108 West Maple Street Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin Thank you for worshiping with us. May God bless your day!



"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" Luke 1:42

Advent IV

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

December 21/22, 2024

We Exist to Share Christ!

TO OUR VISITORS: Thank you for joining us for our worship today. It is a pleasure to have you with us and please come again soon. May God bless you through this celebration!

IF YOUR CHILD becomes restless during the service, you are welcome to make use of the parenting room which is located just off the front entryway to the church.

HEARING LOOP devices available or please set hearing aid to telecoil.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION about St. Peter's and its activities, please speak with one of the pastors to arrange an appointment or call the church office at 920-743-4431 during the week.

The Advent Wreath



The Advent wreath originated in Germany as a folk custom. You may have noticed that in many Advent wreaths, there are four candles. Three of the candles remind us of repentance. We are reminded of our need for a Savior and look forward with hope as Jesus our Savior has come and will come again in glory at the end of time. The third of which is *pink* or *rose*. The rose candle reminds us that this also is a season of joy. The evergreen branches symbolize eternal life. Light from candles symbolize Christ coming as the Light of the world. The white (Pascal) candle shines on Christmas Eve/Day to remind us that Christ is with us.

Worship Focus: A Real Christmas Will Lift Up the Lowly

By this time of the holiday season, people are often weighted down. They feel guilty about presents that are not perfect, or parties that did not go as planned, or year-end projects that did not get completed. To top it all off, now is when it dawns on people how little attention they have given to the spiritual preparation Advent invites.

If that is how we feel, perhaps the frenzy of December has done us a favor. We have been stretched to our limits. We have been made painfully aware of our shortcomings. We have been humbled. Perfect! For being made aware of our weakness does not disqualify us from God's care. It does the opposite. IT is what prepares us for the work he does best. He is a God who lifts up the lowly.

Order of Worship: The Service: Setting One, p.154 Hymns: 327; 320:1,4; 305; 315:1,4-6

Psalm: 85A



▼ Gathering **▼**

Please stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the \dotplus Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

and will forgive us our sins

and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Amen.



Lighting of the Advent Candles

We light four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.

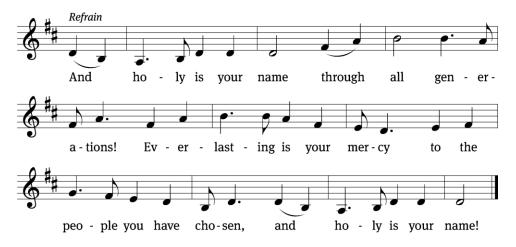


We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.



Prayer of the Day

Advent 4

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.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading Micah 5:2-5a

The lowly little town of Bethlehem would be lifted up. There, a special son would be born who would bring spiritual peace to the ends of the earth.

² But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel. His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity. ³ Therefore the LORD will give them up, until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child. Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel. ⁴ He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵ This one will be their peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Vocal Duet (10:05 am)

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Sung by Coryn Schwark & Ellen Boyette Arrangement by Molly Ijames & Words by Emily E.E. Elliott

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown when Thou camest to earth for me; but in Bethlehem's home there was found no room for Thy holy nativity.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for Thee.

Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang, proclaiming Thy royal degree; but in lowly birth Thou didst come to earth, and in great humility.

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for Thee, for Thee.

When the heavens shall ring, and the angels sing, at Thy coming to victory, let Thy voice call me home, saying, "Yet there is room, there is room at my side for thee, for thee."

My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus, when Thou comest and callest for me.

Psalm of the Day (5pm & 7:30am)

85A LORD, in Your Mercy, Hear My Prayer

Refrain



LORD, in your mer - cy hear my prayer; your good-ness nev - er fails.

Tone



You, LORD, forgave the iniquity of your / people and covered / all their sins.

You set aside / all your wrath and turned from your fierce / anger.

Show us your unfailing / love, LORD, and grant us your sal- / vation. *Refrain*

I will listen to what God the / LORD says; he promises peace to his / people.

Surely his salvation is near those who / fear him, that his glory may dwell / in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet to-/gether; righteousness and peace kiss each / other.

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. Refrain

Text: Hal H. Hopson

Tune: Hal H. Hopson

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 718514

Second Reading Hebrews 10:5-10

We could not possibly raise ourselves up to God. So, the Son of God obeyed the law for us and by his sacrifice has made us holy. Christ has lifted up the lowly.

