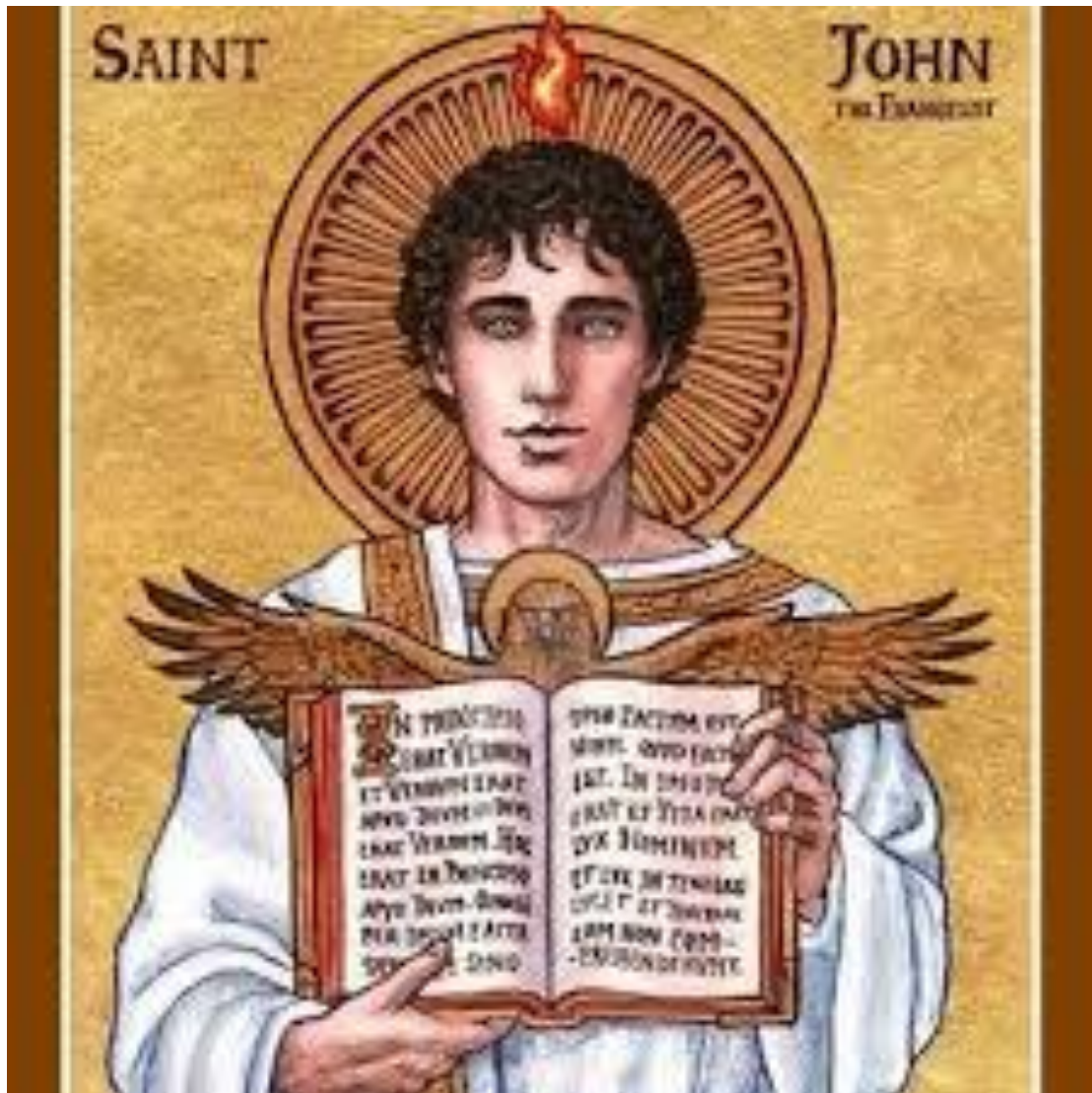


St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Founded 1856
1343 Penniman Avenue
Plymouth, MI 48170
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



Sunday, December 27, 2020
The Festival of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Service Notes:

- The following psalms in the front of the hymnal (page 64f) will aid you in your meditation before receiving the Lord's Supper: Psalms 34, 42-43, 51, 84, 116, 150. Prayers for preparation for worship are on pages 10 and 11 in the hymnal. A form for preparation for Communion is on page 156.
- Please sign the friendship registry in the pews before the service or during the offering. If you have a prayer request or would like Pastor Schaefer to visit or call you, please note your request.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. Our guests are kindly asked to note that it is our practice to first become a member of our communion fellowship before communing with us. Please speak to our pastor about becoming a member of our communion fellowship.

