



Reach out to all

Embrace His Gifts

Announce His coming

Commit to Christian Living

Honor His Word

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Ron Moritz, Deacon Ed Smallcombe

Sunday, December 22, 2024

Opening Hymn- "O Come, O Come Emanuel"

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Let us then confess our sins to God the Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.



4th Sunday in Advent

O.T. – Micah 5:2-5a: “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans^[a] of Judah, out of you will come for me

one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” ³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. ⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. ⁵ And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses. We will raise against them seven shepherds, even eight commanders,

N.T. – Hebrews 10:5-10 - ⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. ⁷ Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll— I have come to do your will, my God.’”

⁸ First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them”—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will.” He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Gospel- Luke 1:39-45: ³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Sermon: Old and New Covenants Hebrews 10:9



Pray for our country, for our military, for our healthcare workers & first responders, for those that are sick, for those in need, for those who

have lost loved ones, for our home-bound, for wisdom for our leaders, and for all of your concerns. Prayers of Strength and Comfort for the Ukrainian People and wisdom for all NATO Members. Pray for all your concerns.

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

SERMON REVIEW FOR December 15, 2024

SERMOM REVIEW for December 22, 2024

"Old and New Covenants" Hebrews 10:9

Introduction: Not all sacrifices are the same

Illustration: "I feel fine!"

I. Old and New Covenants in the Bible

- A. Old Testament based on P _____
 - 1. Looked F _____ to God's salvation
 - 2. Sacrificial system was a S _____ of the real thing
- B. New Testament based upon F _____
 - 1. We can no do God's will
 - 2. Jesus keeps God's will P _____ for us.
 - 3. His sacrificial death is O _____ for A _____
 - 4. By faith, His sacrifice becomes our salvation

II. Old and New Covenants in our Life

- A. Each of us experience the B _____ of this world (More painful during the Christmas Season)
 - B. Each of us can experience the H _____ of the New Covenant God makes with us in Christ.
 - 1. Heals our broken spirit
 - 2. Give us a new life of fulfillment
-

Today, Adult Bible Class meets today after the Service



JR. BIBLE Class meets Dec 29th & Jan 12th

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5iFQgWQEMw>

During our Voter's meeting October 27th it was decided to collect

money to be sent to the Nazareth Lutheran Church in Baltimore MD.

This is the former church of Jean Schulze, a member of our church.

They are having some hard times financially as they try to keep the Spanish Ministry going. If anyone is interested in making a donation

please mark it on your envelope "Nazareth Lutheran Church". We will

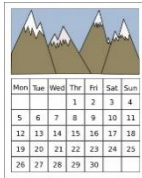
be collecting donations now until December 31st.

On Sunday's where there is severe weather, Church may be cancelled. Notice of a cancellation will be on WWMT-TV-Channel 3. Also to those who we have an email for an email will be sent.

Through the winter months the ground level door will be open on Sunday mornings for those who wish to avoid climbing the hill

Need a Calendar?

Jude's Calendar will be here soon. The cost is only \$10 donation each. Please call Ed or Karen Smallcombe to order at 269-718-2467 or add your name to the order sheet hanging near the mail slots. Payment can be made wither in person on a Sunday at church or you can mail in your order to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, PO Box 327, Three Rivers, MI 49093. Please let us know



how many you would like. Please make checks payable to : St. Peter's Comfort Dog Ministry.



Christmas poinsettia's sale If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia for the altar on Christmas please fill out the form that is on the table below the mailboxes and deliver the form to the offering plate by Dec 15th It can be bought in honor or memory of

a loved one.

St. Peter's Annual Mission of the Month for December COMMISSION ON AGING

The St. Joseph County COA serves as the focal point for services and activities for older adults. Some services provided are home care assistance, transportation to medical appointments, respite care, home repair, arts & crafts, meals at home and many more.



LWML NEWS

Our next Meeting will be January 14, 2024 @ 10 am

Poinsettia Star

The poinsettia star that Vera Smallcombe's husband made is now part of the Altar Guild.

The Star will remain at St. Peters: "Star in honor of God the father who wants our hearts; God the Son who is in our hearts; God the Holy Spirit who guides our hearts; and Vera Smallcombe whose heart is always with us.

Christmas In-Gathering for Three Rivers Food Site

To assist our local Food Site, our Ladies Aid will. items from 11/24 thru 12/22. We will be collecting cereal of any kind along with canned goods such as vegetables, soups, juices, ravioli, spaghetti, chicken, tuna, and boxed meals. If you are

donating from your pantry, please make sure dates have not expired. There is a tub in the Narthex for these items. As the tub fills, they will be donated to the Food Site.

Sock-A-Way Dimes Collection

This is an annual collection whereby our LWML donates to various charities in St. Joseph County. Although we do an annual collection in December, you may donate throughout the year. We will be collecting these monies thru Sunday, 12/22. Please put your filled sock in the large LWML purple/white box on the table in the Narthex. If you wish to keep your sock, you may put the monies in a plastic Ziploc bag marked "sock" and put in the LWML box. New socks and instructions will be on the table in the Narthex if you wish to take one. these monies thru Sunday, 12/22. Please put your filled sock in the large LWML purple/white box on the table in the Narthex.

