

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



Sunday, December 11, 2022
The Third Sunday of Advent

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.
- Guests, please sign the guest registry in the narthex.
- If you have a prayer request or would like Pastor Schaefer to visit or call you, please talk to him (734-658-5735).

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 COMMON SERVICE (page 15)

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

The soloist will sing "Advent Alleluia" as the Advent wreath candles are lit: Contributors: Michael Joncas, International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL)

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Halleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring good news to the poor. Halleluia!

OPENING HYMN: #31 "O Lord of Light, Who Made the Stars"

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31 O Lord of Light, Who Made the Stars



1 O Lord of light, who made the stars,
 2 In low - li - ness you came to earth
 3 To pay the debt we owed for sin,
 4 But now you reign, the King of kings,
 5 Great Judge of all, on earth's last day



O Dawn, by whom we see the way,
 To res - cue us from Sa - tan's snares,
 Your pain - ful cross was made the price;
 A - dored in high - est maj - es - ty;
 Have pit - y on your chil - dren's plight.



O Christ, Re - deem - er of the world:
 O won - drous Love that healed our wounds
 From bless - ed Mar - y's womb you came,
 Your ver - y name is held in awe
 Rise up to shield us with your grace;



Come now and lis - ten as we pray.
 By tak - ing on our mor - tal cares.
 A vic - tim pure for sac - ri - fice.
 From pole to pole and sea to sea.
 De - liv - er us from Sa - tan's might. A - men.

6 To God the Father and the Son
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
 Praise, honor, might, and glory be
 From age to age eternally. Amen

Text: Latin hymn, c. 9th century; tr. Melvin Farrell, b. 1930, alt. © 1993 World Library Publications,
 Franklin Park, IL, www.wlpmusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM (LM) Sarum plainsong, c. 9th century.

STAND

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:

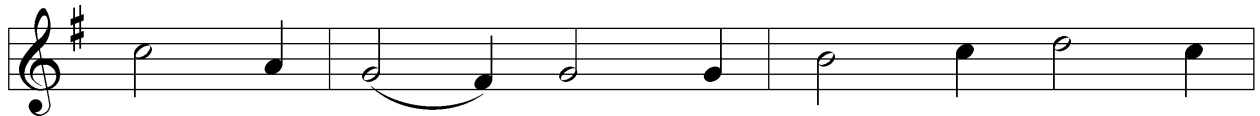
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All Glory Be to God on High

Gloria in Excelsis



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, Who has our
2 We praise, we wor - ship you, we trust; We give you
3 O Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son Of God, your
4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, pre - cious Gift, Our Com - fort -



race be - friend - ed! To us no harm shall
thanks for - ev - er, O Fa - ther, that your
heav'n - ly Fa - ther, You did for all our
er from heav - en, Our wea - ry hearts and



now come nigh; The strife at last is end - ed. The
rule is just And wise and chang - es nev - er. In
sins a - tone, And your lost sheep you gath - er. O
souls up - lift; For this our praise is giv - en. De -



Fa - ther's love, the Sav - ior's birth, Bring peace, good will, to
bound - less pow'r, with might - y reign, Done is what - ev - er
Lamb of God, to you on high From depths of woe we
liv - er us from doubt and fear; When Sa - tan trou - bles



all the earth; Oh, thank him for his good - ness!
you or - dain; Your rule brings count - less bless - ings!
sin - ners cry, Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus!
us, be near; We trust your love and pow - er.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BE SEATED



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 35:1-10

35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
² it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 146

Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music

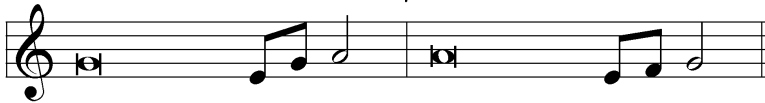
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Refrain



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

Psalm tone



Praise the LORD, O my soul.*

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,*
in mortal men, who cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the LORD his God,*
the maker of heaven and earth. ***Refrain***

The LORD gives food to the hungry,*
the LORD sets prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight to the blind,*
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.