The royal eagle is a fitting symbol for Saint John the Evangelist, for the eagle is known for grace, strength, keenness of vision and powers of flight above all creatures, as Saint John the Evangelist is sublime among all stylists, even the most royal of scriptural stylists, soaring to heaven itself to open his grand profession of faith in his gospel concerning the Eternal God, Creator and Redeemer.

THE COMMON SERVICE (page 15)

OPENING HYMN: #TLH 271 "Word Supreme, Before Creation" (Public Domain)

See the next page

Word Supreme, Before Creation

271

8. 7. 8. 7. 8. 7.

John 21: 20
 John Keble, 1856, cento

Sieh, hier bin ich
 "Geistreiches Gesangbuch"
 Darmstadt, 1698



1 Word Su-preme, be-fore cre-a-tion Born of God e-ter-nal-ly,
 2 Now 'tis come, and faith es-pies Thee; Like an ea-glet in the morn
 3 Much he asked in lov-ing won-der, On Thy bos-om lean-ing, Lord.
 4 Lo, heav'n's doors lift up, re-veal-ing How Thy judgments earthward move;



Who didst will for our sal-va-tion To be born on earth and die,
 One in stead-fast wor-ship eyes Thee, Thy be-loved, Thy lat-est born.
 In the se-cret place of thun-der An-swer kind didst Thou ac-cord,
 Scrolls un-fold-ed, trum-pets peal-ing, Wine-cups from the wrath a-bove;



Well Thy saints have kept their station, Watching till Thine hour drew nigh.
 In Thy glo-ry he descries Thee Reigning from the Tree of scorn.
 Wis-dom for Thy Church to ponder Till the day of dread a-ward.
 Yet o'er all a soft voice stealing, "Lit-tle chil-dren, trust and love." A-men.



5 Thee, th' almighty King eternal,
 Father of th' eternal Word,
 Thee, the Father's Word supernal,
 Thee, of both the Breath adored,
 Heaven and earth and realms infernal.
 Own one glorious God and Lord.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

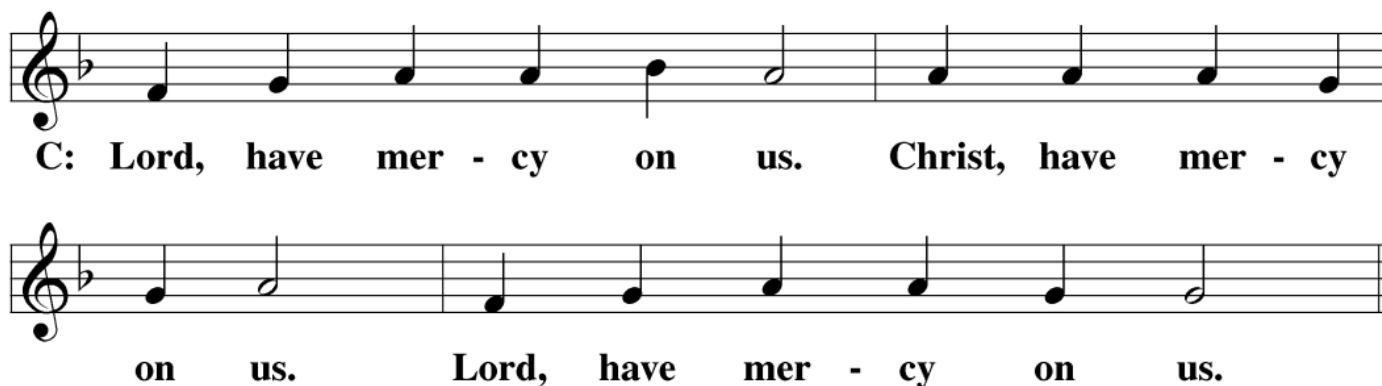


CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on - ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, cast the bright beams of your light on the whole Christian Church, that, being instructed by the teachings of your blessed apostle and evangelist John, we may always walk in the light of your saving truth, until at last we inherit the gift of eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 8 Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A-722670. All rights reserved.

