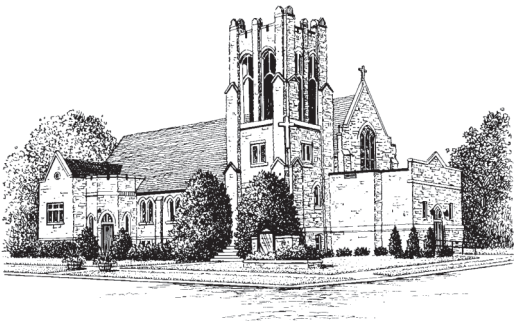




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ST. PETER'S NET

DECEMBER 2019

Advent is a time of preparation. We are preparing to proclaim the Savior's birth. In our world and culture so many want to forgo preparation and simply want the end result or goal now. But Advent invites us to wait. Celebration is coming but we still wait just as the people of the Old Testament waited for the Savior's birth.

The season invites us also to see what is still needed for preparations and gives us glimpses of where we are going and how much more there is to the celebration than we often imagine or realize.

Our midweek Advent services will include this preparation and waiting and glimpses of what awaits us and how our lives our transformed by the good news of Christmas.

On Wednesdays at 5pm, families may join in the upstairs classrooms for a craft that leads us to the theme of the services. Or you may take it home to complete and discuss at home.

At 5:25pm we will begin the singing of carols by request from our small Christmas book. These include hymns as well as other popular carols. Shortly thereafter we will begin the Service of Light, Evening Prayer. Enjoy some cookies and hot chocolate afterwards.

The first week, December 4th, is an emphasis of God with us as our potter and we are the clay. We will be making air dried clay ornaments.

The second week, December 11th, we hear of God with us as our Shepherd who gives us life for us, His sheep. We will make a small sheep with cotton balls that stands and will be used for the 3rd week.

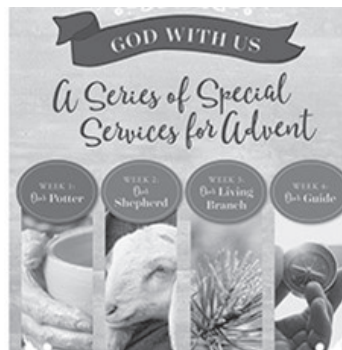
December 18th is God with us as our Living Branch. We look to Jesus who gives us life and will have a little field for our sheep to remind us the story.

Each week also is a puzzle magnet for each household in attendance at the services. You will receive 2 pieces of the puzzle that form

into one magnet for your Christmas anticipation. This likewise emphasizes our preparation and building up toward a wonderful Christmas celebration.

It can be difficult for us to wait, to have patience, but what we see in Advent is patience and comfort of God's Word gives us hope that does not disappoint and gives us life! (Rom. 15:4, Rom. 5:3-5, Rom. 2:7)

Pastor Amen



Music Ministry



Calendar:

Bells and Choir follow Advent Services, not Christmas Day, nor New Years Day

Lower SS at 8am on 12/1

Bells on 12/8

Choir on 12/15

SS Pgms: Lower 12/22 at 9:30am

Upper 12/24 at 6:30pm

FROM THE CANTOR:

There is a perennial problem for me every December: Do I study an Advent hymn or a Christmas Hymn to go in my newsletter article? The choice is hard. Advent only occurs in December and has so many fantastic hymns that discuss our preparation for Christmas and Christ's coming. The fact that this newsletter shows up at the beginning of the month makes the case for an Advent study.

But then my other problem is this: the Christmas season is only 12 days long. It gets split almost equally between December and January. Epiphany and Baptism show up in January, and Christmas Day is past, so it seems silly to wait to do a Christmas hymn until then. So, obviously, it would make perfect sense to spend time reflecting on the season that everybody wants to get to and help them feel better about Jesus' birth!

As I have this internal debate once again, I realize that it's a perennial debate for all of us. We love Christmas! We love being able to celebrate the festivities! We love being able to gather with loved ones and share the joy of the season! We love that God sent Jesus into the world for us! And yet, not one of these activities comes without preparation. We don't show up to a Christmas party without having taken time to prepare whatever we needed to bring. We don't host a gathering without planning ahead and spending a significant amount of time doing the necessary prep work of hosting and feeding others. God didn't send Jesus into the world without first preparing Zechariah and Elizabeth to give birth to John the Baptist. Then God prepared Mary and Joseph for the arrival of Jesus. God needs to prepare the shepherds by giving them the news before they can go find Jesus in the manger. What is Advent? It is a time to prepare. It is a time of waiting for Jesus to come. We know the purpose of his coming to earth. We forget very quickly what that means for our lives. He came to free us from the bondage of sin! But even in that, Christmas is still part of the preparation of the final plan of

salvation. Without Christmas, we can never get to Easter, where Jesus defeats the devil, the world, our sinful nature, and death by rising again to life. Without Easter, we can never taste eternal life for ourselves.

