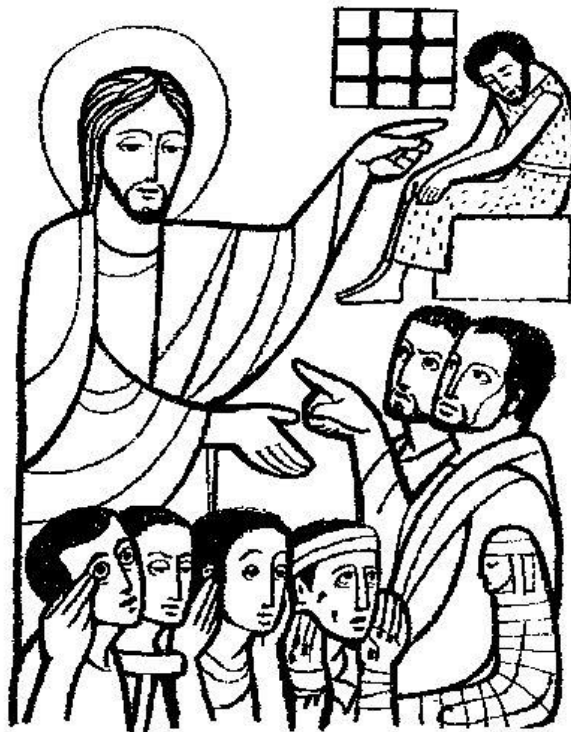


St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Founded 1856
1343 Penniman Avenue
Plymouth, MI 48170
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



Sunday, December 11, 2016
The Third Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 11, 2016
The Third Sunday of Advent

THE COMMON SERVICE (page 15)

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles
The choir will sing as the candles are lit:

For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits;
Truly my hope is in you.
O Root of Life, implant your seed within us,
And in your advent draw us all to you,
Our hope reborn in dying and in rising.
For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits;
Truly my hope is in you.

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

STAND

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

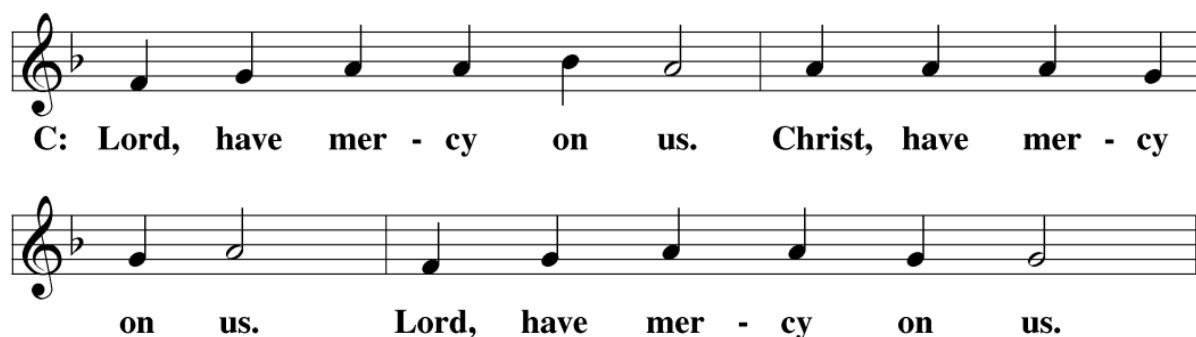


CONFESSION OF SINS

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*)



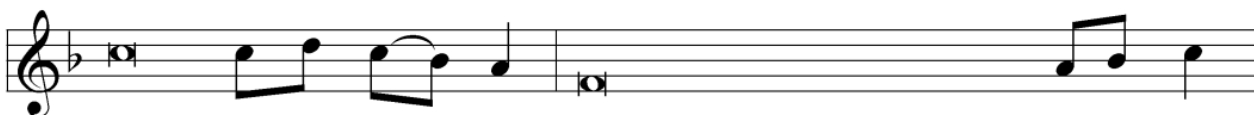
M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the

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.



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.

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 (Page 120)

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

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SECOND LESSON: 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 choir)

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

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



GOSPEL: 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.



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: #14 “Arise, O Christian People”

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.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Offering Music (bells) "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (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

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, 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:

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.



C: A - men.

