

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



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024

Service Notes: Psalms 34, 42-43, 51, 84, 116, and 150 in the front of the hymnal will aid you in your meditation before receiving the Lord's Supper. Prayers for worship preparation are on pages 10 and 11. A form for Communion preparation 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)

ADVENT WREATH CANDLES LIGHTING: (Treble Choir)

"Light a Candle, in the Night" as the candle is lit: Original Words: Emily E. S. Elliot, 1864; Tune: MARGARET by Timothy R. Matthews, 1876. Both public domain. Edited Words and Arranged Music: Lloyd Larson ©2011 Lorenz Publishing Co. Reprinted, podcast, and recorded with permission under One Licenses: #A722670 and #R101103, respectively. All rights reserved.

Light a Candle in the night, prepare the way of the holy light. God with us
Emmanuel,

4.the fount of joy with us to dwell. Child of joy,

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: #552 vs. 1, 16, 3 'By All Your Saints Still Striving' remembering Mary, Jesus's mother (v. 16) Public Domain

552

By All Your Saints Still Striving

St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, For
 2 We sing with joy of Mar - y, Whose
 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And



all your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O
 heart with awe was stirred When, youth - ful and un -
 wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the



Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blessed. You
 read - y, She heard the an - gel's word. Yet
 Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till



rose, our King vic - to - rious, That they
 she her voice up - rais - es, God's glo -
 all the ran - somed num - ber Who stand



might wear the crown And ev - er shine in
 ry to pro - claim, As once for our sal -
 be - fore the throne As - cribe all pow'r and



splen - dor Re - flect - ed from your throne.
 va - tion Your moth - er she be - came.
 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.
 St. 1-4, 6-27. From *The Hymnal 1982*. © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by
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 St. 5 © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: KUORTANE (76 76 D) Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.

STAND

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

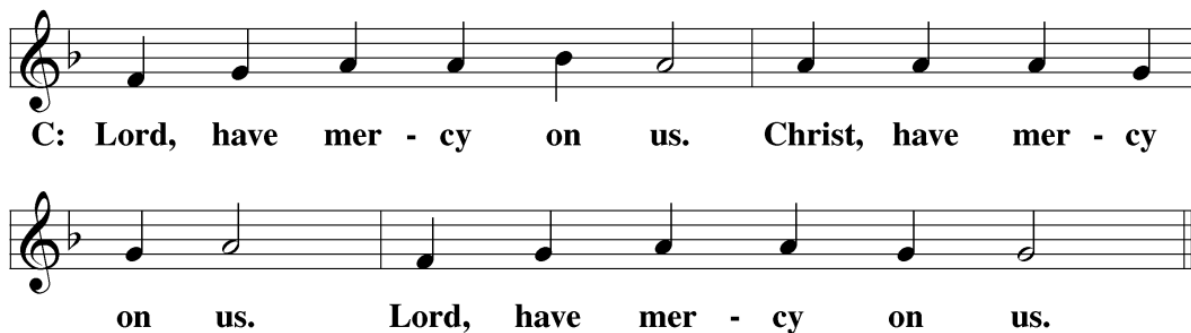


CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

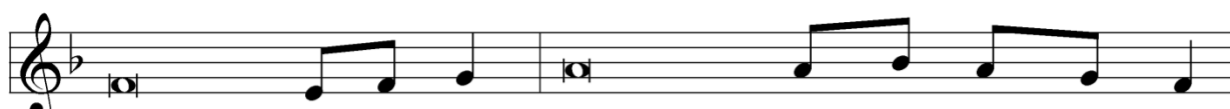


C: A - men.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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


GLORY BE TO GOD (*Gloria in excelsis*)



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.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; 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: Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in
labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the
people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the
LORD,
In the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends
of the earth.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 85

Refrain Tune & Setting: *The Psalmody For the Day, Series C* ©1976 Augsburg Fortress. Psalm Tone: Tune &
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“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

⁸ When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹ then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

VERSE OF THE DAY (Treble Choir)

Alleluia! The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia! (Luke 3:4, 6 cf. NIV)

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



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

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:39-55

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord

should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ “as he spoke to our fathers,
To Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

The Lutheran Study Bible, English Standard Version, ©2006 Concordia Publishing House.