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

Psalm tone



O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I consider your heavens,*
the work of your fingers,

what is man that you are mindful of him,*
the Son of Man that you care for him? ***Refrain***

You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings*
and crowned him with glory and honor.

You made him ruler over the works of your hands;*
you put everything under his feet.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain*

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 1:1 – 2:2

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— **2** the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— **3** that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. **4** And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. **6** If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do

not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

VERSE OF THE DAY (spoken by the pastor)

Alleluia! The message of the cross is the power of God to us who are being saved. Alleluia! (1 Corinthians 1:18)

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



GOSPEL LESSON: John 21:20-25

²⁰ Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to him and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" ²¹ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" ²² Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that

to you? You follow me!” ²³ So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

²⁴ This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵ Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

**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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

BE SEATED

**HYMN OF THE DAY: #552 “By All Your Saints Still Striving”
verses 1, 26, 3.**

Text: Horatio B. Nelson, 1823–1913, st. 1-4, 6-27, alt.; Harlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945, st. 5.

St. 1-4, 6-27: From *The Hymnal* 1982 © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Church Publishing, Inc., New York, NY. St. 5 © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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552

By All Your Saints Still Striving

St. John the Evangelist



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, For
 2 For John, your loved dis - ci - ple, Ex -
 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And



all your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O
 iled to Pat - mos' shore, And for his faith - ful
 wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the



Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blessed. You
 rec - ord We praise you ev - er - more. Praise
 Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till



rose, our King vic - to - rious, That they
 for the mys - tic vi - sion His words
 all the ran - somed num - ber Who stand



might wear the crown And ev - er shine in
 to us un - fold. In - still in us his
 be - fore the throne As - cribe all pow'r and



splen - dor Re - flect - ed from your throne.
 long - ing Your glo - ry to be - hold.
 glo - ry And praise to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio B. Nelson, 1823–1913, st. 1-4, 6-27, alt.; Harlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945, st. 5.
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 permission of Church Publishing Inc., New York, NY.
 St. 5 © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: KUORTANE (76 76 D) Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.

SERMON

STAND

PSALM 51 RESPONSE (page 20)



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR THE FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

M: Rejoicing in the love and life of God made visible among us, let us pray to Jesus, the only-begotten Son.

Bread of life,
your beloved disciple John has brought us your living word,
inspire all evangelists and teachers to build up your Church.

Light of the world,
illuminate the dark places of this world,
where sin, violence and death cast their shadow over human lives.

Door of the sheepfold,
protect all who are in trouble or danger,
and give grace to our loved ones, families and friends.

Way, truth and life,
minister to all who are lost, misguided or without faith;
bind up the broken, and give rest to the weary.

Resurrection and the life,
raise us up at the last day
with all who have gone before us in faith,
with those whom we love but see no longer,
with John and all your saints,
that in your Father's house we may come to the place you have
prepared for us.

Incarnate Lord, accept these our prayers
for the sake of your most holy name. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

Please use this time for personal preparation or meditation before the Lord's Supper. A form to assist you can be found on page 156 in the front part of the hymnal.



THE SACRAMENT (Page 21)

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us glorious assurance and hope that,

following their example of faith, we may run with perseverance the race marked out for us, and receive the crown of life that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Sanctus*)

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to

his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is the new testament in my (+) blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace (+) of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

SAINTS AND MARTYRS

549 **Around the Throne, a Glorious Band**



1 A - round the throne, a glo - rious band, The
2 Through trib - u - la - tion great they came; They
3 They see their Sav - ior face to face And
4 "Wor - thy the Lamb, for sin - ners slain, Through
5 Oh, may we tread the sa - cred road That



saints in count - less num - bers stand, Of
bore the cross, de - spised the shame. From
sing the tri - umphs of his grace. Each
end - less years to live and reign; You
saints and ho - ly mar - tyrs trod, Wage



ev - 'ry tongue, re - deemed to God, Ar -
all their la - bors now they rest In
day and night they sing his praise, To
have re - deemed us by your blood, And
to the end the glo - rious strife, And



rayed in gar - ments washed in blood.
God's e - ter - nal glo - ry blest.
him the loud thanks - giv - ing raise:
made us kings and priests to God."
win, like them, a crown of life.

