

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



*Tuesday, December 25, 2018*  
*Christmas Day*

## **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 COMMON SERVICE (page 15)**

### **The Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles**

The soloist will sing "Light a Candle in the Night" ©2011 Lorenz Publishing Company, all rights reserved. Words and music by Lloyd Larson

Light a candle in the night. Prepare the way for the holy light.

The Prince of Peace with us to dwell

Child of peace, come in your glory, heaven's gift, the wondrous story.

Messiah King shall come to earth. Prepare your heart for His holy birth.

**OPENING HYMN: #55 "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"**

***STAND***

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

## 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*)



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

**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.



C: A - men.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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



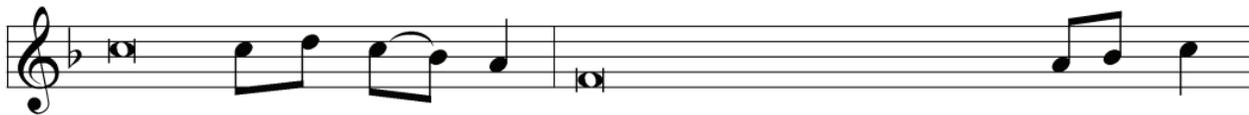
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



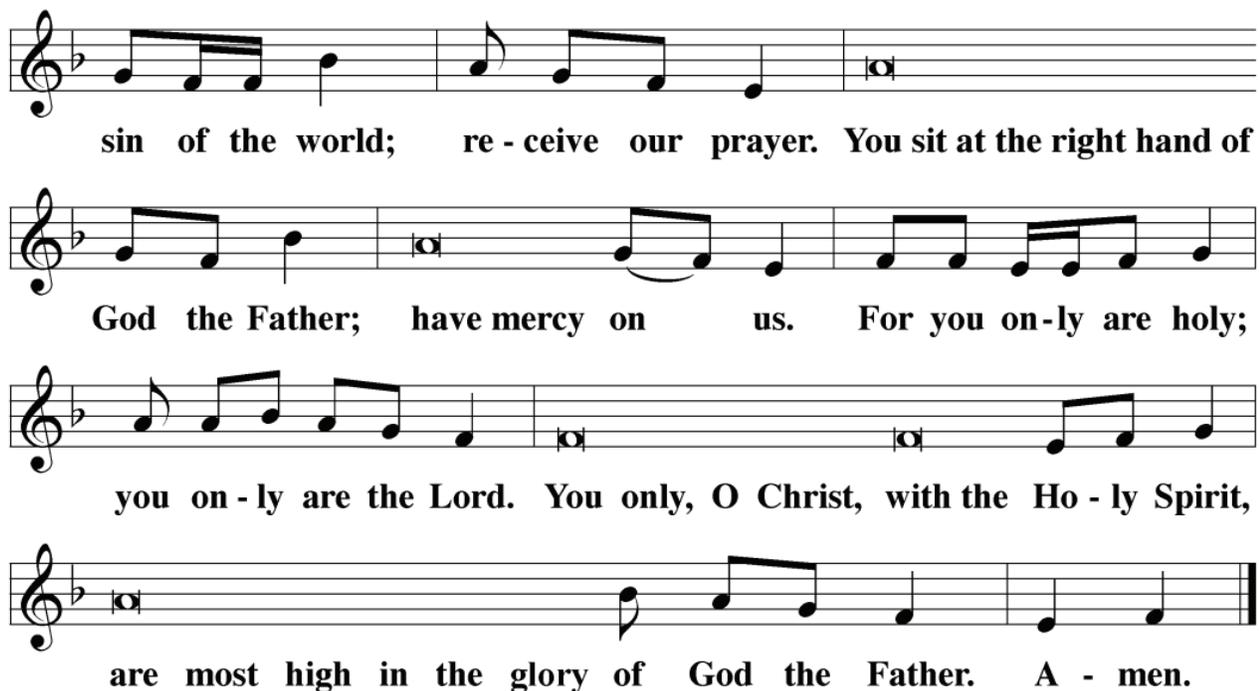
God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



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.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your one and only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C:** A - men.

