” (Matt. xviii. 14).*

*Truly I am one of those little ones in Thy sight, as well as in my own; for what am I, but dust and ashes (Gen. xviii. 27)? Nor am I but dust and ashes in Thy sight, but in respect of growth in godliness I am very little and very insignificant. Therefore, O Lord Jesus, do Thou finish in me, one of Thy little ones, the will of Thy Father in heaven.*

*Thou hast come into the world, O Lord Jesus, “to save that which was lost” (Matt. xviii. 11); how canst Thou then judge him who ardently desires to be saved by Thee? I know that my sins will rise in judgment against me, and that they will cry aloud for vengeance upon me, but then, O blessed Jesus, Thou hast transferred my sins to Thyself, Thou art “the Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world” (John i. 29), and why not mine also? How wilt Thou condemn me for my sins, when Thou hast died for them?*

## The Service of the Sacrament

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

**The Preface and Proper Preface** (pp. 160-161)

**The Sanctus** (p. 161)

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving** (p. 161)

**The Words of Our Lord** (p. 162)

**The Proclamation of Christ** (p. 162)

**The Lord's Prayer** (pp. 162-163)

**The Pax Domini** (p. 163)

**The Agnus Dei** (p. 163)

*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

638 "Eat This Bread" (*congregation sings refrain; choir sings stanzas*)

514 "The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us"

525 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

512 "At the Name of Jesus"

**The Post-Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis** (p. 165)

**The Post-Communion Collect** (p. 166)

**The Benediction** (p. 166)

**The Closing Hymn:** 680 "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise"

**The Postlude**

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

## The Service of the Word

### The Introit

*Ps. 39:4-5, 7-8; antiphon: Is. 35:10*



The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion  
with | singing;\*

everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.

**They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,\***

**and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.**

O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;\*

let me know how fleeting | I am!

**Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my  
lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.\***

**Surely all mankind stands as a | mere breath!**

And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?\*

My hope | is in you.

**Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.\***

**Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!**

**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 ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion  
with | singing;\*

everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.

**They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,\***

**and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.**

**The Kyrie** (pp. 152-153)

**The Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast** (p. 155)

**The Salutation and Collect of the Day** (p. 156)

O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that, from the bonds of our sins which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## The Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 65:17-25*

<sup>17</sup>“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. <sup>18</sup>But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. <sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. <sup>20</sup>No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. <sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. <sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent’s food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the Lord.

## The Gradual

*Ps. 45:14-15*

In many-colored robes [the king’s daughter] is led to the king,\*  
with her virgin companions following behind her.

**With joy and gladness they are led along\*  
as they enter the palace of the king.**

## The Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those

who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

## The Alleluia and Verse (p. 156)

## The Holy Gospel

*Matthew 25:1-13*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

## The Nicene Creed (p. 158)

## The Hymn of the Day: 516 “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

## The Sermon

## The Prayer of the Church (p. 159)

**P** . . . hear our prayer:

**C** **Come, Lord Jesus!**

## The Offering is gathered for the Lord’s work (p. 159)

*(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 Offertory (pp. 159-160)