

Peace Lutheran Church

Contemporary Service 26th Sunday after Pentecost November 17th, 2024

There are only a few more weeks until Advent begins, which means we're coming to the end of the church year. The end of the church year is meant to be a time when we reflect on the end of the world. Our Lord spoke plainly about this and offered many signs to indicate when the end was near. He spoke of false teachers in the church, wars, rumors of wars, and earthquakes as "but the beginning of the birth pains" (Mark 13:8). The Jewish people of Jesus' time on earth would also be alarmed at His prediction of the destruction of the temple thinking it would mean the end of their faith and hope in God. Even though they would've been afraid and confused, just like we are today when people speak of the end of the world, our God is closer than ever in the new temple of the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen again for the life of the world. And now, as we live together in the Last Days, we do so with a blessed hope and assurance, living by the word of promise and salvation that God has spoken to us through His very own Son.

Today we celebrate Holy Communion. A statement of our practice here at Peace may be found at the conclusion of this order of service.

Welcome

Opening Song

"King of Kings"

Stand

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession And Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for prayer and reflection on God's word.

P Having reflected on God's word and his holiness, together we pray:

C **Gracious God, You have called us to be perfect, just as You are perfect. You have commanded us to love You with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. And yet, despite these commands, we have failed to keep them. We have honored ourselves above You, and we have looked to our own desires, rather than the needs of others. For all of this, we ask for Your forgiveness, won for us by the holy and blameless life of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament-

Psalm 16

*Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;*

I have no good apart from you.”

*As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,
in whom is all my delight.*

*The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names on my lips.*

*The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.*

*I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.*

*Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.
For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let your holy one see corruption.*

*You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

Epistle

1 John 3:1-3

And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

*“This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, declares the Lord:
I will put my laws on their hearts,
and write them on their minds,”*

then he adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,

with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Song of Praise

"Sing to the King"

Stand

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:1-13

And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.

"But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Confession of Faith

C 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 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.

P: What does it mean to believe in the things we have just confessed?

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Song of the Day

"Echo Holy"

Offering

An offering basket is available at the entrance

Our tithes and offerings are brought forward and placed on the altar.
For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You. - 1 Chronicles 29:14

Sit

Prayers of the Church

Holy Communion

Stand

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

C 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.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Communion Song "Ever Be"

Communicants are invited to come forward by sections, first the left side and then the right side. Each communicant will line up in front of the pastor to receive communion as a group. Once you have received both the bread and wine, the pastor will give a blessing to depart. We ask that you return to your seats from the outside aisles and keep the center aisle opened for those following you. Grape juice is available upon request from those distributing communion.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P 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.

C Amen.

Closing Song "Build Your Kingdom Here"

† Go in peace and serve the Lord. †

Peace Lutheran Church - Rogers City, MI

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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Our mission as a caring family is to reach out to all, share Christ's love, and teach God's Word.

Regarding Holy Communion:

The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, is celebrated here at Peace in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another.

Our congregation believes that participating in the Lord's Supper acts as a statement that those communing agree with everything our church body teaches. *See 1 Corinthians 11:26.*

Out of loving care and concern, therefore, we want to do all that we can to make sure that those who participate in our Communion celebration don't violate their own conscience or a public confession of faith made through another church body by making that joint statement of faith with us. In addition, because the New Testament teaches that those who eat and drink of the Lord's Supper unworthily or without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment upon themselves, we want to protect those of a different public confession from potentially suffering spiritual harm. (See 1 Corinthians 11:27-30.)

For these reasons, we ask those who don't know or agree with the teachings of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to consider refraining from communing until a more thorough conversation is possible. In so doing, please understand that we are in no way judging your personal faith. On the contrary, we want to invite you into a deeper fellowship with us that begins with further consideration of what we believe, teach, and confess here at Peace. In the meantime, please sing, pray, and worship with us, and, if you'd like more information about Lutheran teachings or Communion practices, contact the church office at (989) 734-7621 or via email at office@peacelcms.org. If you'd like to come forward during Communion to receive a blessing from Pastor, you are more than welcome. You may indicate the desire to participate in this manner by simply folding your hands across your chest when you come forward. If you simply wish to remain in your seat during Communion, that's okay, too. You won't be alone. Anyone desiring to have Communion brought to them at their seat, perhaps because of a physical or other challenge, please speak to Pastor or the Elder on duty prior to the service.