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

GOSPEL RESPONSE: (Treble Choir) 'A Parish Magnificat'

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Refrain: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. **Repeat**

1. for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed. The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. he has mercy on those who fear him in ev'ry generation. **Refrain**

2. He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. **Refrain**

3. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever. **Refrain**

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: #23 "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"

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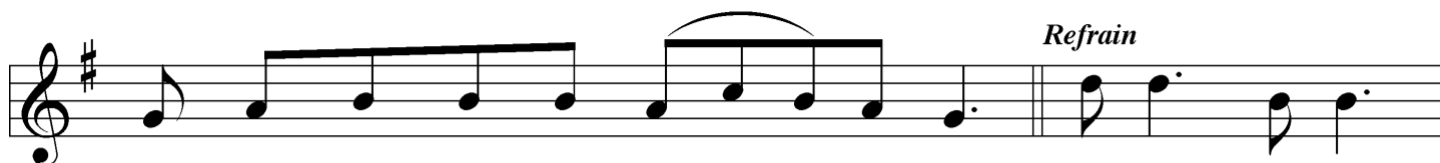
23 Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-66, alt.
 Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

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 - ADVENT (Page 123)

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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.

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:



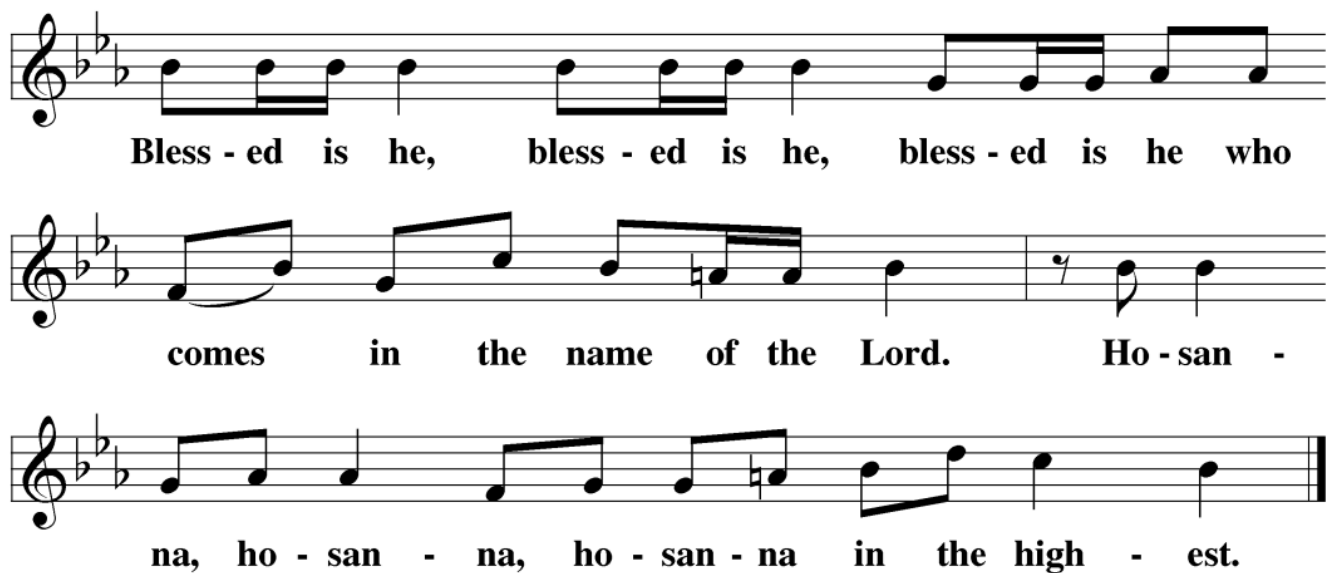
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



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.”