⁵ Therefore when he entered the world, Christ said: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but you prepared a body for me. ⁶ You were not pleased with burnt offerings and sin offerings. ⁷ Then I said, "Here I am. I have come to do your will, God. In the scroll of the book it is written about me." ⁸ First he said: Sacrifices and offerings that were offered according to the law, both burnt offerings and sin offerings, you did not desire, and you were not pleased with them. ⁹ Then he said: Here I am. I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ By this will, we have been sanctified once and for all, through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

CW 194





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Gospel Luke 1:39-55

In Spirit-wrought humility, Mary knew she needed a Savior. God lifts her up, making her the mother of that Savior.

³⁹ In those days Mary got up and hurried to the hill country, to a town of Judah. ⁴⁰ She entered the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ Just as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² She called out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ But why am I so favored that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ In fact, just now, as soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy! ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who believed, because the promises spoken to her from the Lord will be fulfilled!" ⁴⁶ Then Mary said, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ because he has looked with favor on the humble state of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones. He has lifted up the lowly. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

327 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel sts. 1–4

Sermon Luke 1:39-55

Have A Blessed - MAGNIFICAT - Christmas!

Be like the joy-filled expecting mothers
Sing a song to glorify God

Please stand at conclusion of sermon

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 truly 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

Offering

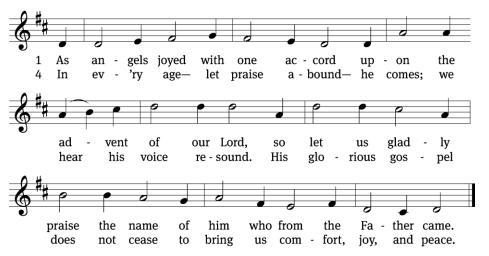
Offering plates are located in the entryways to the sanctuary. You may mail your gifts to our church office or securely contribute online through a link found on our website, stpeterslutheran.net, or with the QR code to the right.



Please sign the Friendship/Guestbook and pass it on to others in the same pew. Then pass the book back to its original position. Please leave the sheet attached in the booklet.

Offering Hymn

320 As Angels Joyed with One Accord sts. 1, 4



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The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

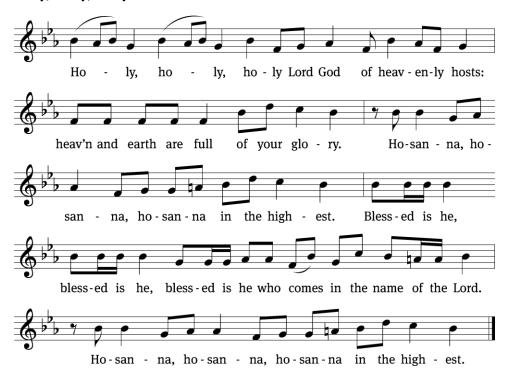
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 CW 167



Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

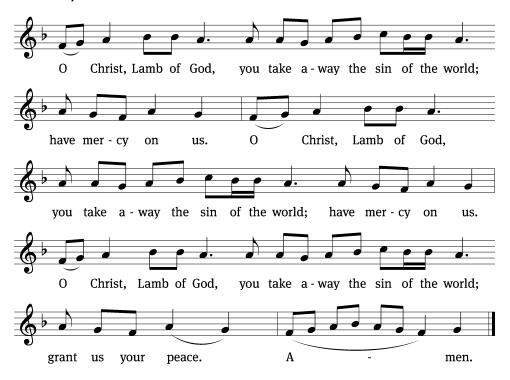
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen**.



O Christ, Lamb of God



Be seated

Distribution

Personal Prayers for before and after communion can be found inside the front cover of the hymnal.

Please Note: In the center of the tray are individual cups that are half wine/half water.

Distribution Hymn

305 Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

Stand

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. 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. **Amen.**

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

315 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord sts. 1, 4–6

Acknowledgments

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Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne - ©2015 SoundForth, a division of The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Assistants in Worship (Dec. 21/22)	Last Week	
Preacher/Presiding Minister – Pastor Carl Schroeder	Midweek Advent 2 - 124	Offering - \$1,773
Organist – Char Brauer	Weekend Services: 515	
Broadcast – Caleb Meier	General: \$11,269	
	Building: \$210	
	Missions: \$495	

This Week at St. Peter's

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Saturday	Sunday
(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)
7:30 /10:05 AM Worship w/comm. 8:45 AM Sunday School 8:45 AM Bible Study 10:05 AM Worship w/comm. Broadcast Online / Radio	NO SCHOOL UNTIL 1/2/25	Christmas Eve! 5:00 & 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Services	Christmas Day!	, ,	, , , ,	5:00 PM Worship	7:30 /10:05 AM Worship 10:05 AM Worship Broadcast Online / Radio 1:00 PM Follow the Star (See Page 18 for more info)

Current Bible Studies:

8:45 AM Sunday Bible Study – Bethlehem and Prophecies of the Messiah – taught by Pastor Schroeder 8:45 AM Sunday School - Christmas party

Next week: No Bible Study/Sunday School until Sunday, Jan 5. Wednesday classes resume Jan 8.