So we readily sing, "Let sin's dark deeds be gone, The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on." (LSB 331, st. 5, "The Advent of Our King.") Charles Coffin (1676-1749) was a Frenchman, university professor and rector, and a dedicated Roman Catholic. This hymn appears in 44 hymnals currently for varied congregations. Coffin's hymns (he wrote about 100) are characterized as "direct and fitted with the spirit of grace." They have also been described as "remarkable ... for their pure latinity (having a Latin style) and scripturalness." It is their scripturalness, their spirit of grace, and clarity that has given Coffin's hymns their broad appeal. He has one other hymn in LSB, "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry."

And so, after our time of preparation and waiting is over, we will finally get to the celebration. Then we will sing, "On Christmas night all Christians sing To hear the news the angels bring. New of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King's birth." (LSB 377). This hymn is also known as the "**Sussex Carol**". Its words were first published by Luke Wadding, a 17th-century Irish bishop, in a work called

Small Garland of Pious and Godly Songs (1684). It is unclear whether Wadding wrote the song or was recording an earlier composition.

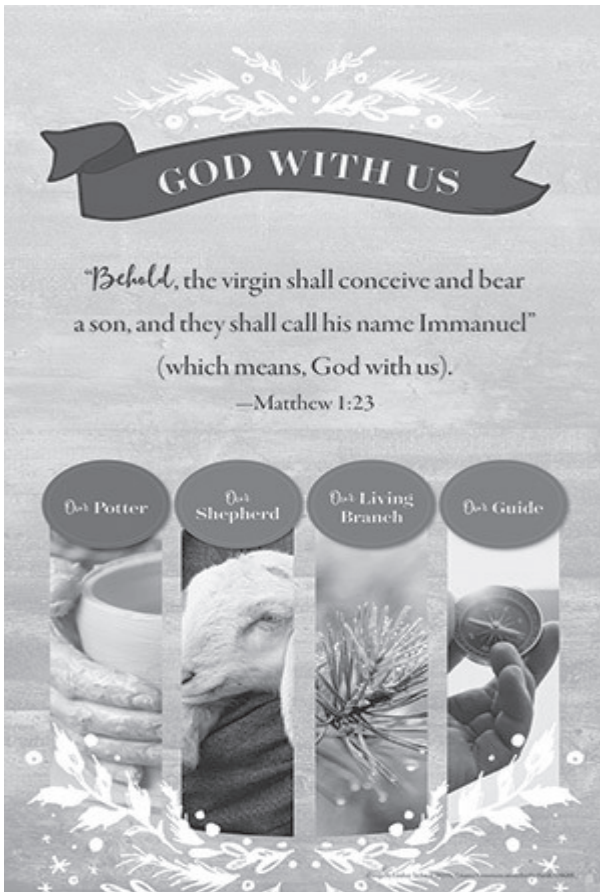
Both the text and the tune to which it is now sung were discovered and written down by Cecil Sharp in Gloucestershire, and Ralph Vaughan Williams, who heard it being sung by Harriet Verrall of Monk's Gate, near Sussex (hence the tune name "Sussex Carol"). The tune to which it is sung today is this tune that Vaughan Williams took down from Mrs. Verrall and published in 1919.

I've attempted to resolve my inner conflict by giving you a taste of both Advent and Christmas. May both seasons be a blessed time for you as you continue living and telling of Christ's birth for all!

This In His service,
Cantor Jeremy Zieroth

Lessons & CAROLS





Acolytes

Dec 1	8:00	Wyatt See
	10:30	Codi Woodward
Dec 8	8:00	Brock Wendt
	10:30	Leona Osterloth
Dec 15	8:00	Kloie Hathaway
	10:30	Lucas Campbell
Dec 22	8:00	Piper Johnson
	10:30	Volunteers
Dec 24	6:30 p.m.	Vance Hathaway
Dec 25	9:00 a.m.	Katze Zieroth
Dec 29	8:00	Piper Johnson
	10:30	Volunteers
Dec 31	6:30 p.m.	Leona Osterloth

Ladies Mug Swap

A time of exchange and brunch party will be held at the parsonage **Saturday, December 21st 10:30am-11:30am** while Sunday School rehearses for programs and children can stay as they will watch a Christmas movie and play games afterward. (Or deliver at another convenient time if you can't make that day).



