St. Peters Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

December 2022



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Our Mission Statement:

"Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done." Psalm 105:1



Credo: Ascension and Second Coming

We are just about done talking about the Second Person of the Trinity or the Second Article of the Creed on the Person of the Son. We have seen how Jesus is both God and Man, accomplished resurrection, dealt with the descent into hell, and with resurrection. All we are left with is two matters for this month's newsletter.

First, we need to deal with the Ascension of Christ into heaven. We find this at the beginning of Acts in Chapter 1. There Christ blesses the disciples and ascends into heaven. As the disciples stand watching two men or angels appear to them and tell them to go and wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit. With that Jesus has ascended into heaven and we are left wondering what does this mean?

Christ has gone to take His rightful place at the right hand of God. Or if we listen to Revelation He is now sitting on the throne with God there in the middle of heaven being worshipped by the angels and all the saints who have washed their robes white in the blood of the lamb (i.e. Christ's blood).

What does this not mean? It does not mean Christ is not present with us. It is not a physical location somewhere in outer space or whatever you can come up with. Heaven is not a physical location. Jesus is not stuck there, and He is not limited by His physical body of only being in heaven. Remember Jesus is the true God meaning He is present

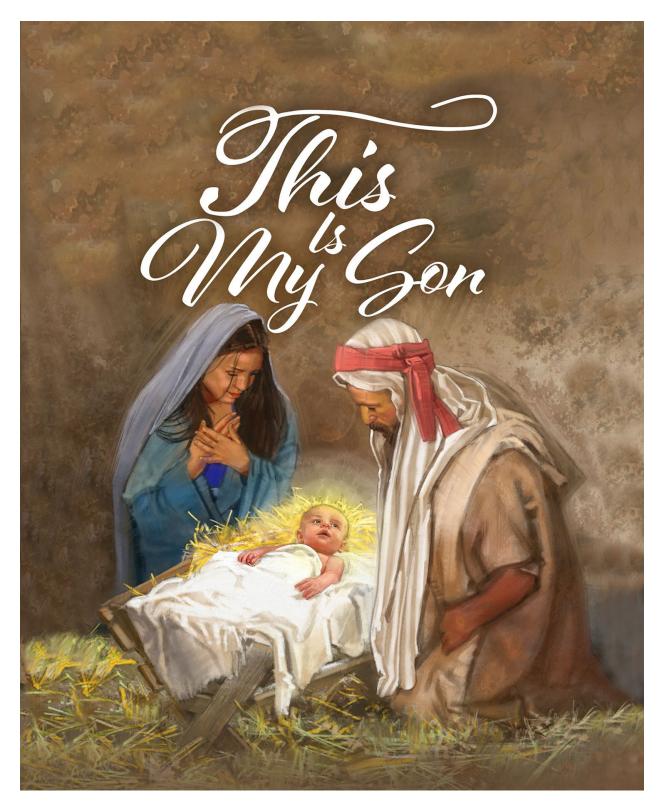
everywhere. The importance of this comes down to the Lord's Supper. If Jesus is stuck in heaven He cannot be present in body and blood on the altar each Sunday in communion. But, because Jesus is omnipresent He can come and give you His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

Jesus is also able to be with you always as He promised in this earthly life. He will give you the forgiveness of sins, but He will also lead you through this valley of sorrow and the valley of the shadow of death into eternal life. When Christ ascended He returned to His Father's house and prepared the place for you on the day God calls you home to live with Him in eternal life.

Finally, the second coming. This could be its own newsletter series but we are going to sum it up. We are currently in the end times. When Christ ascended the end times began with all the famines, flooding, fires, wars, etc. that we read about in the scriptures. When Christ comes the second time that will be the end of this world and the new heavens, and the new earth will take its place. The dead will be raised and the final judgment will be given out to the whole world.

When will this happen? As one meme artist said so well, "Dad when will Jesus return? Opie, you have to understand we are not on the planning committee we are on the welcoming committee. It is not our job to know when Jesus is coming but just to be ready for Him when He comes." We do not know the day or the hour of Christ's return but we do know how to be ready. We are ready for His return when we believe that He has forgiven our sins and given us eternal life because of His work of redemption.