Women's Online Bible Study will be Tuesdays Jan 7- Feb 11. 7:00pm -8:00pm led by Judy Schumacher The books of Malachi and Titus will be discussed. Please email Judy by January 4 for the reading schedule and Zoom login information: judys7977@outlook.com

Upcoming Advent/Christmas Worship Opportunities:

<u>Weekend Worship with Lord's Supper</u> - Saturday, Dec 21, at 5:00 pm, and Sunday, Dec 22, 7:30 am and 10:05 am

<u>Christmas Eve Worship</u> - Tuesday, Dec 24, 5:00 pm Candlelight, and 10:00 pm Candlelight

<u>Christmas Day with Lord's Supper</u>- Wednesday, Dec 25, 10:00 am

New Year's Eve Worship with Lord's Supper- Tuesday, Dec 31, 5:00 pm



Church News

Presidents Report From the bottom of our hearts, The 2024 St Peter's Church Council wishes to thank the entire congregation for all your prayers and everything you have done to make this church and this school a very special "House of Worship." What I have realized over the last year serving as your president is a congregation is designed that believers in a community could come together, all professing the same faith, loving, supporting and praying for each other as members of a Christian family and taking the good news of Jesus' salvation to the unbelievers. We are members of a family, not holding a membership in a group. So when we are all together, look around and think of everyone as your siblings, your children, your parents & grandparents. The person sitting next to you is your fellow brother or sister in Christ. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thank you again for allowing us to serve The Lord in this capacity here at St Peter's. May everyone have a Blessed Christmas!

Council President - Jeff Gosser

Council President - Jen Gossei

"Follow the Star" Christmastide Tour

is **Sunday**, **December 29 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm**. Ever wanted to see the interior décor of Christian churches in our community but wondered if you would be intruding? Fear not! You are invited to tour St. Peter's and <u>five</u> other churches in the Sturgeon Bay area to enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas. These are free, self-guided tours. Plan to visit as many churches as you want, in any order you wish! If you have questions about "Follow the Star," please contact Jean Tice at 920-743-4790. We thank our Outreach Team for sponsoring this.

Participating churches are:

St. Peter's Lutheran Church - 108 W. Maple Street, Bay View Lutheran Church - 340 W. Maple Street, St. Joseph Catholic Church – 110 N. 5th Ave., Friends Community Church - 201 W. Maple Street Corpus Christi Catholic Church – 811 W. Juniper St. First Baptist Church - 610 N. 5th Avenue

Christmas Giving Tree St. Peter's Outreach Team has the annual Giving Trees in place through December 31. There is a tree at the Larch Street and Maple Street entrances. The Giving Trees give you a wonderful opportunity to contribute to specific missions, organizations and institutions. Simply write your check payable to St. Peter's with the name of your selected mission, organization or institution on the check or envelope and place it in the Christmas box next to the tree. Then take an ornament out of the basket for each mission, organization



or institution you wish to support and hang them on the tree. Let's fill the tree with ornaments!

From our Brothers and Sisters of Zion/Christ Lutheran in Northern Door County Dear Members at St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

We praise and thank God that he has led Pastor Scott Miller to accept our call to serve as Pastor at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church and Christ Lutheran Church. Pastor Miller's Installation Service will be on **Sunday**, **January 5**, **2025** at **2:00** p.m. in the Zion Lutheran Church sanctuary.

We invite you to join us for this special Installation Service, and a welcoming dinner for Pastor Miller immediately following the service.

So we can plan, and if you plan to attend the dinner, we ask that you kindly RSVP to Cheri Krowas by phone or text at 920-495-0417—please be sure to clearly state your name and number of persons attending the dinner by December 23, 2024. Or email Cheri at dckrowas@frontier.net.

With blessings and anticipation, Members at Zion Ev. Lutheran Church and Christ Lutheran Church

Blood Drive Please support the American Red Cross in their next blood drive to be held at St. Peter's on **January 6 (noon-6pm) and 7 (9am-3pm).** The blood drive will be held in the Gym. Appointments are encouraged. Please call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule. Please consider donating. Thank you!

