

December 28/29, 2024

# St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

108 West Maple Street

Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin

*Thank you for worshipping with us. May God bless your day!*



“Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father’s business?”

**Luke 2:49**

***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.

**LARGE PRINT** Worship Folders (with entire liturgy) found in entryway to the church.

**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.

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**Worship Focus:**    *God Gives Both Substitute and Sacrifice*

The Son of God took on flesh for two reasons: to be our substitute and our sacrifice. You see, when God created mankind in his image, his desire was that we would live holy lives, full of love for him and our fellow man. When mankind fell into sin, that became impossible. So, the heavenly Father sent Jesus. He is the only human being to keep all of God's law perfectly. He did that as our substitute. Through faith, we claim his perfection as our own. But we needed another gift—one who could pay for the sin we had committed. And so, the Son of God became human for another reason—so that he might die as the sacrifice for our sins, removing that barrier between us and a holy God.

Understanding we needed both—substitute and sacrifice—helps us better understand Jesus' saving work. That work includes more

than Jesus' death on the cross. Jesus saving work began the moment he was born under the law and obeyed it. This week, we thank God that Jesus served us in both these much-needed ways!



**Order of Worship:**    Morning Prayer, p. 207  
**Hymns:**                346; 355; 334:1; 342:1-3  
**Psalm:**                84A



## Order of Service for Christmas I

### Opening Hymn

*346 Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Stand*

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,  
and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,  
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

### Declaration of Grace

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

O Lord, open my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de-clare your praise.

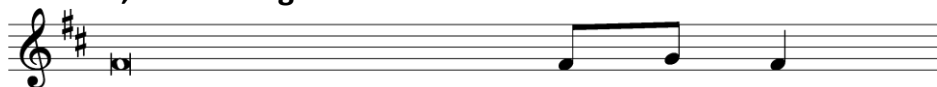
Hasten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

To us the Christ is born: praise and thanks to God!

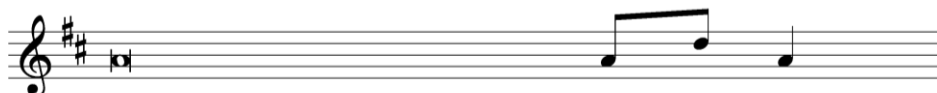
### O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord *CW 208*



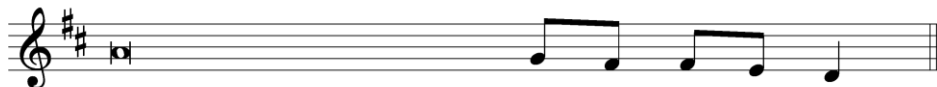
1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,  
2 For the Lord is a great God  
3 The sea is his, for he made it,



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.  
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.  
3 and his hand formed the dry land.



1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,  
2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;  
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,  
4 For he is our God,



1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.  
2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.  
3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.  
4 and we are the people of his  
pasture and the sheep of his hand.

## The Word

### First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9

*The Servant of the LORD spoke through the prophet Isaiah. As our substitute Jesus demonstrated perfect obedience and trust, even when his Father asked him to be the sacrifice for our sin.*

The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue, so I know how to sustain the weary with a word. He wakes me up morning by morning. He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned. <sup>5</sup>The LORD God opened my ear, and I myself was not rebellious. I did not turn back. <sup>6</sup>I submitted my back to those who beat me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard. I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit. <sup>7</sup>The LORD God will help me, so I will not be disgraced. Therefore I have made my face hard like flint. I know that I will not be put to shame. <sup>8</sup>The one who will acquit me is near! Who can accuse me? Let us take our stand. Who can pass judgment on me? Let him approach me. <sup>9</sup>Look, the LORD God will help me. Who then can declare me guilty? Look, all of them will wear out like a garment. A moth will consume them.

The Word of the Lord.

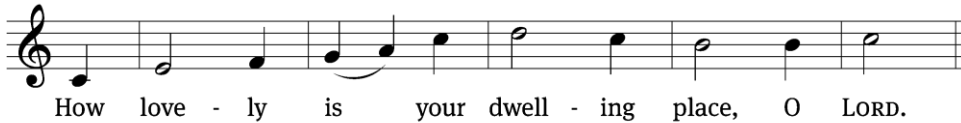
**Thanks be to God.**



## Psalm of the Day

84A How Lovely

### Refrain



### Tone



How lovely is your / dwelling place,  
LORD Al- / mighty!  
My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts / of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh cry out for the / living God.  
Blessed are those who dwell / in your house;  
they are ever / praising you. *Refrain*

Better is one day / in your courts  
than a thousand / elsewhere;  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house / of my God  
than dwell in the tents of the / wicked.  
LORD Al- / mighty,  
blessed is the one who / trusts in you.  
**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***