A great way to get to know others in a simple and different way and enjoy fellowship time.

Contact Becky Amen for questions or more information, 608-635-0314.

↙	12/1	George Plenty	 DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS	↘
↙	12/2	Terry Grinde		↘
↙	12/2	Sandy Paske		↘
↙	12/3	David Tomlinson		↘
↙	12/7	Vicki Stewart		↘
↙	12/11	Cynthia Thurston		↘
↙	12/12	Linda Manthey		↘
↙	12/18	William Hutchinson		↘
↙	12/24	Bill Steffenhagen		↘




Christian Women's Council has once again prepared jars of cookie fixin's. These make great gifts or simply great cookies. Price is **\$10 a jar** and they are available after every Advent service.

Midweek Advent Services

Wednesdays, December 4th, 11th, and 18th; 5:30pm

Carols by request to begin

Join for a family activity/ craft beginning at 5pm



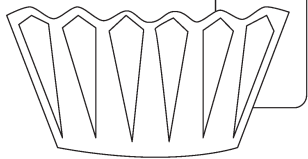
The table in the narthex has a good selection of cards available **(including Christmas Cards)**. Stop by and check it out! There is a wide range of cards to fit every occasion and all proceeds go to the *Christian Women's Council* to help support all their good works. There are also a number of craft items still available for sale. You may leave your cash or check in the basket on the table.

Please remember, you can also give online at StPeterArlington.org, with options for designated and automatic giving. Thanks for your generosity and support.



Light the way

Make some Christmas candles to remember Jesus, the Light of the world.



What you need:

- Unlined white notecards
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Yellow tissue paper
- Mini muffin liners
- Clothespins

What you do:

1. Roll a notecard from side to side into a "candle" tube. Secure with glue.
2. Insert a piece of tissue paper "flame" in one end.
3. Glue the other end to a muffin liner. Then glue the liner to a clothespin.
4. Repeat to make many paper candles. Pin them to the branches of a Christmas tree.

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.

St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS Accredited

4-K Host Site for Poynette School District

Share the news....there is a date night soon!! Head out with friends, your other half, or stay home and enjoy the quiet. Whatever you choose feel free to spread the word that our date night is December 6th. The cost is \$15 per single child or \$30 for a family of two or more. Our childcare staff will be there to supervise and serve pizza, chips, fruit and milk for dinner along with an ice cream snack. You can drop them off at 5:00 and be back by 8:45 to pick them up;) Please sign up with one of the daycare teachers or send a message to our Facebook page so we can get a head count!

This fundraiser is to raise money to enhance our curriculum at St. Peter's.

From our family of St. Peter's Child Care and Preschool to yours...

We wish all of you a very blessed and 'child like' Christmas as you celebrate with family and friends. God's blessings to you all.