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 HYMNS:

#20 "When All the World Was Cursed"

#7 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

THANKSGIVING (page 24)

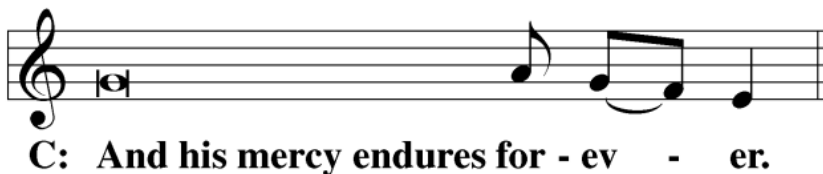
STAND

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.



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.



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OFFICIANTS:

Preacher and Celebrant: Pastor Paul Schaefer

Communion Assistants: Mark Castellese, Jim Cutler

Organist: Mrs. Jan Jacobi; Choir: Handbell Choir

THIS WEEK AT ST. PETER'S

- Today - 9:30 AM Divine Service
 - 10:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Class
 - 1:30 PM Preschool/Congregational Advent Service
 - 3:00 HVL Christmas Concert
- Monday - 4:00 PM Youth Catechism
- Tuesday - 7:00 PM Voters' Assembly
- Wednesday - 9:00 AM Bible Class
- Thursday - 6:30 PM Handbell Choir rehearsal
 - 7:00 PM Senior Choir rehearsal
- Sunday - 9:30 AM Divine Service
 - 10:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

Serving next week: Altar Guild – Margaret Seppanen;
Ushering – Team 2

Calling ALL 8th graders and incoming

students! Huron Valley Lutheran High School has officially opened up its online registration for new students. Parents of incoming 9th grade students are invited to access the registration link at our website, HVLHS.org, and under the “Admissions” tab select “Apply Now.” Tuition assistance information is also available at this site. In addition, Huron Valley Lutheran High School is hosting two open houses where grades 7-8 students and their families can learn more about our high school. The first open house will be a 45 minute presentation which will begin at 6:00 pm on January

19. A second open house will be on February 23 from 3:00-7:00 pm. Stop in during this time to ask questions concerning courses, tuition, etc. Parents of students in grades 7-8 will receive a mailing with more details regarding these opportunities. If you have any questions, please contact us by email at ["mail@HVLHS.org"](mailto:mail@HVLHS.org) or by phone at 734.525.0160.

GIVING TREE - As we have in the past, St. Peter's sponsored a Giving Tree. This was done electronically on SignupGenius.com. We give thanks that our members have responded generously, and all the gift requests have been fulfilled.

Our hope is to make the holiday season a bit brighter for the families of Ian Tracey and Michael Biven. Both men drowned this Fall attempting to assist two others whose boat was sinking. Ian's wife Kerri is doing her best to adjust while helping their sons (a 3-year old and 12-year old twins) cope, and Michael's mom Sandy is struggling with the loss of her only son.

All items should be on the church stage no later than 10:30 on Sunday, December 18th. Gift cards should be put in the envelope, and all gifts should be wrapped and labeled with the name of the recipient. If you have questions, please contact Shenal Smith (ssmith@imagefirst.com or 248-444-7145).

Please donate **Christmas cookies for our shut-ins** to be brought to the church basement by the afternoon of Thursday, December 15th. If there are any questions, please call Sue Brooke at 734-416-1439. Thanks to Sue and our contributors for bringing some joy to our elderly members!

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE - The congregation is invited to the Preschool Christmas Service at 1:30 pm today, Sunday, Dec. 11. We will have refreshments in the gym following the service. This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome our preschool families to St. Peter's.

Huron Valley Lutheran High School Christmas Concert - This year's HVL Christmas Concert will be held today, Sunday, December 11, beginning at 3:00 pm. The HVL Choir, Hawk Singers and WELS Concert Band of Southeast Michigan will be featured.

Upcoming Dates

Saturday, December 24 - 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Carol Service

-11:00 PM Christmas Eve Divine Service

Sunday, December 25 - 9:30 AM Christmas Day Divine Service

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

<p>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</p>	<p>St. Peter's Preschool Rebecca Lohrmann, Director</p> <p>Michigan Lutheran Seminary (Saginaw) 989-793-1041</p> <p>Huron Valley Lutheran High School (Westland) 734-525- 0160</p>	<p>Congregation Chairman: Scott Beckerman Vice Chairman: Bruce Winkler Secretary: Lindsay Brooke Treasurer: Seth Anderson Financial Secretary: Steve Jacobi, Curtis Krallman Board Chairmen: Elders: Ron Bude Trustees: Howard Alaniva Stewardship/Education: Ernie Honke</p>
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