*Tune: Thomas Pavlechko*

*Tune: © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 718514*

*Setting: © 1996 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 718514*

## **Gospel Reading**

**Luke 2:41-52**

*Even as a boy, Jesus was acting as our substitute, demonstrating obedience to the Heavenly Father and respect for God's holy Word*

Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. <sup>42</sup>When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. <sup>43</sup>When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father's business?" <sup>50</sup>They did not understand what he was telling them. <sup>51</sup>He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **Hymn of the Day**

*355 Let All Together Praise Our God*

*(Young children are welcome to come forward after stanza 5 for the children's message)*

## **Sermon**

**Luke 2:41-52**

### **Your Substitute**

*Stand at conclusion of sermon*

# God We Praise You

971 God, We Praise You sts. 1, 4



1 God, we praise you! God, we bless you! God, we  
4 Christ, at God's right hand vic - to - rious, you will



name you sov - 'reign Lord! Might - y King whom  
judge the world you made; Lord, in mer - cy



an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther, by your Church a - dored:  
help your ser - vants for whose free - dom you have paid:



all cre - a - tion shows your glo - ry; heav'n and  
raise us up from dust to glo - ry; guard us



earth draw near your throne, sing - ing, "Ho - ly,  
from all sin to - day. King en - throned a -



ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!"  
bove all prais - es, save your peo - ple, God, we pray.

*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](http://stpeterslutheran.net), or with the QR code to the right.



Online Giving

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

334 I Stand beside Your Manger Here st. 1

Please stand as offering is brought forward to the altar

1 I stand be - side your man - ger here, O Je - sus,  
life from heav - en. The gifts I bring as I draw near  
are what to me you've giv - en: my spir - it,  
cour - age, mind, and heart— take all I am, take  
ev - 'ry part; in mer - cy let it please you.

Text: tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 718514  
Tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Church and the 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.**

## 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

*342 O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is sts. 1–3*

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## Acknowledgments

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<b><u>Assistants in Worship</u></b> (December 28/29)	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>
Preacher/ Presiding Minister – Pastor Joel T. Sauer	Advent III 10am: 71 Children's Worship: 500 \$4,611
Organist – Leah Kuchenbecker	Weekend Services: 272
Sunday Broadcast – Caleb Meier	General: \$10,635
	Building: \$170
	Missions: \$50

**The Internet Broadcast** is sponsored by Faithful Hands. To catch the real meaning of Christmas, we need only to drop the last syllable and it becomes CHRIST. Lord, may we keep you up front in our hearts and minds not only this season, but throughout the year.



**Faithful Hands** will NOT be meeting on the first Thursday, Jan 2, but **will meet on the second Thursday, Jan.8th at 1:30**. Hope to see you there!

### **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 5th, 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. Email Cheri at [dckrowas@frontier.net](mailto: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!

**Pastor's Conference** Faithful Hands will be serving food for the Pastor's Conference on **January 20 & 21**. We are asking the congregation for **help with food items**. There is a sign-up sheet available in the back of church with items needed. **Cash donation** would also be helpful. If you have any questions, contact Joyce Kramer at (920)493-3627.

**Christmas Request:** Increased tuition rates and lowered student discounts have created additional financial struggles for some of our school parents. Our CEEF for members and TAF for nonmembers can only stretch so far (especially TAF). If you are in the generous mood and feel the urge to be helpful to other Christians, consider donating for school tuition financial aid!

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

Registration is open for the 16<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.menofhisword.org/registration) This makes a great Christmas gift for Men of His Word!

## **Creation Museum and The Ark Encounter Bus Tour – April 10-13, 2025**

The Creation Museum & The Ark Encounter Bus Tour **April 10-13, 2025** - Do you want to experience going back to biblical times? This is the trip for you. Registration forms which include the tour information are at the entrances of the church. Space is limited, so don't wait to reserve your spot. If you have questions, contact Ann VanderMissen at 920-493-1420.

**2025 Offering Envelopes** are available on the tables next to the library. Please pick up your envelopes. Please DO NOT use these envelopes until next year! Thank you for your support of your church as we share Christ together.

**Sponsoring a bulletin, Radio or Internet Broadcast** If you would like to sponsor an upcoming worship folder, radio broadcast, or internet worship broadcast, please call the church office. Sponsoring helps to defray costs for printing bulletins, radio and internet broadcasting fees.

## **School News**

**School Time Changes** The School Board has unanimously voted to extend our school days to 3:10 pm starting in the 2025-2026 School Year. This will give us greater flexibility with our days of school.

**Transportation to MLHS** We are working with Manitowoc Lutheran High School to see what transportation can be provided for our potential students to attend there starting in the 2025-2026 school year. The talks are incredibly positive at this point!

