**Sunday Worship**

8:00am \\ 10:00am

*\*\*The 8am service is livestreamed to our Facebook page and website.\*\**

***This Week:***

**Sunday, December 12th**

Worship 8am

Sunday School 9:15am

Worship 10am

**Tuesday, December 14th**

Quilting 9am

**Wednesday, December 15th**

Bible Study 10am

Confirmation 6:30pm

Choir 6:30pm

**Thursday, December 16th**

Fidget Mats 10am

Dartball (vs Lancers) 7:15pm

**Sunday, December 19th**

**Christmas Program**

Worship 8am

WELCA Meeting 9am

Sunday School 9:15am

Worship 10am

**St. Peter Lutheran Church**

2104 Geele Ave, Sheboygan WI 53083

Phone: 920.452.4771

Web: stpetersheboygan.com

Email: stpeter@stpetersheboygan.com

*St. Peter Lutheran Church is a faith community where:*

*We glorify God by building healthy relationships with God, with one another, and with our community following the example of Jesus Christ.*

**\*\* The Pastor will read the italicized parts of the service. \*\***

**\*\* If you would like to participate, please join in reading the bold font in unison. \*\***

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

Welcome to worship! Please remember that masks are required indoors. You can find more information about this service by reading the announcement insert. We will be celebrating the sacrament of communion, please keep your communion cup close by and pastor will give more instructions later in the service. The 8am service is livestreamed to our Facebook page and website.

(You are invited to stand.)

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.* **Amen.**

*Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God. God for whom we wait,* **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

*God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ☩ your sins are forgiven. You are loved children of God. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.* **Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

*Let us pray. Stir up the wills of your faithful people,* **Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.** **Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

**Lighting the Third Advent Candle**

*The prophet reminds us that we are to bear fruit worthy of repentance. The Messiah is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire and all flesh shall see his glory. We light the third Advent candle in preparation for the coming of God’s Messiah. We prepare by repenting of our sins, and living lives devoted to loving God and serving our neighbor.  Come, Lord Jesus.* **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.**

(Light two blue and one pink candle.)

**Song** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**Reading** Philippians 4:4-7

*4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* *Word of God, word of life.* **Thanks be to God.**

(You are invited to stand.)

**Gospel Acclamation** Thy Word

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. When I feel afraid, I think I’ve lost my way, still you’re there right beside me, nothing will I fear as long as you are near, please be near me to the end. Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**Gospel** Luke 3:7-18

*The holy gospel according to Luke.* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*7John said 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? 8Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 9Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”*

*10And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” 11In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” 12Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” 13He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” 14Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”*

*15As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”*

*18So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.* *The gospel of the Lord.* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

### **Sermon**  Pastor Kristin Berglund

**Apostles’ Creed**

*With the whole church, let us confess our faith.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Prayers**

*In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God’s presence.*

*Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God.* **Your mercy is great.**

*Shepherding God, you lead your people in paths of righteousness. Raise up prophets in our own day who warn against captivity to greed and point us to the freedom found in generosity. Hear us, O God.* **Your mercy is great.**

*Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day. Hear us, O God.* **Your mercy is great.**

*Rejoicing God, bless the ministry of church musicians. With instruments and dance, join our voices to the song of all creation. Hear us, O God.* **Your mercy is great.**

*We give you thanks for your servants who showed us your goodness and grace. By the power of your Spirit, keep us steadfast in faith until we make our home with you. Hear us, O God.* **Your mercy is great.**

*God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.* **Amen.**

**Communion**

*The Lord be with you.* **And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets’ hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary’s openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.*

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.* **Come, Holy Spirit.**

 *All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.* **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

(Grown ups are welcome to bless their non-communing children with the words “You are a loved child of God” and the sign of the cross on their forehead, hand, or in front of them.)

*The Body of Christ given for you.* (You may eat the wafer.)

*The Blood of Christ shed for you.* (You may drink the grape juice.)

*The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.* **Amen.**

**Post Communion Prayer**

*Let us pray. Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit’s power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.* **Amen.**

**Blessing**

*The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.* **Amen.**

(You are invited to stand.)

**Sending Song** Soon and Very Soon

**Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!**

**No more cryin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. No more cryin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. No more cryin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!**

**No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!**

**Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King! Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**Dismissal**

*Go in peace. Christ is near.* **Thanks be to God.**

**Worship Assistants**

Message: Pastor Kristin Berglund

Music: Lori Beauchaine

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