**BE SEATED**



## THE WORD

### **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 52:7-10**

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of him who brings good news,  
who publishes peace, who brings good news of  
happiness,

who publishes salvation,

who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

<sup>8</sup> The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy;  
for eye to eye they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

### **PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 98**

The congregation will sing Hymn #62 “Joy to the World.”

## **SECOND LESSON:** Hebrews 1:1-9

**1** Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,  
and he shall be to me a son”?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

<sup>7</sup> Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,  
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

<sup>8</sup> But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your  
kingdom.

<sup>9</sup> You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

### **VERSE OF THE DAY** (sung by the soloist)

Alleluia! When the time had fully come, God sent his  
Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those  
under law. Alleluia! (Galatians 4:4,5a)

**STAND**

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation  
sings:*



**C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!**

### **GOSPEL:** John 1:1-14

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with  
God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning  
with God. **3** All things were made through him, and  
without him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In  
him was life, and the life was the light of men. **5** The light  
shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not  
overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.



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: #35 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”**

**SERMON**

**STAND**

**PSALM 51 RESPONSE** (page 20) (accompanied on piano)



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.

**BE SEATED**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS DAY**

**M:** On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

**C: Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!**

**M:** What a great mystery of our faith this is: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

**C: Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.**

**M:** In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

**C: Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

**M:** As the angels sang out their praise, move us also to sing out our praise to you, today and every day, as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

**C: Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**

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**STAND**

## 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.**



## THE SACRAMENT

### 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, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. 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."

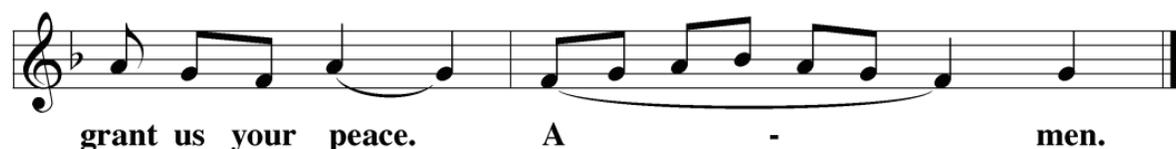
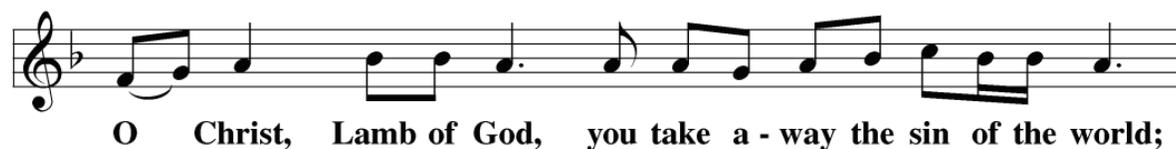
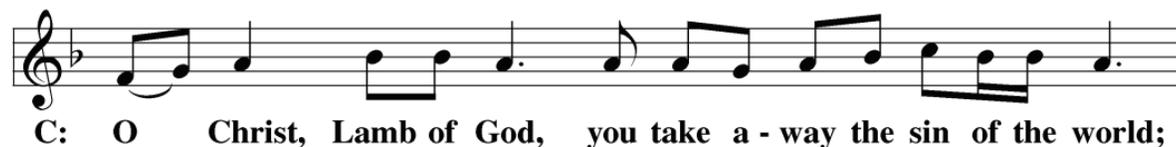
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is the new testament in my (+) blood, which is poured out for you

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*)



**BE SEATED**

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In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

Refrain: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world! The light no darkness can overcome!

What came to being in Him was life and the life with the light of all, shining in darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. (Refrain)

This is the true light shining on all coming into the world. And from His fullness we have all received grace upon grace. (Refrain)

Jesus the light of the world!

## **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 Assistants: Mark Castellese and Dan Lanning

Organist: Mrs. Jan Jacobi; Soloist: Joan Kalish