# Women's Zoom Bible Study

Tuesdays – January 7 through February 11, 2025

## Malachi & Titus

This winter let's join together from the comfort of our homes and study two more of the Bible's shortest books: Malachi & Titus. The topics take us back to their day and forward to ours as we live in similar times. Both Malachi and Titus are timeless in their messages: *Guidance to be faithful believers living in an immoral climate.*

### Study Dates:

Tuesdays – Jan. 7 through Feb. 11, 2025

Time: 7:00pm – 8:00pm



**Join Online:** Sign up on your computer/phone by going to zoom.us and creating an account. **Please email Judy by January 4 for reading schedule and Zoom login information [judys7977@outlook.com](mailto:judys7977@outlook.com)**



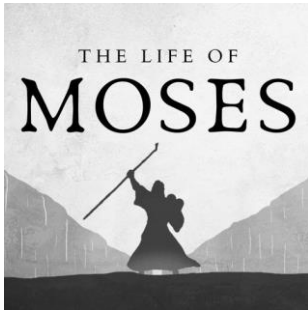
**Facilitator:** Judy Schumacher of St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church, Sturgeon Bay

## New Sunday Bible Study Opportunity

If your New Year's resolution will be to attend a Bible Class in 2025 we have just the class for you:

*Beginning Sunday, January 5 at 8:45 am*

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How much do you know about Moses? He was one of the great leaders of the Bible, yet too often we don't see how his life mirrors our own. In this study, we will study the Bible's account of Moses' life. You will see that Moses is not so much different than you. He lived in a society which mirrors society today. His faith was tested in ways much like yours. God used him to accomplish His will, just like you. There are so many lessons to learn from Moses' life, lessons for your life today.

### **What you will learn:**

This study will deepen your knowledge of the Bible and how God uses His people to accomplish His will.

### **What you will take home:**

You will see that it all comes back to God's Word and His promises to you as His dear child.

### **Lessons:**

- 1 From Peril to Papyrus to the Palace
- 2 God Calls Moses into Service
- 3 God Gives Moses a Powerful Message
- 4 Moses Confronts Pharaoh with God's Message
- 5 God Is Serious About His Word
- 6 Israel Is Taught to Rely on God
- 7 Moses Led Israel with God's Word
- 8 Moses' Spiritual Leadership in Action

**Class starts on Sunday, January 5 at 8:45am in the Social Hall (*conveniently scheduled in between our Sunday morning worship.*) Drop off the kids at Sunday School or childcare, that meet at the same time, and join us.**



**Join Online:** If you are not able to attend class in-person, you can join and participate with the class by using Zoom. Sign up on your computer/phone by going to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and creating an account. Email Pastor Sauer and he will send you the password to join the meeting (please do so before Sunday mornings). Thank you!

## Opening Hymn

346 Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - - -



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, Part 2, 1862, alt.; French  
Tune: French  
Text and tune: Public domain*



## Hymn of the Day

355 Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore his  
2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, is born an  
3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine a ser - vant's  
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, puts on our



high - est throne; to - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain and  
in - fant small, and in a man - ger, poor and lone, lies  
form to take, in want and low - li - ness must pine who  
hu - man frame, and in re - turn gives us his realm, his



gives us his own Son, and gives us his own Son.  
in a hum - ble stall, lies in a hum - ble stall.  
heav'n and earth did make, who heav'n and earth did make.  
glo - ry, and his name, his glo - ry, and his name.

- 5 He serves that I a lord may be—  
a great exchange indeed!  
Could Jesus' love do more for me  
to help me in my need,  
to help me in my need?
- 6 For us he opens wide the door  
of paradise today.  
The angel guards the gate no more;  
to God our thanks we pay,  
to God our thanks we pay.

*Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561, abr.; (sts. 1-3, 5-6): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, sts. 1-3,5,6, alt.; (st. 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, st. 4*

*Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561*

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# Hymn

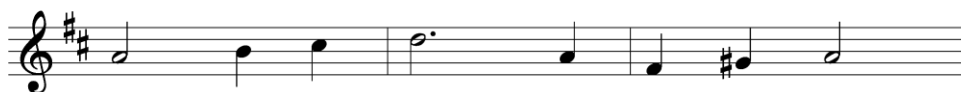
## 342 O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is sts. 1-3



1 O Je - sus Christ, your man - ger is  
2 He whom the sea and wind o - bey  
3 Dear Chris - tian friend, on him de - pend;



my par - a - dise at which I am re - clin - ing.  
comes down to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.  
be of good cheer and let no sor - row move you.



For there, O Lord, we find the Word  
Now God's own Son with us is one  
For God's own Child in mer - cy mild



made flesh for us— your grace is bright - ly shin - ing.  
and joins us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.  
joins you to him— how great - ly God must love you!

*Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr*

*Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662*

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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:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekends  
**Radio Broadcast:** Sundays 10:05 am on WDOR, 93.9 FM.  
**Internet Stream:** Sundays 10:05 am at [stpeterslutheran.net](http://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

**Daily Devotion** – Quick 5 to 10 minute devotions are available in audio and text formats. Find inspiration, comfort and spiritual growth each day.

**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.

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