Your Servant in Christ, Pastor



Whenever I meet with a couple for premarriage counseling, I share this quote: "Every disappointment involves unmet expectations." Then we talk about what expectations for marriage are realistic or unrealistic. I also let them know that their spouse will inevitably let them down— sometimes multiple times a day! Marriage is not the only source of disappointment and unmet expectations. Every human relationship will deal with these issues. Have you been happy with every decision an elected official has made, even one for whom you voted? Does your boss ever let you down? Have your employees always done their job well? Do your friends always come through for you? Do your children always make good and wise

decisions based on what you have taught them? Human beings will disappoint by failing to meet expectations. No wonder the psalmist tells us in Psalm 146:3–4, "Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish." Parents have hopes and expectations for their children. Sometimes these are healthy expectations. Other times parents place unfair or unrealistic expectations on their children. This upcoming Advent season, during our midweek services, we will take a look at three different sons of men who were disappointments to their fathers. In the first week, we will be introduced to Cain, the son of Adam. No doubt Adam had higher hopes for Cain than for him to be known as the first murderer in history. But his murder of his brother reveals the murder lurking in all of our hearts. In the second week, we will be introduced to Ishmael, the son of Abraham. Though it was not his fault, Ishmael was a disappointment to Abraham because he was not the child of the promise. Abraham's efforts to take things into his own hands highlight our own tendency to do the same in our relationship with God. In the third week, we will be introduced to Absalom, the son of David. This rebellious son broke David's heart and exposes the rebellion we display against our heavenly Father. But each week, we will also be pointed to a different Son. This Son is the true Son of Adam. He is the true Son of Abraham. He is the true Son of David. He is the Son who never disappointed His Father. He is the Son who never did any wrong. He is the Son of whom the Father spoke: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him" (Matthew 17:5). This true Man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, is also the Son of God, the very Son of God now living in our flesh and blood. This Son is Jesus, the Christ, the Messiah, who fulfills the hope of salvation "that we might General Introduction This Is My Son © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®. Permission granted to purchaser to reproduce this page for use in congregational setting. All other rights reserved. 4 receive adoption as sons" (Galatians 4:5). He is the One whom the psalmist spoke of in Psalm 146:5: "Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God." During this series, entitled This Is My Son, you will hear again that your heavenly Father is not disappointed in you. Rather, through Jesus, He considers you to be His beloved child, with whom He is well pleased



REMINDER

Sunday School kids will be practicing every Sunday in December until noon.

The Board of Education is asking for volunteers to furnish snacks for the Sunday School kids on those Sundays December 4, 11, & 18th

The snack can be served during the Sunday School hour.

Contact Loren, Jason, or Scott if you can provide.



Jr. Bell Choir will be playing on December 7, 2022 for our Midweek Advent Service. Children should be at church by 6:40PM

Sunday School Children will be singing on December 18, 2022 for our worship service. Children should be at church by 8:40AM





And Babysitting Clinic



Saturday December 3rd, 2022 5-8:30PM Ages 1-13(8th Grade)

You may drop your child(ren) off at the church where the youth group will have food(supper), games, treats and Christian fellowship.

**please register children ages 0-1 with Billie Lusk (605-728-7285) **Any questions: please ask Marty Lusk or Billie Lusk for further details:)

Thank you! St. Peter's Youth Group



LAKE COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

<u>CHRISTMAS TURKEY AND ANGEL TREE PROJECTS</u>: The Food Pantry has provided food to over 500 people so far this year and is continuing its regular distribution of emergency food supplies. As the holiday season approaches, the Food Pantry is preparing for the 40th annual Christmas Projects.

<u>CHRISTMAS TURKEY</u>: In 2021, 150 families consisting of 438 people received Christmas food boxes, valued at \$75 each. Eligibility for receiving food boxes is determined by ICAP, the Community Health Nurse, the local Social Services office, and the Madison Ministerial Association. If you know of anyone in need of a Christmas food box, please contact one of these agencies.