Stephen Bautista Music As a treat for our January 11/12, 2025 weekend worship, Stephen Bautista will play and sing as part of the worship services. Stephen is a full-time Christian Music Missionary that seeks to "enlighten the lost and encourage the found" with his Christ-centered music. Stephen has CDs available for purchase after the worship services. **A door offering will be taken for his music ministry that weekend.** More information about Stephen, his music, ministry and family can be found at http://www.stephenbautistamusic.com/ Thank you, Stephen!

New Member Recognition Potluck Meal will be held on Sunday, January 12, 2025, at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. ALL St. Peter's members and families are invited to attend. Please provide potato dishes, salads, or desserts to accompany the chicken, which will be provided. Let's encourage these new members by making them feel welcome and showing our Christian love as we worship and fellowship!

The next Men of His Word Conference is Saturday, February 8, 2025 in Oshkosh

Registration is open for the 16th annual conference, which many of St. Peter's members have enjoyed. In 2025, the theme of Forge Ahead in Faith, based on Philippians 3:14 and presented by Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary President, Pastor Earle Treptow. With 14 breakout session options and worship led by Koine, this looks to be a great conference to participate in. We will have a carpool option available. Register now at www.menofhisword.org/registration This makes a great Christmas gift for Men of His Word!

Hymn of the Day

327 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel sts. 1, Ref, 2-4



Text: Latin, c. 12th cent., Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent., alt Text and tune: Public domain

Text and tune: Public domain



- 1 Lift up your heads, you might y gates! Be hold, the King of
- 2 The King is born in pov er ty, his char iot is hu
- 3 How blest the land, the cit y blest, where Christ the rul er
- 4 Fling wide the gates; pre pare your heart to be a tem ple 5 Re deem er, come! I o pen wide my heart to you; here,

glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing near; the mil - i - ty, his king - ly - li - ness, his crown is ho peace - ful con-fessed! hearts and hap - py homes is 0 to from earth - ly for heav'n's em - ploy, set a - part use a -Lord. a - bide! 0 en - ter with your sav - ing grace; show



Sav - ior of the Life and world here. sal - va - tion is scep - ter, pit - y The end dis - tress. of all in whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less sun of So shall your Sov-'reign dorned with prayer and love and jov. friend - ly Your Ho - ly Spir - it me your kind and face.



he will bring; there - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing. To there - fore woe he brings; the earth is glad and sings. To peo - ple free. To joy is he who comes to set his en ter in and new and no - bler life be - gin. To guide us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won. E -



God the Fa - ther raise
Christ the Sav - ior raise
God the Spir - it raise
God a - lone be praise
ter - nal praise and fame

your joy - ful songs of praise. your grate - ful hymns of praise. your hap - py shouts of praise. for word and deed and grace! we of - fer to your name.

Closing Hymn

315 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord sts. 1, 4-6



Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–1659, abr.; (sts. 1, 5–6): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 2021
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter
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St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church and School

"We Exist to Share Christ"



Facebook Page

Worship: Saturday 5 pm, Sunday 7:30 am & 10:05 am

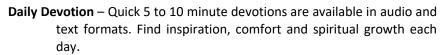
Lord's Supper: 1st and 3rd weekends

Radio Broadcast: Sundays 10:05 am on WDOR, 93.9 FM.
Internet Stream: Sundays 10:05 am at stpeterslutheran.net

Cable Broadcast: Local channel 989 – Wed. 9 am & 6 pm. Sun. 10 am & 7 pm.

Grow in God's Word

You can download the WELS App for your computer/phone/tablet at this link - https://wels.app/ Included in the app are the following:





Devotion App

Family Devotion - Devotions written specifically for families available in text and audio formats. Find inspiration, resources, and spiritual growth for all ages.

Marriage Moments - Short weekly videos highlighting one Biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question.

Through My Bible – Read/listen through the entire Bible in three years. God preserved every word for your benefit. Spend time in God's Word each day.

Worship Helps - Ready your soul for worship each week with these study questions...and answers...related to the appointed readings for the week.

108 W. Maple St. Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 www.stpeterslutheran.net





Pastor Carl Schroeder Residence: 608-477-3374 cschroeder@stpeterssb.net Church: 920-743-4431 School: 920-743-4432 Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod

Principal Joseph Grambsch Phone#: 920-743-4432 ex. 147 jgrambsch@stpeterssb.net

St. Peter's is a confessional congregation affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) and the worldwide Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (CELC).