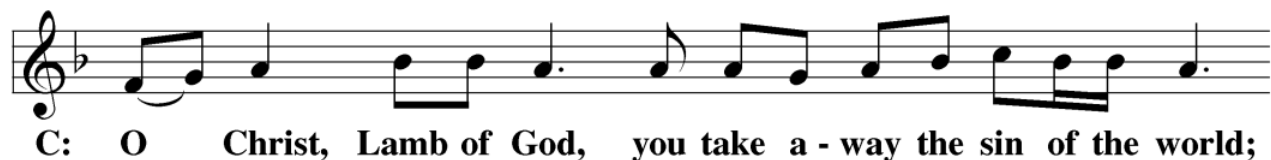
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is the new testament in my (+) blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

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



C: A - men.

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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:

#24 “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” Translation Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, *The Hymnal* ©1982 Church Pension Fund. Setting: ©1961 H. Freeman and Co., UK. All rights reserved.

#17 “God’s Own Son Most Holy” Setting: ©1984 Jack Warren Burnam. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One License #A722670. All rights reserved.

24 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His
 2 "I come from heav'n to tell the Lord's de - cree: A
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head; "To
 4 Of her Im - man - u - el, the Christ, was born In



wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
 bless - ed vir - gin moth - er you shall be. Your
 me be as it pleas - es God," she said. "My
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And



hail," said he to meek and low - ly Mar - y, "Most
 Son shall be Im - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, Most
 soul shall praise and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name." Most
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say, "Most



high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en, Glo - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!

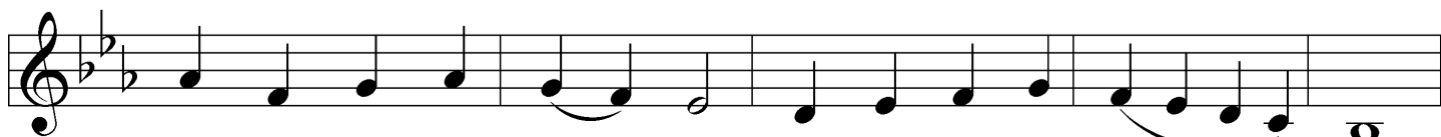
Text: Basque carol, paraphrase Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt.

Tune: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE (10 10 12 10) Basque carol.

God's Own Son Most Holy



1 God's own Son most ho - ly Came a ser - vant low - ly,
 2 Still he comes with - in us; Still his voice would win us
 3 Thus, if we have known him And will not dis - own him
 4 Those who then are loy - al Find a wel - come roy - al.



Came to live a - mong us, Came to suf - fer for us,
 From the sins that hurt us, Would to truth con - vert us
 Nor have loved him cold - ly But will trust him bold - ly,
 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re - lease us.



Bore the cross to save us, Hope and free - dom gave us.
 From our fool - ish er - rors Ere he comes in ter - rors.
 He will then re - ceive us, Heal us, and for - give us.
 Let us here con - fess you Till in heav'n we bless you.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN (66 66 66) attr. Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534.

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.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of 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: Ron Bude; Cantors: Treble Voices
"Mary's" in Order of Appearance: Lois Bude; Jan Jacobi, Becky Lohrmann,
Nancy Winkler; Carol Schwartz, Sarah Burcon; Julie Webber

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 Christmas Eve Festival Service
-11:00 PM Christmas Eve Divine Service
Wednesday – 9:30 AM Christmas Day Divine Service
Sunday - 9:30 AM Divine Service
Serving December 29: Altar Guild: Nancy Winkler; Ushers: #3

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

<p>Church Office: 734-453-3393 https://saintpeterplymouth.org stpeterlutheran@hotmail.com</p> <p>Pastor: Rev. Paul Schaefer Cellphone: 734-658-5735 Email: Peschaef5@gmail.com</p> <p>Music Director: Julie Webber Church Secretary: Tracy Pitt</p>	<p>St. Peter's Preschool https://saintpeterpreschool.org stpeterspreschool@hotmail.com</p> <p>Director: Rebecca Lohrmann</p> <p>Michigan Lutheran Seminary (MLS) (Saginaw) 989-793-1041</p> <p>Hope Christian Academy (Westland) 734-525-0160</p>	<p>President: Bruce Winkler Vice President: Richard Cording Council Secretary: Jim Cutler Treasurer: Seth Anderson Financial Secretaries: Steve Jacobi and Van Varner Board Chairmen: Elders – Ron Bude Stewardship/Education - Scott Beckerman Trustees – Nils Peterson</p>
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