ANGEL TREE: The Angel Tree Project is in its 38th year. Three 'angel' trees have been set up, one each in the community window of Gary's Bakery, the Madison Public Library and at Montgomery's Furniture. On each tree are 'Angels' which identify deserving children and suggested gift(s). In 2021, 220 children received over 550 gifts through this program. Most children will be in 8th grade or younger. We encourage any interested person or group to 'adopt' Angels and purchase that child's gift. Money donations are also welcome and can be deposited in the Food Pantry's account at First Bank and Trust or sent to PO Box, 61, Madison, SD 57042.

Gifts should be delivered to the Downtown City Armory (198 Van Eps Ave N., Madison) beginning Saturday, December 10th through Wednesday, December 14, 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. daily except Sunday. The food and gifts will be delivered on Saturday, December 17, 2022.

We are again asking for your support of the Food Pantry Holiday Programs. Your past support has meant a merrier Christmas for many Lake County families. All donations to the Food Pantry are tax deductible. Thank you for your help.

Food Pantry Board of Directors

DECEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



| Terry & Deb | Reck | December 1, 1972 |
|---------------|----------|-------------------|
| Kasey & Lacey | Gehrels | December 3, 2013 |
| Dan & Bonnie | Lindholm | December 20, 1974 |

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| Hazel | Foster | Dec 4, 2020 |
|---------|------------|--------------|
| Grace | Feige | Dec 5, 2007 |
| Ella | Fischer | Dec 7, 2005 |
| Ashley | McLaughlin | Dec 7, 1987 |
| Loren | Lindholm | Dec 8, 1963 |
| Mathew | Voy | Dec 8, 1993 |
| Shirley | Hess | Dec 13, 1942 |
| Brett | Schneider | Dec 13, 1979 |
| Arla | Baumberger | Dec 16, 1953 |
| Gale | Maas | Dec 16, 1954 |
| Kay | Mendel | Dec 17, 1960 |
| Kadyn | Gehrels | Dec 18, 2004 |
| Darlene | Iverson | Dec 18, 1928 |
| Sawyer | Fedeler | Dec 20, 2017 |
| Kaelie | Lindholm | Dec 20, 2006 |
| Parker | Gerry | Dec 22, 2005 |
| Heidi | Schneider | Dec 22, 1980 |
| Carrol | Olson | Dec 25, 1942 |
| Marlys | Arneson | Dec 27, 1958 |
| Ashley | Milbrandt | Dec 27, 1993 |
| Logan | Reck | Dec 27, 2004 |
| Adam | Welton | Dec 28, 1983 |
| Garret | Olson | Dec 29, 1998 |
| Justin | Baumberger | Dec 30, 1986 |
| Kim | Hemmer | Dec 30, 1962 |
| Cade | Fischer | Dec 31, 2015 |
| Noel | Wareham | Dec 31, 1969 |

DECEMBER BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

| Mason | Lindholm | Dec 1, 1991 |
|---------|------------|--------------|
| Diana | Maas | Dec 1, 1957 |
| Jason | Fischer | Dec 2, 1979 |
| Lori | Lindholm | Dec 2, 1979 |
| Olerick | Welton | Dec 2, 2009 |
| Rachel | Lindholm | Dec 5, 2004 |
| Adam | Limmer | Dec 6, 1987 |
| Luanna | Shuck | Dec 8, 1953 |
| Darlene | lverson | Dec 9, 1958 |
| Rilynn | Zillgitt | Dec 9, 2018 |
| Olivia | Cacho | Dec 14, 2008 |
| Ella | Fischer | Dec 14, 2005 |
| Kathy | Dorow | Dec 16, 1945 |
| Grace | Feige | Dec 19, 2007 |
| Sawyer | Fedeler | Dec 20, 2017 |
| Matt | Tweet | Dec 22, 1991 |
| Brett | Schneider | Dec 23, 1979 |
| Verl | Uthe | Dec 26, 1954 |
| Arla | Baumberger | Dec 27, 1953 |
| Terry | Feldmann | Dec 28, 1946 |



