



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 27th, 2022 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the Word and Meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING TEN, PAGES 203-209

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Nachtstück

Schumann

*** WELCOME AND ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

Faithful God, we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil around us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved. Amen

God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken hearts. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God. **Amen**

***GATHERING HYMN**

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

ELW 557

*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.
And also with you.

*LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Holy are you, God of power and glory; you promised to make your mighty presence known among the nations, and to strengthen your people to the end, when Christ will come in clouds to gather his people. As we light this candle, open our eyes to see the sin that separates us from you and from one another, and restore us again, that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Stir up your might and come save us.

Reveal your face to us, and give us life. Amen

*KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Jesus Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in that light of the Lord now!"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 122

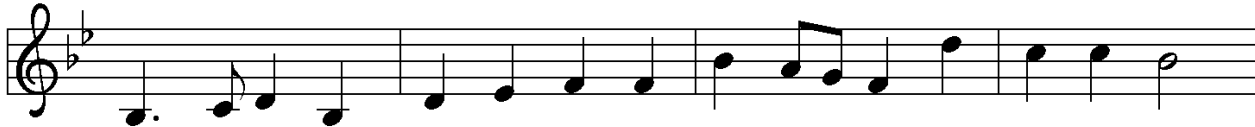
Prayed in unison by the congregation.

**I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;
to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.
For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.
Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good."**

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, unexpected event that will bring salvation or judgment upon people caught up in the usual affairs of daily life. He urges people to be alert and expectant.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew...
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

*CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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**

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Righteous God, you fulfill your promises with the coming of the Righteous Branch, Jesus Christ. As we follow his teachings, help us accept new ways of being just and righteous. Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Remember us, Lord God, not by our transgressions, but according to your steadfast love. Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Holy Spirit, strengthen our hearts in holiness that we may joyfully look forward to the coming of Jesus with all his saints. Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Lord Jesus, when all around us is disaster and gloom, you tell us to look up, for then we shall see you coming in power and great glory. Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Holy Spirit, as we contemplate the ending of the world, prepare us to be alert, that we may be able to stand before the Son of Man, rejoicing in his love, strength and glory. Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Disease and death, remind us, Lord God, that we still have very real physical needs. Hear our prayers for those who need your healing, especially... Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Other prayers may be added here in speech and silence.

You have clothed the saints in the light of Christ. Teach us to live in his ways until the great day when he comes to make all things new. Stir up your power and come: **Be born anew in us.**

Almighty God, we entrust to you all for whom we pray, confident that you fulfill your promises through Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

*DIALOGUE

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.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Now share in the feast of salvation.

***BLESSING**

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

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen**

***SENDING HYMN**

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

ELW 246

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rondo

Kramář

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

ASSISTING MINISTER

MUSIC MINISTER

SERVICE LEADER

LECTOR

GREETER

USHER

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

Carrie Watkiss

David Richards

Brandon Michaels

John Kostelny

Ann Kmet

Walter Cudecki

Beverly Tarbox



Devotional booklets for the seasons of Advent and Christmas entitled “**Prophets & Promises**” are available today at the entrances to the sanctuary for your personal use. You are also welcome to take copies that may be shared with others.

For more news, additional announcements,
worship video recordings, and other information, please
visit us on the web at:
www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org.

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Anita Horak, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Beverly Podzamsky, George Pagurko, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel

Friends and Relatives of the Congregation: Kelly Alvey, Wally Bisping, Ellen Bailey, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Victoria Dieska, Denise Fricano, Bill Holmes, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Daryle Lauritsen, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Celia Martinez, Michele Mason, Donald Neal, Patricia Pfeiffer, Pat Pileggi, Dolores Pollitz, Alice Puglise, Gail Purcell, Sue Renville, Sandy Rossella, Peter Spilotro, Harvey Swenson, Gertrude Tarbox, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Mark Van Scharrel and Mike Yavorski.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in memory of **+William Boor+** on the 104th anniversary of his birth on November 22nd by remembering sons William R. And Richard T. Boor and his family.