Our Staff: Tiffany, Carol, Becky, Beth, Mara, Erik



DECEMBER

635-4825

Becky Amen
Volunteers

DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

<p>December 1/2 1st Sunday in Advent Jeremiah 23:5-8 Psalm 24 Romans 13:8-14 <u>Matthew 21:1-9</u></p> <p>December 4 Midweek in Advent 1 Isaiah 64:8-9 John 15:16-17</p>	<p>Sermon: Drawing Near Order: <i>DSIV</i>, p 203 Hymns: 331 - 341 - 332 - 334, 350 - 515 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth <u>Choir: Lower Sunday School</u></p> <p>Sermon: God With Us, Our Potter Order: Evening Prayer, p. 243 Hymns: Carols - 351 - 337 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth</p>
<p>December 8/9 2nd Sunday in Advent Malachi 4:1-6 Psalm 50:1-15 Romans 15:4-13 <u>Luke 21:25-36</u></p> <p>December 11 Midweek in Advent 2 Isaiah 40:10-11 John 10:14-15</p>	<p>Sermon: Purification Preparations Order: <i>DSIV</i>, p. 203 Hymns: 333 - 336 - 348, 359 - 353 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth <u>Choir: Handbells</u></p> <p>Sermon: God With Us, Our Shepherd Order: Evening Prayer, p. 243 Hymns: Carols - 349 - 338 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth</p>
<p>December 15/16 3rd Sunday in Advent Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Matthew 11:2-11</p> <p>December 18 Midweek in Advent 3 Isaiah 11:1-2 John 15:4-5</p>	<p>Sermon: Rejoice! Go and Tell! Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 343 - 345 - 346, 344 - 347 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth <u>Choir: Adult Choir</u></p> <p>Sermon: God With Us, Our Living Branch Order: Evening Prayer, p. 243 Hymns: Carols - 342 - 352 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth</p>
<p>December 22/23 4th Sunday in Advent Deuteronomy 18:15-19 Psalm 111 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 1:39-56</p>	<p>Sermon: God With Us, Unseen and Living Order: <i>DSIII</i> p. 184 Hymns: 855 (v. 8) - 357 - 354, 385 - 356 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth <u>LOWER SS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, 9:30AM</u></p>
<p>December 24 Sunday School Christmas Eve Program December 24 Christmas Eve (10:00pm) Micah 5:2-5a Hebrews 1:1-12 Luke 2:1-20</p> <p>December 25 Christmas Day (9:00am) Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38 Psalm 2 Titus 3:4-7 John 1:1-14</p>	<p>(6:30pm) Order: <i>Candlelight Communion Service</i> Hymns: 379 - 375 - 380 - 377 - 383 - 363 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth <u>Choir: Handbells, Adult Choir</u></p> <p>Sermon: Glory Shown Order: <i>DSV</i>, alt. Hymns: 387 - 368 - 358 - 391 - 373, 384, 381 - 360 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth</p>
<p>December 29 1st Sunday after Christmas Isaiah 11:1-5 Psalm 89:1-8 Galatians 4:1-7 Luke 2:22-40</p>	<p>Sermon: Revealing Light Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p 184 Hymns: 376 - 389 - 393, 359 - 382 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth</p>
<p>December 31 New Year's Eve/Circumcision, Name of Jesus Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 2:21</p>	<p>Sermon: What's In A Name? Order: <i>Compline w/ Holy Communion</i>, p. 253 Hymns: 372 - 896 - 624 - 390 Organist: Cantor Jeremy Zieroth</p>

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS - November 12, 2019



Devotion

Opening devotion from Pastor Amen was on Ephesians chapter 6, emphasizing that we do not fight against flesh and blood, that is against other people, but also that we are

equipped with the armor of God which is mostly defensive and not used for attacking each other.

Trustees

Sidewalks are leveled which will make shoveling much easier this winter. The light behind the cross is out so they are looking at what it is going to take to get that glowing again.

Board of Education

Bible studies continue, with Sunday Bible study mirroring the Sunday School lessons for more cohesive teaching and give opportunity for adults to refresh same lessons in more in depth manner. Friday study completed the book of Judges and is beginning through the Gospel of John. Tuesday completed Colossians and a small study on a few Psalms, with weather concerns and driving likely taking off during winter. Midweek 7th/8th grade served in cleanup of Highway 51, Kelly Hageman has graciously been joining and helping with classes. Childcare enrollment remains steady and looks forward to holiday activities.

Elders

We continue to have need for altar guild volunteers, those that serve are very gracious and do a great job. Military care sent out items to those overseas, and now we are happy to report that all of our members are back from their deployments. Cantor thanks those who participated in special music for Reformation. We look forward to a choral Thanksgiving medley on Weds. as well as all the programs and carols of Advent and Christmas upcoming.

Pastor's Report

Pastor's Conference last month in Madison with emphasis on Lent and Easter through the book of Zechariah. Rejoiced in 4 baptisms from the Lerch and Hartman families. Had a brief trip to St. Louis, invited to

preach at International Center, lead Bible Study on Disaster Response for National Mission, and discuss district cooperation for disaster relief upcoming in Beaumont, TX; dates will be forthcoming very soon. Enjoyed several varieties and great fellowship at the Chili Potluck after services on Reformation Sunday. Stuff the Squad with Poynette PD is upcoming, a food pantry bin is in the narthex.

Membership Changes

Transferred in:

Ben & Hannah Robinson

from *Immanuel Lutheran, Terre Haute, IN;*
University Lutheran Church at Purdue, West Lafayette, IN;

Brad Larson

from *Good Shepherd Lutheran, Boise, ID;*

Alex & Katie Rehlinger

from *Christ Lutheran-Woodside, Flushing, NY*



"That's why I say, 'Fleece Navidad!'"