The LORD watches over the outcast*
and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

The LORD remains faithful forever.*
He upholds the cause of the oppressed.

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: I will praise your name forever, my King and my God.

SECOND READING: James 5:7-11

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

VERSE OF THE DAY (sung by the soloist)

Alleluia! I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia! (Matthew 11:10 cf.)

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 11:2-11

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



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: #14 “Arise, O Christian People”

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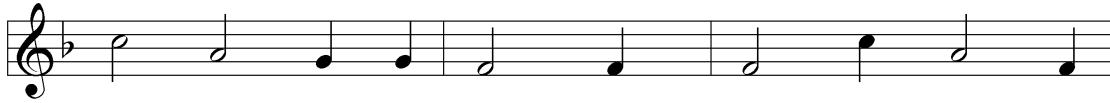
Moldenhauer; Valentin Thilo (1607-1662). Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A-722670.

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Arise, O Christian People



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him; Pre -
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn



pare your - selves to - day. Pre - pare to greet the
 pare for him the best. Cast out what would of -
 rais - es up on high; Be - neath his feet in
 not from me a - side, And help me to re -



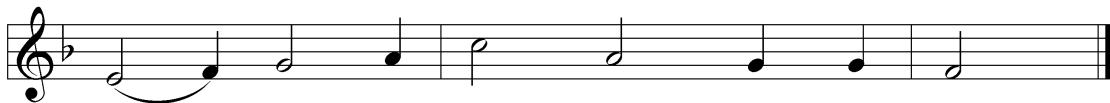
Sav - ior, Who takes your sins a - way. To
 fend him, This great, this heav'n - ly guest. Make
 ter - ror, The haugh - ty soul shall lie. The
 ceive you This bless - ed Ad - vent - tide. From



us by grace a - lone The truth and
 straight, make plain the way: The low - ly
 heart sin - cere and right, That heeds God's
 stall and man - ger low Come now to



light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 in - vi - ta - tion; And makes true prep - a -
 dwell with - in me; I'll sing your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62, alt.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, st. 1-3, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 4, alt.

Tune: AUS MEINES HERZENS GRUNDE (76 76 67 76) *New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein*, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

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 SEASON OF ADVENT (Page 123)

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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BE SEATED

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

NOTE: *Please be prepared to receive the host in your outstretched hand, rather than in your mouth.*

STAND



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, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

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.



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM: #701 “Zion, at Your Shining Gates”

Text (st. 1, 3-5): Benjamin H. Kennedy, 1804–1889, alt. Text (st. 2): Michael Schultz, b. 1963 © 2006 Michael Schultz. All rights reserved. Used by permission. (Alterations in other stanzas also by M. Schultz.) Tune: K Lee Scott

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1 Zion, at your shining gates,
See, the King of glory waits;
Haste your monarch now to greet,
Spread your palms before his feet.

2 Christ, your kingdom comes today
As we hear your Spirit say:
“God’s own Son, a sacrifice—
Sinners’ way to paradise.”

3 Come and give us peace within,
Loose us from the bands of sin,
Take away the heavy weight
Laid on us by greed and hate.

4 Give us grace your yoke to wear,
Give us strength your cross to bear,
Make us yours in deed and word,
Yours in heart and life, O Lord.

5 So when you shall come again,
Lord of angels and of men,
We with all your saints shall sing
Loud hosannas to our King.

DISTRIBUTION AND DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

#20 “When All the World Was Cursed” Contributors: Paul E Kretzmann

Text: © 1941, Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A-722670.
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#7 “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” Contributors: Laurentius Laurenti, text, Concordia

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When All the World Was Cursed



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo - ses' con - dem -
 2 Be - fore Saint John was born, He leaped in joy - ful
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who bears the world's trans -
 4 Oh, grant, dear Lord of love, That we re - ceive, re -



na - tion, Saint John the Bap - tist came With
 meet - ing, Con - fess - ing him as Lord Whose
 gres - sion, Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The
 joic - ing, The word pro - claimed by John, Our



words of con - so - la - tion. With true fore - run - ner's
 moth - er he was greet - ing. By Jor - dan's roll - ing
 dev - il's dread op - pres - sion. Be - hold the Lamb of
 true re - pent - ance voic - ing, That glad - ly we may



zeal The great - er one he named, And him, as
 stream, A new E - li - jah bold, He tes - ti -
 God, Who takes a - way our sin, Who for our
 walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way Un - til we



yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.
 fied of him Whom proph - ets had fore - told.
 peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.
 live with him In his e - ter - nal day.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711, abr.; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.