Offering envelopes for 2023 will be available for pick up in the lower hallway adjacent to the dining hall **beginning next Sunday, December 4th**. Please pick up envelopes for friends or relatives who are unable to do so. **Financial donations** made to the congregation need to be received in the church office no later than Thursday, December 29th in order to be included in your end of the year financial statement.



If you would like to **order a poinsettia** to help decorate the chancel of the sanctuary for the Christmas liturgies, a sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board at the lower west entrance to the dining hall. You may also contact the church office to place your order. The cost per plant is \$17 and the deadline for payment and sign-up is Thursday, December 15th.

KEEP AWAKE

Days are getting shorter; nights, ever longer. It seems like an appropriate season to fall asleep. It can be difficult, after all, to work in the dark, to plan in the dark, even to hope in the dark. All the more reason to curl up with a good book or television show and let the comfort of sleep take over. All the more reason to forget the cares and concerns of life and, if possible, just let oneself drift off.

But we are called in this day, as much as in any other, to "Keep awake" (Matthew 24:42). Even in these shortened days, there might be something new coming just over the horizon. Something spectacular. Something the eye may not believe it is seeing, the ear may not believe it is hearing. Something we will not want to miss, for being asleep.

"Keep awake!" Jesus cries. He is coming again, just when we least expect him to return. For sure, no one knows the day and hour, but return he will, right in the midst of ordinary life. Right in the midst of working and preparing meals. Right in the midst of taking care of children and tending to bills. Right in the midst of driving the car, taking the transit. Possibly, right in the midst of lengthening nights.

"Keep awake!" We're going to want to see this one who comes with healing on his wings, who comes to forgive and to redeem. We are going to want to see this one, the resurrection, the life, the beginning of all things and their end. We're going to want to see him and be a part of his love, his mercy, his grace.

Days are shorter; Advent is here. Far from drifting, it's time to focus. How shall we make our lives ready for the coming king?

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering November 20th, 2022	
<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2022:</i>	\$2,527.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$3,713.00
<i>Surplus:</i>	\$1,186.00

“HOLIDAY DIVERSITY”

Lux Cantorum Chicago in Concert on Sunday afternoon, December 4th, p.m.



HOLIDAY DIVERSITY CONCERT



DEC. 2ND
7:30 PM

LINCOLN PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
600 FULLERTON PRKWAY
CHICAGO, IL

WILBERT O. WATKINS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
PHILIPS KENDALL, ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR
JOAN HUTCHINSON, ACCOMPANIST

DEC. 4TH
4:00 PM

ST PETER & PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
250 WOODSIDE RD
RIVERSIDE, IL

DEC. 10TH
7:30 PM

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
460 LAKE ST
OAK PARK, IL



\$20 ENTRY

Tickets are available for purchase for any of the three in-person concerts as well as a live-streamed performance at luxcantorum.org. A reception will follow the performance here on Sunday afternoon, December 4th, and a limited supply of complimentary tickets for the Sunday concert are available from Pastor Dennis upon request. Sts. Peter and Paul members Brandon Michaels and Pastor Dennis sing with Lux Cantorum.

Santa's

HELPERS NEEDED

LCFS CHRISTMAS DRIVE

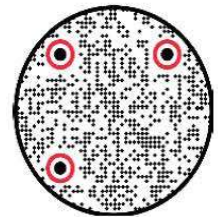


YOU CAN MAKE CHRISTMAS BRIGHT FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

Your donation will put gifts under the tree for the children in our care. Foster parents will receive money specifically to buy Christmas gifts for each child—assuring they receive what they want and need.

This is a real blessing to the families we serve!

Donate at LCFS.org/ChristmasDrive
or scan the QR code.



Questions? Contact Mandy_Widtfeldt@lcfs.org or 630-470-3853

Mail donations to:

Attn: LCFS Christmas Drive | 1 Oakbrook Terrace, #501 | Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181