**FINANCIAL REPORT
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:**



Balance on October 31, 2019	\$ 4,965.94
Receipts for Nov (est.).....	\$12,027.20
Expenses for Nov (est.)	(\$14,525.29)
Shortage/Overage	\$2,467.85

DecEMBER
Elders

Dec 1	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	John Peshorn & Kim Kriewaldt Cameron Gramse & Paul Yamriska
Dec 2	6:30 p.m.	Calvin Moll
Dec 8	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Greg Frank & Bill Hageman
Dec 9	6:30 p.m.	Dan Schmidt
Dec 15	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	John Peshorn & Calvin Moll Greg Frank
Dec 16	6:30 p.m.	Dan Schmidt
Dec 22	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Dan Schmidt & Cameron Gramse Bill Hageman
Dec 23	6:30 p.m.	Paul Yamriska
Dec 24	6:30 p.m. 10:00 p.m.	Greg Frank & Calvin Moll
Dec 25	9:00 a.m.	John Peshorn & Cameron Gramse
Dec 29	8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Kim Kriewaldt & Bill Hageman Paul Yamriska & Calvin Moll
Dec 31	6:30 p.m.	Dan Schmidt



Symbols of the season

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.



shepherd's staff _ _ _ _ _

tree that keeps its leaves _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

shines to lead the way _ _ _

green for eternal life, _ _ _ _ &
red for Jesus' blood _ _ _ _ _

sounds to announce _ _ _ _
good news

has no beginning or end _ _ _ _ _

Th ks b to od fo is
indesc ba le gif !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answer: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath.
Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV

**DECEMBER
USHERS**

December 1 & 8

<i>Early</i>	<i>Late</i>
Keith Podoll, <i>Chr.</i> (635-8012)	<i>Chr.</i> ()
Larry & Alex Saager	Roger Frank
Bill & Justin Hageman	Steve Paskey
Greg & Patrick Frank	Brad Zimmermann &
Kim & Brock Kriewaldt	Hunter & Tanner & Jakob

December 15, 22 & 29

Wayne Hanson	Jim Paske
Cameron Gramse	Shayne Brasda
Steve & Matt Hustad	
Calvin Moll	
Nate & Austin Moll	


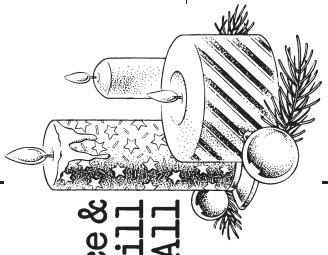


Parents and College Students:
Please let us know what your college address is going to be so that we can keep in touch through the coming year! Just email the Church Office:

stpeterluth@gmail.com



CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Advent 1 1 8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Lower Gr Sing 9:30 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	2 6:30 PM Divine Service	3	4 4:00 PM Midweek 5:30 PM Advent Service 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir	5	6 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class 5 PM -8:45 PM Date Night at St. Peter's CCC	7 9-11 AM Rehearsal/Practice (3-8)
Aldvent 2 8 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:30 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	9 6:30 PM Divine Service	10 6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Elders	11 4:00 PM Midweek 5:30 PM Advent Service 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir	12	13 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	14 9-11AM Rehearsal/Practice (all)
Advent 3 15 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Class/SS 10:30 AM Divine Service	16 6:30 PM Divine Service	17	18 4:00 PM Midweek 5:30 PM Advent Service 6:30 PM Handbells 7:30 PM Choir	 19	20 7:30 AM Men's Bible Class	St. Thomas Apostle 21 9-11 AM Rehearsal/Practice (all) <i>10:30 AM Mug Swap</i>
Advent 4 22 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:30 AM Young Children's Christmas Service 10:30 AM Divine Service	23 6:30 PM Divine Service	Christmas Eve 24 6:30 PM Carol Service 10:00 PM Candlelight Divine Service	Christmas Day 25 9:00 AM Festival Service No Bells or Choir Practice	St Stephen 26 Martyr	St. John, Apostle 27 & Evangelist No Men's Bible Class	Holy Innocents 28 Martyrs
Christmas 1 29 8:00 AM Divine Service 10:30 AM Divine Service 11:45 AM Youth Fifth Sunday Brunch	30 No Divine Service	New Year Eve 31 6:30 PM Festival Service	Jan 1, 2020 No Bells or Choir Practice		Peace & Goodwill to All	
	St. Peter's Lutheran Church Phone: 608-635-4825 E-mail: stpeterluth@gmail.com		Jan 1, 2020 No Bells or Choir Practice www.stpetersarlington.org			