Tune: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT (67 67 66 66) Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701, alt.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the
 3 You saints, who here in pa - tience Your cross and
 4 A - rise, De - sire of na - tions; O Je - sus,



lights ap - pear; The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing,
 Bride-groom near; Go forth, as he ap - proach - es,
 suf - f'rings bore, Shall live and reign for - ev - er
 now ap - pear, The Hope and Ex - pec - ta - tion



And dark - er night is near. The Bride - groom
 With al - le - lu - ias clear. The mar - riage
 When sor - row is no more. A - round the
 Of ev - 'ry Chris - tian here. With hearts and



is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh. Up,
 feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand. A -
 throne of glo - ry The Lamb you shall be - hold; In
 hands up - lift - ed We plead, O Lord, to see The



pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
 rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.
 tri - umph lay be - fore him Your shin - ing crowns of gold.
 day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets your peo - ple free.

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722, abr.; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.

Tune: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG (76 76 D) *Hymnal and Order of Service*, Rock Island, 1901.

THANKSGIVING (page 24)

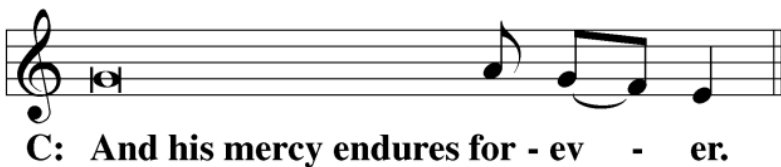
STAND

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 Assistant: Mark Castellese

Organist and Soloist: Julie Webber

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

Today - 9:30 AM Divine Service

-11:00 AM Preschool Advent Service

Tuesday - 7:00 PM Elections and Budget Voters Meeting

Wednesday - 9:30 AM Online Bible Class

Thursday – 7:00 PM Senior Choir Rehearsal

Sunday - 9:30 AM Divine Service

-10:45 AM Adult Bible Class and Sunday School

Serving next week:	Ushering	Altar Guild
Sunday, December 18, 9:30 AM	Team 4	Carol Schwartz;
Christmas Eve, Saturday Dec. 24, 7:00 PM	Team 1	No communion
Christmas Eve, Saturday Dec. 24, 11:00 PM	Team 2	Jan Jacobi
Christmas Day, Sunday Dec. 25, 9:30 AM	Team 3	Lois Bude

THANK YOU to all who donated Christmas poinsettias. You may take your plants home after the Christmas Day service.

Needed: Christmas cookies for the shut ins. Please have them in the church basement by Thursday December 15 at 9:00 AM. Assembly of the cookie packages will follow on that day and time. Please join us for that project.

Preschool Christmas Service: Please join us today, December 11 at 11:00 am for the Children's Christmas Service. Our Parent & Tot and Preschool children will be

singing. Pastor will have a message geared for the children. The congregation will sing some familiar Christmas hymns. We will have light refreshments following the service.

The annual **Elections and Budget Meeting** will be held this Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 PM. Please plan on attending to hear about 2023 plans for our congregation.

If you have used copies of our synod's **Meditations: Daily Devotions** at home that you want to donate to the Florida Prison Ministry, please bring them to church. They may be placed on the narthex window sills, or in a box labeled "Old Meditations" which is in the cry room. The Winkler family will take the booklets to Florida when they travel there in January.

Wednesday morning online Bible class will be starting a study of the book of Hebrews this week. Please join us by contacting Pastor Schaefer (734-658-5735).

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: Tracy Pitt	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 – Scott Beckerman Stewardship/Education - Ernie Honke Trustees – Nils Peterson
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