To read the Bible in one year: SUGGESTED BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

| DATE | FIRST READING | SECOND READING | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| December 1 | Luke 1:46-55 | Revelation 1-2 | | | |
| December 2 | Psalm 1 | Revelation 3-5 | | | |
| December 3 | Psalm 2 | Revelation 6-8 | | | |
| December 4 | Psalm 3 | Revelation 9-11 | | | |
| December 5 | Psalm 4 | Revelation 12-14 | | | |
| December 6 | Psalm 5 | Revelation 15-17 | | | |
| December 7 | Psalm 6 | Revelation 18-20 | | | |
| December 8 | Psalm 7 | Revelation 21-22 | | | |
| December 9 | Psalm 8 | Isaiah 1-3 | | | |
| December 10 | Psalm 9 | Isaiah 4-6 | | | |
| December 11 | Psalm 10 | Isaiah 7-9 | | | |
| December 12 | Psalm 11 | Isaiah 10-12 | | | |
| December 13 | Psalm 12 | Isaiah 13-15 | | | |
| December 14 | Psalm 13 | Isaiah 16-18 | | | |
| December 15 | Psalm 14 | Isaiah 19-21 | | | |
| December 16 | Psalm 15 | Isaiah 22-24 | | | |
| December 17 | Psalm 16 | Isaiah 25-27 | | | |
| December 18 | Psalm 17 | Isaiah 28-30 | | | |
| December 19 | Psalm 18 | Isaiah 31-33 | | | |
| December 20 | Psalm 19 | Isaiah 34-36 | | | |
| December 21 | Psalm 20 | Isaiah 37-39 | | | |
| December 22 | Psalm 21 | Isaiah 40-42 | | | |
| December 23 | Psalm 22 | Isaiah 43-45 | | | |
| December 24 | Psalm 23 | Isaiah 46-48 | | | |
| December 25 | Psalm 24 | Isaiah 49-51 | | | |
| December 26 | Psalm 25 | Isaiah 52-54 | | | |
| December 27 | Psalm 26 | Isaiah 55-57 | | | |
| December 28 | Psalm 27 | Isaiah 58-60 | | | |
| December 29 | Psalm 28 | Isaiah 61-63 | | | |
| December 30 | Psalm 29 | Isaiah 64-66 | | | |
| December 31 | Luke 1:46-55 | Mark 1 | | | |

DECEMBER 2022

Altar Guild: Jill Martin ~ Kayla Welton ~ Trish Tammen

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|------------------------------|---------|---|--------------|--------|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | Winter Carnival 5:00pm -8:30pm |
| Sunday, December 4 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Olivia Cacho Greeters: Remington & Mandie Miller Family Organist: Peggy George Sunday School & Adult Bible Study following service Sunday Board of Education Meeting | 5 | 6 | 7 4:00 pm ~ Confirmantion, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 5:30-6:30 pm ~ Advent II meal 7:00 pm Midweek Advent II Service JR. BELLS PLAY FOR SERVICE Acolyte: Addeyson Olinger Greeters: Brad & Tarri Minor Organist: Peggy George 7:30 pm ~ Youth Group | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Sunday December 11 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Makenzie Cacho Greeters: Mindy & Jon Olinger Family Organist: Shirley Backus Sunday School & Adult Bible Study following service Sunday School Teachers Meeting | 12 Altar Guild 7:00 pm | 13 I | 14 4:00 pm ~ Confirmantion, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 5:30-6:30 pm ~ Advent III meal 7:00 pm Midweek Advent III Service Acolyte: Abigail Eppe Greeters: Carrol & June Olson; Garrett Olson Organist: Peggy George 7:30 pm ~ Youth Group 7:30 pm ~ Elders Meeting | 15 Winkle | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Sunday December 18 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Olerick Welton Greeters: Kory & Melissa Reck Family Organist: Shirley Backus SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGS FOR SERVICE Sunday School & Adult Bible Study following service Sunday | NEWS LETTER DEAD LINE | 20 | 21 4:00 pm ~ Confirmantion, Bible History Class, & JR. Bells 5:30-6:30 pm ~ Advent IV meal 7:00 pm Midweek Advent IV Service Acolyte: Rilynn Zillgett Greeters: Lizzy Reck; Tyler Reck Organist: Peggy George 7:30 pm ~ Youth Group | 22 | 23 | 24 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service Acolyte: Head Usher Greeters: Elders Organist: Peggy George |
| 25 Sunday December 25 -9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion Acolyte: Natalie Feige Greeters: Rev. Adam & Kayla Welton Family Organist: Peggy George NO CLASSES | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |