

## IN OUR PRAYERS

✠ Birthdays: **William Schnell** – 80 on December 8<sup>th</sup>

✠ Baptism: Baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is **Lainey Lou Hudecek**, daughter of *Jeff & Katie Hudecek*. Witnesses are Jake & Jackie Nolan and *Charlie & Isabelle Hudecek*. We pray God's blessings on Lainey as she becomes a new creation in God's Kingdom.

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Today: *Second Sunday in Advent*  
Divine Service 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Time  
Sunday Morning Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Monday: Ladies Bible Study (Church conference) 9:30 a.m.  
Prayer Shawl Circle 1:00 p.m. (Classroom 2)

Tuesday: Sunshine Seniors Dine Out 12:00 p.m.  
Graceful Threads 3:00 p.m. (Classroom 2)  
Confirmation Class 5:30 p.m. (Office Conference)

Wednesday: Chapel 8:05 a.m.  
LifeLight Bible Study (Church conference) 9:00 a.m.  
Children's Advent Service 6:30 p.m.  
Board of Christian Education 7:30 p.m. (Church Conference)

Thursday: Quilters 10:00 a.m.  
Handbells 6:00 p.m.  
Mixed Choir 7:00 p.m.

Friday: Family Game Night 5:00-8:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday: Divine Service 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: *Third Sunday in Advent*  
Divine Service 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Time  
Sunday Morning Bible Study 11:00 a.m.  
Christmas Caroling 1:00 p.m.

## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. William L. Morris*  
Liturgist: *Rev. Richard E. Mundt*  
Organist: *Mr. Brian J. Heinlein*  
Choir: *Seraphim Choir*  
Acolytes: *Brody Curnutt (5:00pm)*  
*Brinley Sullivan (9:30am)*  
Videographer: *Anthony Wolter*

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## Our Communion Practice

*We welcome those who are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations to commune with us. We believe that Christ gave us His true body and blood under the forms of bread and wine in the sacrament for the strengthening of our faith, for the assurance of our forgiveness, and for the grace of God to live a God-pleasing life. We come to the Lord's Table repenting of our sins, believing in Jesus Christ for forgiveness, and with the prayerful intention to amend our sinful lives with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

# St. Peter Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

2461 N. Raucholz Road  
Hemlock, Michigan  
(989) 642-8188

*Rev. Dr. William L. Morris, Senior Pastor*



“The Voice of Comfort”

December 7 & 8, 2024

# † Second Sunday in Advent †

**Introit** *Psalm 81:8, 10-11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b*

The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:\*

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight.”

**Hear, O my people, while I ad- | monish you!\***

**O Israel, if you would but lis- | ten to me!**

**I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.\***

**Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.**

**But my people did not listen | to my voice;\***

**Israel would not sub- | mit to me.**

**Oh, that my people would lis- | ten to me,\***

**that Israel would walk | in my ways!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:\*

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight.”

## **Collect of the Day**

**P** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading** *Malachi 3:1-7b*

“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. “But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. “He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. ““Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. “From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

## **Epistle** *Philippians 1:2-11*

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, “always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, “because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. “And I am sure of this, that he who

began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. “It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. “For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. “And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, “so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, “filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

## **Holy Gospel** *Luke 3:1-20*

“In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, “during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. “And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. “As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. “Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, “and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

“He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? “Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. “Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

“And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” “And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” “Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” “And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” “Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

“As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, “John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. “His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” “So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. “But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, “added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

## **DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING 3**

ENTRANCE HYMN: #343

BAPTISM: p. 269

INVOCATION, CONFESSION, and ABSOLUTION: p. 184 (Saturday)

INTROIT (inside bulletin)

KYRIE: p. 186

SALUTATION and COLLECT: p. 189

OLD TESTAMENT READING

**C Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

EPISTLE READING

**C Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA: p. 190

HOLY GOSPEL

**C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

**C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED: p. 191 (Saturday)

HYMN: #344

SERMON

Text: Luke 3:1-20

Theme: “**The Voice of Comfort**”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

OFFERING/FRIENDSHIP PAD

OFFERTORY p. 192

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT: p. 194

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT  
HYMNS: #346, #342, #936

NUNC DIMITTIS: p. 199

COLLECT: p. 201

SALUTATION & BENEDICAMUS: p. 201

BENEDICTION: p. 202

CLOSING HYMN: #341