Text: Rowland Hill, 1744–1833, abr., alt.

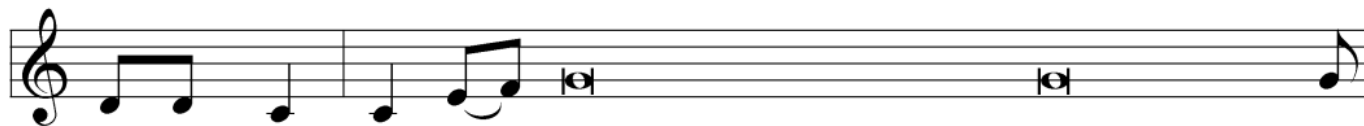
Tune: ROCKINGHAM OLD (LM) *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, London, 1778, adapt.

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc dimittis*)



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-

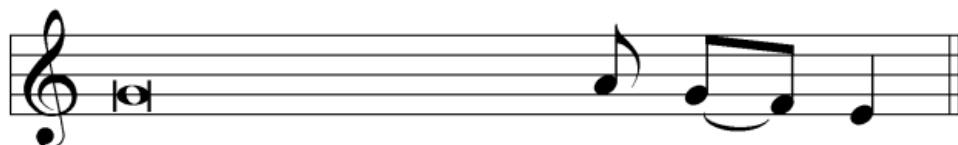


pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

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OFFICIANTS:

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Communion Assistants: Ron Bude and Bruce Winkler

Organist: Mrs. Jan Jacobi

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Today | - 9:30 AM Divine Service |
| | -10:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Class |
| Tuesday | - 7:00 PM Board of Elders Meeting |
| Wednesday | - 10:00 AM Online Bible Class |
| Sunday | - 9:30 AM Divine Service with installation of officers |
| | -10:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Class |
| | -11:30 AM Removal of Christmas decorations |

Serving next week: Altar Guild – Diane Wendland

Ushering – Team 4

IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE: We ask that you disperse in the sanctuary (practice social distancing). For Holy Communion we will have smaller communion tables so that you are able to spread out along the communion rail. Offerings will be gathered at the entrance to the sanctuary. Pastor and communion assistants will practice handwashing and/or other safe practices; in addition, the officiants will wear masks for the distribution. Because of the increase in COVID-19 cases, all are asked to wear a face covering while in the church. Ushers will assist by ushering you from the pew

following the service. Please do not gather in the narthex. The church building will receive a thorough cleaning and disinfecting every week. If you are unable to attend yet, Pastor Schaefer will be glad to make arrangements with you for private Communion. We are posting the entire service on our website after each service.

PLEASE HELP remove the church Christmas decorations after Bible Class next Sunday, January 3. More helpers mean faster completion of our task!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS - On January 3, all (newly elected as well as ongoing) board members and officers will be installed into their offices. The installation will take place during the Divine Service. We ask all to attend if possible. May the Lord bless your willing and faithful service to our congregation and his Church.

PASTORAL CARE & MERCY – Please remember with prayers, cards and visits those whose needs have been reported.

The Pastoral Staff Church Office: 734-453-3393 www.splp.org stpeterlutheran@hotmail.com Pastor: Rev. Paul Schaefer Pastor's Cellphone: 734-658-5735 Pastor's email: Peschaef5@gmail.com Music Director: Jan Jacobi Church Secretary: Carol Schwartz	St. Peter's Preschool Rebecca Lohrmann, Director Michigan Lutheran Seminary (MLS) (Saginaw) 989-793-1041 Huron Valley Lutheran High School (HVL) (Westland) 734-525-0160	Congregation President: Bruce Winkler Vice President: Richard Cording Council Secretary: Jim Cutler Treasurer: Seth Anderson Financial Secretaries: Steve Jacobi Van Varner Board Chairmen: Elders – Mark Castellese Stewardship/Education - Rick Carr Trustees – Nils Peterson
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